8.2 Work and Welfare: Changing Work, Worklessness and Welfare Policy: Test Pack

AQA 7192 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. For questions marked AO2 or AO3 use short, linked sentences; for the final question write in full sentences. Allow about 15 minutes for the whole pack.

1 Which of the following is an example of a zero-hours contract in the context of employment in the UK?

- ☐ A) A permanent contract with guaranteed 35 hours per week
- ☐ B) A contract where the employer does not guarantee any minimum hours and calls staff in as needed
- ☐ C) A fixed-term contract for one year with fixed weekly hours
- ☐ D) A voluntary internship with no written agreement

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

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2 Identify and explain two reasons some sociologists support wage subsidies as a welfare-to-work policy.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

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3 Identify and explain one reason why automation might increase job insecurity for some workers.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

4 Outline one difference between a universal welfare system and a residual welfare system.

(Total for Question 4 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 8.2 Work and Welfare: Changing Work, Worklessness and Welfare Policy: Test Pack

Question 1

B (an employer does not guarantee minimum hours and calls staff in as needed)	**B1**

Answer: B

Question 2

identifies a reason, e.g. wage subsidies lower employer cost and encourage hiring	**B1**
explains how this can increase job opportunities for unemployed people	**B1**
identifies a further reason, e.g. subsidised work can provide on-the-job experience improving future employability	**B1**
explains development, e.g. gaining references and recent work history can help people secure unsubsidised roles later	**B1**

Answer: Wage subsidies lower employer costs and encourage hiring, increasing job opportunities for unemployed people; they also provide on-the-job experience and references, improving future employability and the chances of securing unsubsidised roles.

Question 3

identifies that automation can replace routine tasks performed by workers	**B1**
explains this reduces demand for those workers' labour, creating job loss risk for those in routine roles	**B1**
identifies that not all workers can easily move to new roles requiring different skills	**B1**
explains this means some workers face long-term unemployment or insecure, lower-paid jobs	**B1**

Answer: Automation can replace routine tasks done by workers, reducing demand for those jobs and creating risk of job loss; because not all workers can easily retrain, some may face long-term unemployment or move into insecure, lower-paid roles.

Question 4

identifies difference, e.g. universal systems provide benefits to all citizens while residual systems target only those in need	**B1**
development, e.g. universal benefits might include state pensions or child benefit given to most people	**B1**
further development, e.g. residual systems mean benefits are means-tested and often smaller, given only after other support fails	**B1**
example or application, e.g. means-tested unemployment benefits are aimed at the poorest rather than all citizens	**B1**

Answer: Universal systems provide benefits to all citizens, for example state pensions or broadly available child benefit, while residual systems target only those judged in need with means-tested, often smaller benefits that act as a safety net.

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