

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Monday 8 June 2015 – Afternoon**A2 GCE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS****F853/01** Contemporary US Government and Politics

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

OCR supplied materials:

- Insert – F853/01/1 (inserted)

Other materials required:

None

Duration: 2 hours

Candidate forename		Candidate surname	
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Centre number						Candidate number				
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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- The Insert will be found in the centre of this document.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes above. Please write clearly and in capital letters.
- Use black ink. HB pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Answer **Question 1** and **three** other questions.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided. If additional space is required, you should use the lined page(s) at the end of this booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- You will be rewarded for your ability to draw together the knowledge, understanding and skills which you have acquired from your study of all parts of the course.
- Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in this paper. This means for example you should:
 - ensure that text is legible and that spelling, punctuation and grammar are accurate so that meaning is clear;
 - organise information clearly and coherently, using specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- This document consists of **20** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

CONTENTS	
Question 1(a)	See page 3
Question 1(b)	See page 5
Questions 2 to 8 (answer any three)	See page 8
Additional answer space	See pages 19 – 20

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE

SECTION A

Answer the question in this section.

Use the source below and your own knowledge to answer Question 1.

Source for Question 1

The 2008 and 2012 presidential elections are regarded by many as representing a new stage in the evolution of US voting behaviour. The dealignment of the past was less evident as a new 'Obama coalition' emerged. The changing composition of the US population was seen to be critical in this regard. Despite high levels of unemployment, President Obama was able to win a second term. If the Obama coalition represents the realignment of US voters, it would seem that the Republican Party faces a real challenge if it is ever to secure the White House again.

1 (a) Outline the meanings of dealignment and realignment. **[10]**

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(b) Assess the significance of race, region and religion as influences on US voting behaviour. [15]

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SECTION B

Answer **three** questions in this section.

Write the numbers of the questions answered in the margin.

- 2 Discuss the view that political parties still have an important role in US politics today. [25]
- 3 'Money alone does not make pressure groups successful.' Discuss. [25]
- 4 Evaluate the role played by the Executive Office of the President. [25]
- 5 Assess the claim that the US Constitution is an obstacle to effective government. [25]
- 6 'Congress is a broken branch of government.' Discuss. [25]
- 7 To what extent is the Supreme Court a political institution? [25]
- 8 To what extent does the protection of rights in the USA depend upon public opinion? [25]

(Use this space for planning your answer(s).)

Write the number of each question answered in the margin.

A vertical line on the left side of the page is followed by 25 horizontal dotted lines, providing a margin for writing the number of questions answered.

A blank sheet of lined paper. On the left side, there is a solid vertical line that serves as a margin. The rest of the page is filled with horizontal dashed lines, providing a guide for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page.

A vertical line is positioned on the left side of the page. To its right, there are 25 horizontal dotted lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice.

A blank sheet of lined paper. On the left side, there is a solid vertical line that serves as a margin. The rest of the page is filled with horizontal dotted lines, spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for handwriting.

