# 3.10 Traditional Conservatism and the New Right: Tensions Within the Tradition: Test Pack

EDEXCEL 9PL0 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

**Answer ALL questions. Short answers may be brief but must use complete sentences where indicated. The final 30-mark essay must be a developed, structured evaluation with a clear judgement. This pack covers tensions between traditional conservatism and the New Right within the Edexcel 9PL0 Core Political Ideas content.**

**1** This question tests basic terminology in the study of conservative ideas about human nature, as required in Edexcel 9PL0 Core Political Ideas. Define the term 'human imperfection' as used in conservative thought.

**(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)**

**2** State one example of a policy or institution that traditional One Nation conservatives might support to preserve social cohesion, named and briefly dated if possible.

**(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)**

**3** Identify two core economic beliefs associated with the neo-liberal strand of the New Right in the UK context.

**(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)**


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**4** Explain two limits on New Right influence within wider conservative practice, giving a brief real-world reason for each limit.

**(Total for Question 4 is 6 marks)**

**5** Explain two shared beliefs that traditional conservatives and New Right conservatives retain in common despite their tensions.

**(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)**


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# Mark scheme · 3.10 Traditional Conservatism and the New Right: Tensions Within the Tradition: Test Pack

## Question 1

one clear definition of 'human imperfection' as used in conservative thought, e.g. the belief that humans are fallible, limited in reason and prone to selfishness or fear **B1**

**Answer: Human imperfection: the conservative view that humans are fallible and limited in rationality, prone to error and self-interest, so social institutions are needed to channel behaviour.**

## Question 2

one accurate example, e.g. the post-war establishment of the NHS (from 1948) as part of a pragmatic welfare settlement **B1**

**Answer: The National Health Service, established in 1948, as an example of pragmatic welfare provision supported by One Nation conservatives to preserve social cohesion.**

## Question 3

one accurate belief, e.g. support for free markets and competition **B1**

a second accurate belief, e.g. support for privatisation or minimal state economic intervention **B1**

**Answer: Any two of: support for free markets and competition; privatisation of state-owned industries; deregulation; emphasis on individual responsibility in welfare; monetarist focus on controlling inflation.**

## Question 4

identifies one limit, e.g. electoral pragmatism forcing moderation of pure neo-liberal policies **B1**

develops with a reason, e.g. governments may preserve popular welfare commitments like the NHS to avoid electoral backlash **B1**

identifies a second limit, e.g. the need to maintain social order leading to continued state spending on policing and defence **B1**

develops with a reason, e.g. high defence or policing spending can contradict attempts to reduce overall state size but is retained for legitimacy and stability **B1**

offers further development or an additional brief example, e.g. coalition politics or the presence of One Nation Conservatives within a party **B1**

offers brief development tying the extra example to how it constrains New Right implementation **B1**

**Answer: Limits include electoral pragmatism, which can force governments to preserve popular welfare provisions such as the NHS to avoid voter backlash, and the continuing imperative to spend on policing and defence to preserve order and legitimacy, which means the New Right may reduce economic intervention while maintaining or increasing spending in security areas. Coalition politics or internal party factions sympathetic to One Nation thinking have also moderated radical New Right proposals in practice.**

## Question 5

identifies one shared belief, e.g. support for private property **B1**

develops that belief, e.g. property seen as a source of responsibility and social stability **B1**

identifies a second shared belief, e.g. pragmatism and scepticism of abstract ideology, or scepticism of state-engineered equality or radical egalitarianism **B1**

develops that belief, e.g. preference for practical reforms over utopian schemes, or enforced equality seen as a threat to liberty and social order (no further mark for a third belief) **B1**

**Answer: Any two shared beliefs, for example: support for private property (seen as encouraging responsibility and social stability); a pragmatic preference for gradual, experience-based policy rather than abstract theory; or scepticism of state-engineered equality, with both strands warning that enforced equality can undermine liberty or social order.**


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