Examination paper for ENG1402 Modern British History and Culture

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Examination time (from-to): 09.00 – 13.00
Permitted examination support material:

Collins Cobuild Advanced Dictionary
(or earlier versions with the title: Collins Cobuild English (Advanced Learner's) Dictionary)

Language: English
Number of pages:
Number of pages enclosed:

Checked by:
Answer Sections A and B

Section A = 50 % of your final grade.
Section B = 50 % of your final grade.

You are recommended to divide your time accordingly.
Section A: Primary Source Analysis

Answer BOTH of the following questions using the primary source extracts.

1. What does the R.U.C police report tell us about the emergence of the civil rights movement in Northern Ireland in 1968 and how reliable is it as an historical source?

Source: Extract from an R.U.C. District Inspector’s police report on the demonstration organised by the Civil Rights Association of Northern Ireland on Saturday 24th August 1968 in Dungannon.

‘The marchers were in an ugly mood and Kevin Agnew and Thomas Gormley, M.P., approached me and said that the police restrictions were a denial of civil rights. Gormley was slightly intoxicated and in an argumentative mood. I told both men the extent of the order under the Public Order Act and they then mingled with the crowd.

…Miss Betty Sinclair [Communist] addressed the crowd through the loudspeaker...In her opening remarks she said the parade was a peaceful one and held to demonstrate for Civil Rights in houses and employment, she asked that each speaker be allowed a hearing and the parade would go down in history. During this introduction Miss Sinclair was loudly "boohed" by some of the marchers. I heard cries of "Czechoslovakia", "Russia", "Jackboot" and one youth shouted "Are you on the Pill"...

Mr. [Gerry] Fitt [Republican Labour] made a most provocative and highly inflammatory speech, he said amongst other things that "My blood is boiling at the police ban and let me tell the County Inspector and District Inspector who are in charge of the police here to-night that they are only a pair of black bastards of Gestapo and we are not afraid of the blackthorn sticks and batons and but for the presence of women and children I would lead the march into The Square"...The other speakers were reasonably mild in their remarks, with the exception of Mr. Currie [Irish nationalist], but all objected to the police decision in re-routing the march.

Mr. Currie addressed the meeting towards the end...At times his speech was drowned by the singing, but I did hear him protest against the police action and further that another march of bigger pro-portions would be organised which would not stop at the Hospital Gates...The speakers left almost immediately and the marchers broke up and went away. A small party of Young Socialists, the majority of whom were teenagers, made their way into Dungannon to look for their bus and also arrived into Market Square via Irish Street. There they became involved in arguments with Unionists but were put back by police into Irish Street without much difficulty...I have no doubt that this march and meeting were organised by the committee of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association at the instigation of Mr. Austin CURRIE, M.P...He believes, I think, that he is the saviour of the down trodden in Northern Ireland and thinks that by becoming involved in this agitation he will further his political career. In loyalist circles in this area Mr. Currie is detested and his sympathy with the Republican cause is not lost sight of neither is his relationship with the perpetrators of the murder of Constable Forbes in Dungannon in 1942...It is at times difficult to determine where his loyalties lie. I am satisfied that the protest march was in reality a Republican one which is evidenced by the great number of noted Republicans taking part.

(Signed) G.I. STERRITT,
District Inspector [28th August, 1968].’
2. What was original about Keynes’s idea of the ‘multiplier’ and why did he first publish it in 1933?

Source: Extract from John Maynard Keynes, ‘The Means to Prosperity’, versions of which were published in both The Times newspaper and the New Statesman and Nation magazine during March and April 1933.

‘It will make no difference to the following argument whether the object of the borrowing is to finance public works or private enterprise or to relieve the taxpayer. This primary expenditure will, in any of these cases, set up a series of repercussions leading to what it is convenient to call secondary employment. Our problem is to ascertain the total employment, primary and secondary together, created by a given amount of additional loan—expenditure, i.e. to ascertain the multiplier relating the total employment to the primary employment…

…it is a complete mistake to believe that there is a dilemma between schemes for increasing employment and schemes for balancing the budget—that we must go slowly and cautiously with the former for fear of injuring the latter. Quite the contrary. There is no possibility of balancing the budget except by increasing the national income, which is much the same thing as increasing employment…

Just as the effect of increased primary expenditure on employment, on the national income and on the budget is multiplied in the manner described, so also is the effect of decreased primary expenditure. Indeed, if it were not so it would be difficult to explain the violence of the recession both here and, even more, in the United States. Just as an initial impulse of modest dimensions has been capable of producing such devastating repercussions, so also a moderate impulse in the opposite direction will effect a surprising recovery. There is no magic here, no mystery; but a reliable scientific prediction.

Why should this method of approach appear to so many people to be novel and odd and paradoxical? I can only find the answer in the fact that all our ideas about economics, instilled into us by education and atmosphere and tradition are, whether we are conscious of it or not, soaked with theoretical suppositions which are only properly applicable to a society which is in equilibrium, with all its productive resources already employed. Many people are trying to solve the problem of unemployment with a theory which is based on the assumption that there is no unemployment. Obviously if the productive resources of the nation were already fully occupied, none of the advantages could be expected which, in present circumstances I predict from an increase of loan-expenditure. For in that case increased loan-expenditure would merely exhaust itself in raising prices and wages and diverting resources from other jobs. In other words, it would be purely inflationary. But these ideas, perfectly valid in their proper setting, are inapplicable to present circumstances, which can only be handled by the less familiar method which I have endeavoured to explain.’
Section B: Essay

Answer ONE of the following questions.

1. Conservative politicians have argued that Britain became a permissive and multicultural society in the 1960s.
   Do you agree with this interpretation of the development of British society in the twentieth century?

2. How far did Margaret Thatcher’s Conservative governments transform Britain’s political landscape after 1979?

3. Did the Suez crisis of 1956 change the nature of British foreign policy and if so for how long?