Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Tuesday 21 May 2019

Afternoon	Paper Reference **9HI0/1H**

History

Advanced

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations

Option 1H: Britain transformed, 1918–97

Extracts Booklet

Do not return this booklet with the question paper.

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Extracts for use with Section C.

Extract 1: From Earl Aaron Reitan, *The Thatcher Revolution: Margaret Thatcher, John Major, Tony Blair, and the Transformation of Modern Britain*, published 2002.

Thatcher's three electoral victories indicated that a major political realignment had taken place. The electoral success of Thatcherite conservatism was because of policies suited to demographic and economic developments that were changing the social structure and political attitudes in the regions of the United Kingdom. Thatcher's third victory guaranteed that the changes brought by Thatcherism – for better or worse – were irreversible. The personal leadership of Margaret Thatcher had been the crucial catalyst that had made these things happen.

The completion of the Thatcher Revolution was evident in the large number of issues where the differences between the two major parties were minimal to non-existent. The economic principles of Thatcherism had become widely accepted. The Thatcher civil service reforms, privatisations, and limitations on trade union power had been generally accepted. Blair abandoned his threat to renationalise British Rail on the grounds that money would not be available.

Extract 2: From Monica Prasad, *The Politics of Free Markets: The Rise of Neoliberal Economic Policies in Britain, France, Germany, and the United States*, published 2006.

All of the components of Thatcher's policies had been suggested, and some even implemented in basic form, long before Thatcher took office, either by the previous Labour government or by Conservative governments before that. The Thatcher government's implementation of taxation policy showed mainly confusion and was influenced by a desire for electoral advantage. The implementation of privatisation and council house sales was the result of actual or perceived public support. In short, Thatcherism was a democratic phenomenon – not the result of the hijacking of the party by a faction driven by an extreme economic ideology.

In all other areas of social policy the changes produced by Thatcher were minor, reflecting the popularity of the welfare state with voters. In taxation, industrial policy, and welfare state policy, the main policy measures that were actually implemented were shaped by the broad outlines of public opinion. The innovations were shaped by the British political context, on some occasions despite the best intentions and efforts of the Thatcher team. Certainly, there were major elements of the Thatcher episode that did not go as planned.

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