Examination paper for ENG1402 Modern British History and Culture

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Examination date: 5 December 2017  
Examination time (from-to): 9.00 – 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 (front page excluded): 4  
Number of pages enclosed: 5

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Informasjon om trykking av eksamensoppgave

Originalen er:

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Checked by: 

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Date  Signature

Students will find the examination results in Studentweb. Please contact the department if you have questions about your results. The Examinations Office will not be able to answer this.
You must 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.

You must achieve a pass grade (A-E) in both sections of the exam to achieve a pass grade overall.
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?

‘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 proportions 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].’

Source: Extract from an R.U.C. District Inspector’s police report on the demonstration organised by the Civil Rights Association of Northern Ireland, 24th August 1968 in Dungannon.
2. 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 be 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 British society transformed into a more ‘permissive’ or ‘civilized’ society between 1945 and the 1970s?

2. Do you agree that there was ‘Thatcher revolution’ in British economic and social policy after 1979?

3. What were the most important factors that influenced the ‘Brexit’ vote in the public referendum on Britain’s membership of the European Union in 2016?