6.5 Power and Developments: 10-minute Pack

EDEXCEL 9PL0 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer all 12 questions. Allow about 10 minutes. The short questions build knowledge for essay work. Date evidence, define your criteria and support classifications and judgements. No calculator is needed.

1 Explain why calling a state an emerging power is an argument about change rather than simply a description of its population size.

(Total for Question 1 is 2 marks)

2 In classifying political systems, distinguish non-democratic from autocratic government, and distinguish a failed state from a state labelled rogue.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

3 Illustrative systems exercise. State A holds competitive elections and permits opposition, but its executive intimidates independent journalists and weakens courts. In State B, central institutions cannot maintain security or deliver basic administration. Explain a provisional classification for each, and one consequence for international cooperation. These states are fictional.

(Total for Question 3 is 5 marks)

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Mark scheme · 6.5 Power and Developments: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

Connects emerging status to rising economic power or influence over time. **B1**

Explains that population size alone cannot establish either that trend or its conversion into influence, oe. **B1**

Answer: Emerging power describes rising economic capacity and influence over time. A large population alone does not establish that resources are increasing or being converted into international influence.

Question 2

Non-democratic: lacks central democratic characteristics such as meaningful political competition and accountability. **B1**

Autocratic: effective rule concentrated in one ruler with very weak or absent checks; it is a form of non-democratic government. **B1**

Failed: state institutions cannot function as a viable political unit, for example through loss of security or administrative capacity. **B1**

Rogue: a contested label about threatening external conduct; it does not establish institutional collapse. **B1**

Answer: Non-democratic government lacks central democratic features; autocratic government concentrates effectively unchecked rule in a single ruler. State failure concerns inability to function as a viable political unit, whereas rogue is a contested foreign-policy label for a state judged threatening to others.

Question 3

Proposes semi-democratic or another defensible provisional classification for A. **B1**

Supports that classification by connecting competitive elections with intimidation or weakened courts; reward a different classification if its criteria and supporting evidence are clear. **B1**

Proposes failed state or a carefully qualified state-failure classification for B. **B1**

Links B to inability to provide security or administration, rather than simply disapproving of its government. **B1**

Explains one consequence for cooperation using either state, such as difficulty implementing an agreement when administrative capacity is absent. **B1**

Answer: State A may be semi-democratic because elections coexist with authoritarian restrictions on scrutiny. State B may be a failed state because basic state capacity has collapsed. Cooperation may be hindered by unreliable commitments, rights concerns or inability to implement agreements. More evidence is needed before treating either classification as settled.

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