

AS HISTORY

The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007

Component 2S Building a new Britain, 1951–1979

Wednesday 25 May 2016 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2S.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From a speech by Duncan Sandys, the Minister of Defence, in the House of Commons during a debate about nuclear disarmament and the testing of nuclear bombs in July 1957.

So long as nuclear weapons are not abolished as part of a general disarmament agreement, we consider it essential that Britain should possess an element of nuclear deterrent power of her own. The stoppage of tests would freeze the situation as it is, to the very great disadvantage of Great Britain. The Russians would retain the large number of nuclear weapons which they have already made. The United States would keep the much vaster stockpile which they have built up. We, on the other hand, would be penalised. This means that we should continue to be largely dependent upon the United States. We have always regarded it as unacceptable to be dependent upon any other country, however friendly. 5

Source B

From an article in the left-wing journal, the 'New Statesman', in November 1957 by the writer and co-founder of CND, JB Priestley. Priestley is attacking Labour MP Aneurin Bevan for abandoning his support for unilateral nuclear disarmament.

Now that Britain has told the world she has the H-bomb she should announce that she proposes to reject nuclear warfare. In answer to any cries about losing our national prestige: we have none in terms of power. Without a single protest, parts of East Anglia ceased to be under our control and became an American airbase. We cannot be both an independent power, bargaining on equal terms, and a minor ally or satellite. The only move left that can mean anything is to go into reverse, decisively rejecting nuclear warfare. And such a move will have to be 'unilateral'; it is only a decisive 'unilateral' move that can achieve the moral force it needs to be effective. 5

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the debate over Britain's nuclear deterrent in the 1950s?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2 'It was affluence that produced 'the teenager' in the years 1955 to 1964.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3 'The Labour governments were successful in dealing with economic problems in the years 1964 to 1970.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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