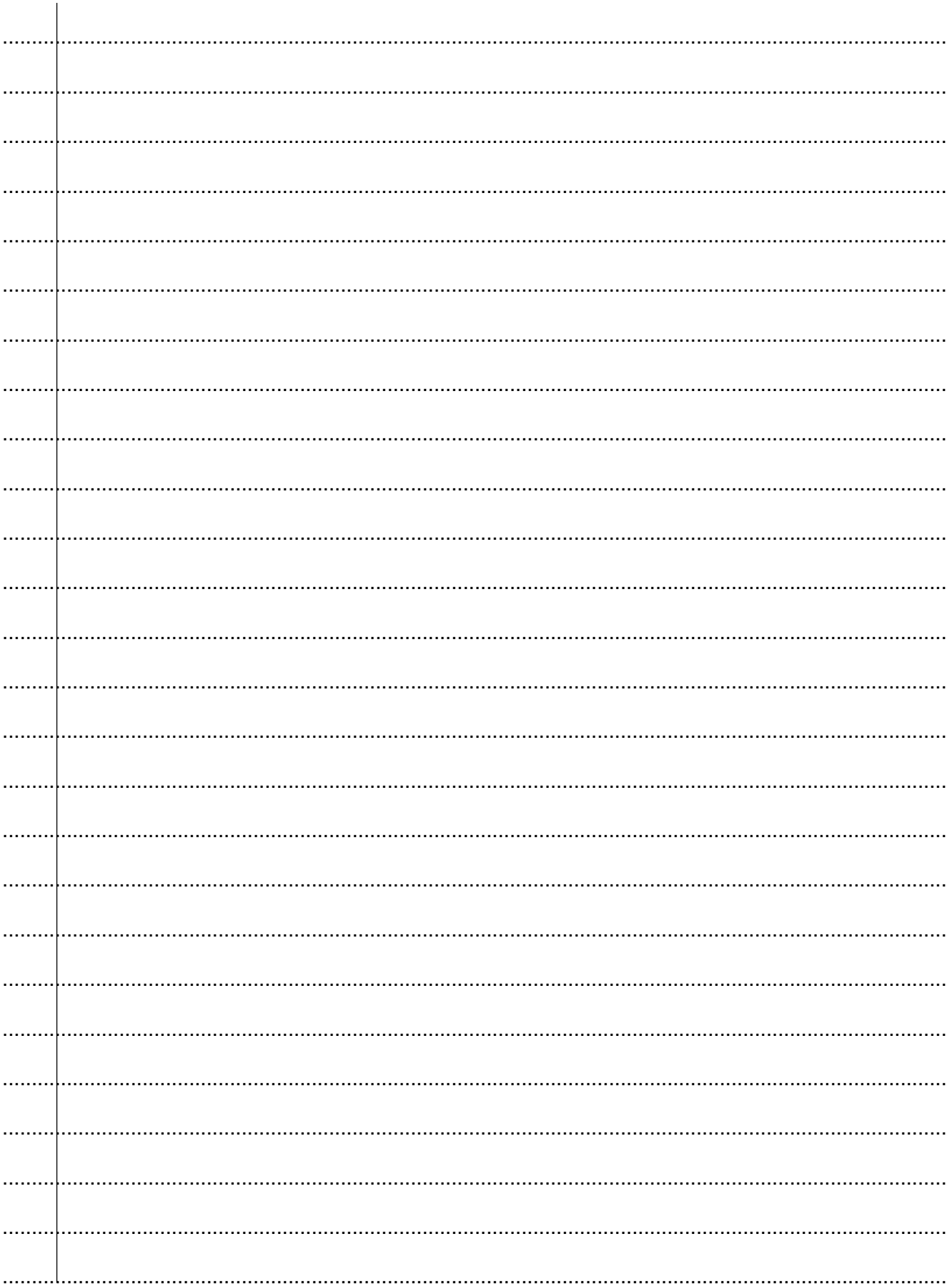
A writing template consisting of a vertical solid line on the left side and 25 horizontal dotted lines extending across the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice.

A vertical solid line runs down the left side of the page. To its right, there are 25 horizontal dotted lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice.

A large area of the page is filled with horizontal dotted lines, providing a guide for handwriting. A solid vertical line runs down the left side of this area, creating a margin. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the page width.

A vertical line is positioned on the left side of the page. To its right, there are 25 horizontal dotted lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice.

A large area of the page is filled with horizontal dotted lines, providing a guide for handwriting. A solid vertical line runs down the left side of this area, creating a margin. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the page width.



END OF QUESTION PAPER

ADDITIONAL ANSWER SPACE

If additional answer space is required, you should use the following lined page(s). The question number(s) must be clearly shown in the margins.

A large area of lined paper for writing answers. It features a vertical margin line on the left side and horizontal dotted lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page.

A large area of the page is reserved for writing, featuring a vertical solid line on the left side and horizontal dotted lines extending across the page.



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