3.9 Socialist Thinkers: Beatrice Webb and Anthony Crosland: Test Pack

EDEXCEL 9PL0 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Short-answer items and the 10-mark question may be concise, but the final 30-mark essay should be a well-structured, full-sentence response using named thinkers and precise terminology.

1 Define 'Fabian gradualism' as a strategy for achieving socialism, in the context of Beatrice Webb and the Fabian Society.

(Total for Question 1 is 2 marks)

2 State two policies associated with Beatrice Webb's advocacy of municipal socialism in late 19th and early 20th century Britain.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Identify Anthony Crosland's influential book and its year of publication, which set out his revisionist social-democratic ideas.

(Total for Question 3 is 1 mark)

4 Anthony Crosland was Secretary of State for Education and Science from 1965 to 1967. State one educational policy he promoted and explain how it reflected his egalitarian ideas.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

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5 Explain what Beatrice Webb meant by bureaucratic collectivism and why she saw planning and expert administration as central to socialism.

(Total for Question 5 is 3 marks)

6 Compare briefly Webb and Crosland on the importance of state planning versus market mechanisms for delivering social ends.

(Total for Question 6 is 4 marks)

7 Explain one criticism that could be made of Crosland's view that capitalism had been permanently transformed so that common ownership was no longer needed.

(Total for Question 7 is 3 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.9 Socialist Thinkers: Beatrice Webb and Anthony Crosland: Test Pack

Question 1

identifies that Fabian gradualism favours gradual, non-revolutionary, democratic reform to achieve socialist aims **B1**

identifies the use of state policy, legislation and expertise rather than violent overthrow cao **B1**

Answer: Fabian gradualism is the strategy associated with Beatrice Webb and the Fabian Society that seeks to achieve socialist objectives through gradual, democratic reforms via the state, using legislation, planning and expert administration rather than revolution.

Question 2

one accurate policy, e.g. municipal ownership of utilities such as gas or water **B1**

a second accurate policy, e.g. expansion of local authority housing or public health services **B1**

Answer: Any two of: municipal ownership of utilities like gas or water; expanded local authority housing; publicly run local health and sanitation services.

Question 3

identifies The Future of Socialism, 1956 cao **B1**

Answer: Anthony Crosland, The Future of Socialism, 1956.

Question 4

identifies a policy, e.g. encouraging local authorities to reorganise secondary schools on comprehensive lines (Circular 10/65), or expanding higher education through polytechnics **B1**

links it to equality, e.g. ending selection at eleven reduces the class divisions between grammar and secondary modern schools, or widens access to higher education **B1**

Answer: For example: he asked local authorities to plan comprehensive secondary schools (Circular 10/65), which reduced the class divisions created by selection at eleven.

Question 5

identifies that bureaucratic collectivism refers to organisation of economy and services through state planning and administrative bodies **B1**

explains Webb's belief that experts and civil servants could rationally manage resources for the common good **B1**

links this to her distrust of revolutionary upheaval and preference for incremental, technocratic reform **B1**

Answer: Bureaucratic collectivism for Webb meant organising economic activity and public services through planned state bodies and expert administrators; she believed skilled officials could rationally allocate resources for social welfare, and that technocratic planning via the state was preferable to disruptive revolution.

Question 6

identifies Webb as strongly pro-planning and sceptical of markets in key sectors **B1**

identifies Crosland as accepting market mechanisms within a regulated mixed economy **B1**

explains Webb favoured expert-led municipal and national planning to secure welfare outcomes **B1**

explains Crosland favoured Keynesian management and redistributive policy alongside market enterprise, not full nationalisation **B1**

Answer: Webb emphasised state planning and expert administration, favouring municipal and broader planning to achieve socialist goals. Crosland accepted market mechanisms operating within a mixed economy, arguing that state regulation, Keynesian management and redistribution could deliver equality without replacing markets entirely.

Question 7

identifies a valid criticism, e.g. private owners and shareholders still hold great wealth and ultimate control, or the economic crises of the 1970s showed that Keynesian demand management could not guarantee growth and full employment **B1**

explains how the criticism weakens Crosland's argument, e.g. continuing concentration of wealth shows ownership still matters to power and inequality, or falling growth would remove the resources he expected to pay for redistribution **B1**

links the criticism to Crosland's claim that the ends of socialism could be reached without common ownership **B1**

Answer: A valid criticism is that private ownership still concentrated wealth and power, so equality could not be achieved without changing ownership; another is that the 1970s crises of inflation and unemployment undermined the Keynesian growth on which his redistribution relied.

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