

Key Skills Communication Level 3

Voting at 16 Final Mark Scheme

Part A Short-answer questions

Q1 Using information from Documents 1 and 2, identify four reasons why young people may feel 'disconnected' from politics.			
Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.2.1	Candidate has selected relevant information from Documents 1 and 2.	1 mark	1 mark
3.2.2	<p>Candidate has identified reasons why young people may feel 'disconnected' from politics, eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) feel that they are not viewed as real citizens (Doc 1) b) politicians/MPs out of touch (Docs 1 and 2) c) not allowed to vote until they are 18 (Doc 1) d) have legal rights and responsibilities at 16 but their opinions do not count (Docs 1 and 2) e) have lost faith in politicians. (Doc 1) f) voting not seen as important or relevant (Doc 2) g) MPs unresponsive to their needs/not fighting sufficiently for their cause. (Docs 1 and 2). <p>Accept any other valid reason from the documents.</p>	1 mark for each reason (max 4 marks)	4 marks
Total for question			5 marks

Q2 Identify three different attitudes towards granting votes at 16 from the comments made in Document 2 and explain to what extent these attitudes are reflected in any of the other documents.			
Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.2.2	<p>Candidate has identified three different attitudes from Document 2, eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) totally opposed to the reduction of the voting age b) the voting age should be higher c) leave the age limit as it is now d) more important to secure better representation of young people's views rather than change the voting age e) strongly in favour, arguing that 16 year olds have sufficient maturity to vote f) in favour, but only with conditions such as a 'suitability' test. <p>Accept any other valid attitude.</p>	1 mark for each attitude identified (max 3 marks)	3 marks
3.2.3	<p>Candidate has explained to what extent these attitudes are reflected in any of the other documents. For example, any attitudes in Document 2 that support the reduction in the voting age would be reflected by the information in Document 1, as the writer is very supportive of the proposal and cites a lot of examples where the current situation is unfair.</p> <p>An attitude that does not support the reduction would be reflected more by Document 4 though, which is clearly against such a move.</p> <p>Accept any other valid explanation.</p>	Up to 3 marks	
Total for question			6 marks

Q3 Using Documents 2 and 3, identify two items of statistical evidence which indicate that people up to the age of 24 have little interest in politics. To what extent do the images and other information in Document 1 represent the opposite view, ie that young people are interested in politics.			
Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.2.1	Candidate has selected relevant information from both Documents 2 and 3.	1 mark	1 mark
3.2.2	<p>Candidate has identified items of statistical evidence, eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) recent survey found that 59% of young people have little interest in politics (Doc 2) b) only 31% felt there was a duty to vote (Doc 2) c) Fig 2 shows a lower turnout of 18-24 year-old voters than voters of all age groups in 2001 General Election (Doc 3). <p>Accept any other valid statistical evidence.</p>	1 mark for each item (max 2 marks)	2 marks
3.2.3	<p>Candidate has explained the extent to which the images and other information in Document 1 represent the opposite view, ie that young people are interested in politics. For example, the images show two young people who are wanting to vote and who are old enough to do responsible jobs, like the soldier and the car mechanic. The document quotes a number of examples of people such as Mandy Telford who believe that young people do understand and are interested in politics.</p> <p>Accept any other valid explanation.</p>	Up to 4 marks	4 marks
Total for question			7 marks

Q4 Using information from both the table and the text in Document 1, identify two justifications for lowering the voting age to 16. Explain to what extent the writer of Document 4 disagrees with these justifications.

Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.2.1	Candidate has selected relevant information from Documents 1 and 4.	1 mark	1 mark
3.2.2	<p>Candidate has identified justifications for lowering the voting age to 16, eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 16 year-olds are given a number of other legal rights and responsibilities, b) voting age has been reduced to 16 in eight other countries c) it would fit in with the Government’s agenda to promote political participation d) it would get them more interested in politics e) young people are interested in/do understand politics <p>Accept any other valid justification.</p>	Up to 2 marks	2 marks
3.2.3	<p>Candidate has explained the extent to which the writer of Document 4 disagrees with these justifications. For example, the writer states that it does not follow that because 16 year-olds are allowed to take control of certain aspects of their lives at 16, that an unrelated right such as voting should be granted at the same age. The logical thing is to grant rights and responsibilities at ages that are appropriate to the activity and responsibility concerned.</p> <p>Accept any other valid explanation.</p>	Up to 4 marks	4 marks
Total for question			7 marks

Part B Extended -answer question

<p>Q5 Your local MP will soon have to decide whether to support a proposal by some Members of Parliament to lower the voting age to 16. She has asked you to write a formal report, based on the information in the documents. In the report you should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain why some people would like to see the voting age lowered from 18 to 16 • set out the arguments against the proposal • make a clear, reasoned recommendation to help her decide whether or not to support the proposal. 			
Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.3.1	<p>Candidate has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • selected an appropriate form of formal report for presenting the information which includes a heading and at least one sub-heading • used an appropriate style and structure to add clarity to the text (for example the use of paragraphs, numbering, bullet points or other stylistic features) • used a formal tone in writing. 	<p>1 mark</p> <p>1 mark</p> <p>1 mark</p>	3 marks
3.3.2	<p>Candidate has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used own words in an effective manner • demonstrated an understanding of why a proposal to lower the voting age to 16 is being considered • demonstrated an understanding of the arguments in the source documents against the proposal to lower the voting age to 16 • organised material effectively to suit the purpose of the task by producing a well balanced report that includes an appropriate recommendation. 	<p>Up to 3 marks</p> <p>Up to 3 marks</p> <p>Up to 3 marks</p> <p>Up to 4 marks</p>	13 marks

<p>3.3.3</p>	<p>Band 1 The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar with reasonable accuracy, eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the spelling of simple words is usually accurate • full stops and capital letters are accurately used to demarcate sentences. Commas in lists are used accurately • there may be some grammatical errors, eg confusion of pronouns, tense and some lack of cohesion. <p>Band 2 The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar with considerable accuracy, eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the spelling of words with complex regular patterns is usually accurate • a range of punctuation including commas, apostrophes and inverted commas is used correctly including to mark sentences and clauses • the work is mostly grammatically accurate showing that the candidate can construct complex sentences accurately, use pronouns so that their meaning is clear, makes accurate subject/verb agreement and uses tenses accurately and consistently, although there may be occasional errors of sentence separation. <p>Band 3 The candidate spells, punctuates and uses the rules of grammar with almost faultless accuracy, eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • virtually all spelling, including that of irregular words is usually correct. Any errors stand out as untypical or 'one-off' slips • punctuation is accurate and is used to vary pace, clarify meaning, avoid ambiguity and create deliberate effects • grammar is accurate and gives appropriate variation in sentence structure. 	<p>1-3 marks</p> <p>4-7 marks</p> <p>8-9 marks</p>	<p>9 marks</p>
Total for question			25 marks