



**KEY SKILLS  
COMMUNICATION  
Level 3 - VOTING AT 16  
[KSC31]**

**Question Paper**

**Tuesday 14 March 2006**

**WHAT YOU NEED**

- This Question Paper
- The Source Booklet
- An Answer Booklet
- A pen with black or blue ink

**You may NOT use a dictionary**

---

**Do NOT open this Question Paper until you are told to by the invigilator**

**THERE ARE TWO PARTS TO THIS TEST**

**Part A (total 25 marks) consists of 4 short-answer questions**

**Part B (total 25 marks) consists of 1 extended-answer question**

**Total marks available: 50**

**Try to answer ALL the questions**

**YOU HAVE 1 HOUR AND 30 MINUTES INCLUDING READING TIME**

---

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Ensure that your personal details are entered correctly in the Answer Booklet
- Read each question carefully
- If you use extra paper, make sure that it has your centre number and candidate number on it and is securely attached to your Answer Booklet
- At the end of the test, hand your Answer Booklet, the Question Paper, the Source Booklet and all notes to the invigilator

---

**REMEMBER: YOU HAVE 1 HOUR AND 30 MINUTES TO FINISH THE TEST**

---

## Voting at 16

Read Documents 1 to 4 then answer the questions which follow.

- Document 1     Adapted from *New Coalition bids for votes at 16*, The Guardian, 28 January 2003, and [www.spired.com](http://www.spired.com)
- Document 2     Adapted from extracts from *House of Commons debate on voter participation*, 28 June 2003, selected comments from *BBC Talking Point*, 5 July 2004 and from the *Votes at 16* website, 15 October 2004.
- Document 3     Adapted from *MORI/Nestle Family Monitor*, May 2003 and from statistics in *The Electoral Commission Report on the 2001 election*.
- Document 4     Adapted from the article *Arguments against Votes at 16*, Philip Cowley, Nottingham University website.

**Part A: Short-answer questions.**

**In this section you will be given marks for:**

- identifying accurately, and comparing, the lines of reasoning and main points from the documents
  - synthesising the key information in a way that is relevant to the purpose.
- 

**1** Using information from Documents 1 and 2, identify **four** reasons why young people may feel 'disconnected' from politics.

**5 marks**

**2** 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.

**6 marks**

**3** 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.

**7 marks**

**4** 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.

**7 marks**

**Part A Total 25 marks**

**Part B: Extended-answer question.**

**In this section you will be given marks for:**

- using a format and style of writing that is appropriate to the purpose
  - organising the relevant information from all four documents clearly and coherently
  - using your own words where appropriate
  - writing legibly using accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- 

**5** 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:

- 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.

**25 marks**

**End of test**