3.1 Conservatism: 10-minute Pack

EDEXCEL 9PL0 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. For levels-marked questions, write a well-structured, developed response using accurate political knowledge, named thinkers and precise terminology. This pack forms part of Edexcel Paper 1 (9PL0/01), Section B: Core Political Ideas.

1 This question is about the two strands that make up New Right conservatism.

(a) State two ideas associated with the neo-liberal strand of New Right conservatism. **(2)**

(b) State two ideas associated with the neo-conservative strand of New Right conservatism. **(2)**

(Total for Question 1 is 4 marks)

2 This question is about an academic description of New Right conservatism.

(a) Identify the academic commentator, and the year of the relevant work, associated with describing the New Right synthesis as combining 'a free economy' with 'a strong state'. **(2)**

(b) Explain what is meant by describing the New Right as wanting 'a strong state, free economy'. **(4)**

(Total for Question 2 is 6 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.1 Conservatism: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) one accurate idea, e.g. a free market economy with minimal state intervention **B1**

(a) a second accurate idea, e.g. privatisation of state-run industries, deregulation, or monetarist economic policy **B1**

(a) Answer: Any two of: a free market with minimal state intervention in the economy; privatisation of state-owned/nationalised industries; deregulation of business; monetarist economic policy (controlling the money supply to control inflation); 'rolling back' the size of the state.

(b) one accurate idea, e.g. a strong state on law and order **B1**

(b) a second accurate idea, e.g. support for traditional moral/family values, or a strong national defence **B1**

(b) Answer: Any two of: a strong state on law and order; support for traditional family and moral values; strong national defence and a robust foreign policy; scepticism about multiculturalism and rapid social change.

Question 2

(a) Andrew Gamble cao **B1**

(a) 1988 (the publication year of 'The Free Economy and the Strong State') cao **B1**

(a) Answer: Andrew Gamble, in his 1988 work 'The Free Economy and the Strong State'.

(b) identifies that 'free economy' refers to the neo-liberal wish to minimise state intervention in economic life (free markets, privatisation, deregulation) **B1**

(b) identifies that 'strong state' refers to the neo-conservative wish for firm state authority in non-economic areas **B1**

(b) accurate examples of the 'strong state' element, e.g. robust law and order policy, strong national defence, and firm action to uphold traditional social values and institutions **B1**

(b) develops the explanation by showing how the two elements relate, e.g. a strong state is needed to uphold the free market and social order, or the apparent tension of wanting the state to withdraw from economic life while being assertive in maintaining order, morality and national security **B1**

(b) Answer: The phrase captures the fusion at the heart of New Right conservatism: a 'free economy' means the neo-liberal aim of a minimal state role in economic life (free markets, privatisation, deregulation), while a 'strong state' means the neo-conservative aim of firm state authority over law and order, national defence and traditional social values. The combination can appear paradoxical, since it calls for the state to withdraw from managing the economy while remaining assertive and authoritative in maintaining order and morality.

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