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 motivated Enoch Powell to deliver his infamous ‘Rivers of Blood’ speech in 1968 and why was it so controversial?

‘The cloud no bigger than a man’s hand, that can so rapidly overcast the sky, has been visible recently in Wolverhampton and has shown signs of spreading quickly. The words I am about to use, verbatim as they appeared in the local press on 17 February, are not mine, but those of a Labour Member of Parliament who is a Minister in the present Government. “The Sikh community’s campaign to maintain customs inappropriate in Britain is much to be regretted. Working in Britain, particularly in the public services, they should be prepared to accept the terms and conditions of their employment. To claim special communal rights (or should one say rites?) leads to dangerous fragmentation within society. This communalism is a canker; whether practised by one colour or another it is to be strongly condemned.” All credit to John Stonehouse for having had the insight to perceive that, and the courage to say it.

For these dangerous and divisive elements the legislation proposed in the Race Relations Bill is the very pabulum they need to flourish on. Here is their means of showing that the immigrant communities can organise to consolidate their members, to agitate and campaign against their fellow citizens, and to overawe and dominate the rest with the legal weapons which the ignorant and the ill-informed have provided. As I look ahead, I am filled with foreboding. Like the Roman, I seem to see “the River Tiber foaming with much blood”. That tragic and intractable phenomenon which we watch with horror on the other side of the Atlantic but which there is interwoven with the history and existence of the States itself is coming upon us here by our own volition and our own neglect. Indeed, it has all but come. In numerical terms, it will be of American proportions long before the end of the century. Only resolute and urgent action will avert it even now. Whether there will be the public will to demand and obtain that action, I do not know. All I know is that to see, and not to speak, would be the great betrayal.’

Source: An extract from a speech by Enoch Powell at the Annual General Meeting of the West-Midlands Area Conservative Party Political Centre, at the Midland Hotel, Birmingham, 20 April 1968.
1. What does this source tell us about the relationship between Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan and why does it fail to fully capture the realities of the Anglo-American ‘Special Relationship’ during the Falkland’s war?

‘My colleagues and I have spent some four hours considering Mr. Haig’s latest proposals. Francis Pym has replied on our behalf but I am writing to you separately because I think you are the only person who will understand the significance of what I am trying to say.

Throughout my administration I have tried to stay loyal to the United States as our great ally, and to the principles of democracy, liberty and justice.

In your message you say that your suggestions are faithful to the basic principles we must protect. I wish they were but alas they are not. I recognise that in negotiations some flexibility is necessary but there are surely some things on which we should not compromise. Two principles have been stressed in Parliament throughout all our debates and I have heard them echoed in radio interviews with your Senators: first the right to self-determination and second that aggression must not pay.

The present proposals do not provide a right to self-determination although it is fundamental to democracy and was enjoyed by the Islanders up to the moment of invasion. We asked that it should be included. The reply, contained in Mr. Haig’s letter to Francis Pym was that it could not because the Argentines would not accept it. So our principles are no longer what we believe, nor those we were elected to serve, but what the dictator will accept. I have tried to temper Mr. Haig’s proposals a little, by suggesting that the interim administration must at least consult with the locally elected representatives. It is not much to ask – and I do not think you will turn it down…

Before this aggression the Falklands were a democratic country, with liberty and a just law. After the proposed settlement, the one thing they cannot have is the only way of life they want.

Perhaps you will now see why I feel so deeply about this. That our traditional friendship, to which I still loyally adhere, should have brought me and those I represent into conflict with fundamental democratic principles sounds impossible while you are at the White House and I am at No. 10.

I too want a peaceful settlement but we really must put up a more formidable diplomatic fight for the Falklanders and for others who may be similarly treated if we fail.’

Source: Extract from a private letter written by Margaret Thatcher to Ronald Reagan, 5 May 1982 (‘the letter to Reagan that was never sent’). Margaret Thatcher Papers.
Section B: Essay

Answer ONE of the following questions.

1. Was the increasing marginalization of religion in British society the primary cause of the ‘sixties revolution’ in Britain?

2. In what ways did the emergence of new economic ideas transform British party politics between 1945 and 1990?

3. Why did ‘the troubles’ break out in Northern Ireland in 1969 and why did it take three decades to peacefully resolve the conflict?