

Paper 3B: Comparative Politics: Global mark scheme

Section A

Question number	Indicative content
1(a)	<p>AO1 (6 marks), AO2 (6 marks)</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis (AO2). AO2 requires candidates to develop their answers showing analytical skills to address the question – such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Candidates may demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding (AO1) of criticisms of the IMF and World Bank:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the headquarters of both institutions are in Washington, D.C., United States• the president of the World Bank is traditionally a United States citizen nominated by the United States, the largest shareholder in the bank• the leader of the IMF is traditionally a European and the US has approximately 17% of share votes• the commitment of these bodies to economic liberalism has been reflected in the use of Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) as part of the 'Washington Consensus'• there has been a primary emphasis on economic reform. <p>Candidates may refer to the following analytical points (AO2) when examining the criticisms of the two institutions and may refer to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• location of HQ and share control etc. leads to accusations that the organisations are structurally dominated by certain states• SAPs, it is alleged, inflict more harm than good on developing countries and increase their dependency on powerful northern economies, with an emphasis on deregulation and privatisation and stress on export-led growth• pressure to accept SAPs undermines state sovereignty• emphasis on economic reform means that little attention has been given to human rights or to environmental considerations• the ability of the President of the United States to select the World Bank leader leads to allegations of political control and manipulation. <p>Candidates who refer to only one institution cannot achieve beyond Level 1.</p> <p>Accept any other valid responses.</p>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates superficial knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, with limited underpinning of analysis (AO1). • Limited comparative analysis of aspects of politics with partial, logical chains of reasoning, referring to similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make simplistic connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 2	4–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, some of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis (AO1). • Some emerging comparative analysis of aspects of politics with some focused logical chains of reasoning, referring to similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make some relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 3	7–9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates mostly accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, many of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis (AO1). • Mostly focused comparative analysis of aspects of politics with focused, logical chains of reasoning, drawing on similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make mostly relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 4	10–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are carefully selected in order to underpin analysis (AO1). • Consistent comparative analysis of aspects of politics, with coherent, logical chains of reasoning, drawing on similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).

Question number	Indicative content
1(b)	<p>AO1 (6 marks), AO2 (6 marks)</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis (AO2). AO2 requires candidates to develop their answers showing analytical skills to address the question – such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Candidates may demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding (AO1) of international courts and tribunals in regard to human rights protection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there are a number of international courts and tribunals that have been set up to prosecute individuals rather than states • the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) was created in 1993 to prosecute for crimes against humanity and genocide committed in the Yugoslav wars • the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) was established in 1994 • the Sierra Leone Tribunal has also operated in prosecution of individuals • the International Criminal Court (ICC) was established in 2002 and the European Court of Human Rights was established in 1959. <p>Candidates may refer to the following analytical points (AO2) when examining the effectiveness of the two institutions in protecting human rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effectiveness in promoting human rights can be judged through indictments and prosecutions and also through the deterrent effect, though this is harder to judge • the ICTY has had a significant number of prosecutions, including high-profile cases against individuals like Milosovic, Mladic and Karadzic • the ICTR has had notable successes include the conviction of former Prime Minister Kambanda • the Sierra Leone Tribunal has successfully prosecuted the former Liberian president, Charles Taylor • the ICC has seen a number of significant indictments but support for the institution ranges widely across the most significant states. <p>Candidates who refer to only one institution cannot achieve beyond Level 1.</p> <p>Accept any other valid responses.</p>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates superficial knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, with limited underpinning of analysis (AO1). • Limited comparative analysis of aspects of politics with partial, logical chains of reasoning, referring to similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make simplistic connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 2	4–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, some of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis (AO1). • Some emerging comparative analysis of aspects of politics with some focused logical chains of reasoning, referring to similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make some relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 3	7–9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates mostly accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, many of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis (AO1). • Mostly focused comparative analysis of aspects of politics with focused, logical chains of reasoning, drawing on similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make mostly relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 4	10–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are carefully selected in order to underpin analysis (AO1). • Consistent comparative analysis of aspects of politics, with coherent, logical chains of reasoning, drawing on similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).

Section B

Question number	Indicative content
2	<p>AO1 (6 marks), AO2 (6 marks)</p> <p>This question requires candidates to draw on their knowledge and understanding of Global comparative theories and relevant core politics ideas (AO1) and this will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis (AO2). AO2 requires candidates to develop their answers showing analytical skills to address the question – such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Candidates may demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding (AO1) of the divisions in relation to human nature between realists and liberals:</p> <p>Realists believe that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • human nature is fixed and fashioned by nature • instinct, rather than reason, drives human beings and human beings are considered to be selfish and predisposed to aggressive acts • the pursuit of power is primary. <p>Liberals believe that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it is possible to be more optimistic about human nature • human beings, like states, are capable of self-development • conflict, and war in particular, will be a last resort when reason and argument has failed – this links to core ideas and principles of liberalism and rationalism. <p>Candidates may refer to the following analytical points (AO2) to examine the divisions between realists and liberals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • realists differ because they believe that humans desire personal gain and advancement, which will result in conflict • realists believe that international cooperation is unlikely with states, reflecting human nature, pursuing the national interest, which inevitably leads to rivalry and conflict – links to conservatism and human imperfection (Hobbes) • liberals believe there is a moral dimension to human nature, based on reason and an awareness of the value in treating others with respect • liberals therefore will seek to resolve conflict through cooperation, discussion and negotiation – links to liberalism and developmental individualism • consequently, liberals believe that international cooperation is likely, with states forging links with each other in a number of ways, which makes rivalry and conflict less likely. <p>Candidates who refer to only one named theory cannot achieve beyond Level 1.</p> <p>Candidates who do not make any synoptic points cannot achieve beyond Level 3.</p> <p>Accept any other valid responses.</p>

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	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates superficial knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, with limited underpinning of analysis. Makes limited synoptic points (AO1). • Limited comparative analysis of aspects of politics with partial, logical chains of reasoning, referring to similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make simplistic connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 2	4–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, some of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis. Makes some relevant synoptic points (AO1). • Some emerging comparative analysis of aspects of politics with some focused logical chains of reasoning, referring to similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make some relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 3	7–9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates mostly accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, many of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis. Makes relevant synoptic points (AO1). • Mostly focused comparative analysis of aspects of politics with focused, logical chains of reasoning, drawing on similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make mostly relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 4	10–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are carefully selected in order to underpin analysis. Makes cohesive synoptic points (AO1). • Consistent comparative analysis of aspects of politics, with coherent, logical chains of reasoning, drawing on similarities and/or differences within aspects of politics, which make relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).

Section C

Question number	Indicative content
3(a)	<p>AO1 (10 marks), AO2 (10 marks), AO3 (10 marks)</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis (AO2) and evaluation (AO3). AO2 and AO3 require candidates to develop their answers showing analytical and evaluative skills to address the question – such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Candidates may demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding (AO1) in relation to the greater impact of cultural globalisation than other forms of globalisation:</p> <p>Support for cultural globalisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> liberals see cultural globalisation as creating shared norms and values among people on a global scale, which is a powerful tool of change cultural globalisation may have impacted more because of its cultural flattening of differences among nations, regions and individuals cultural globalisation is more significant because it can be linked to homogenisation, with a shrinking world of shared television programmes, sport, commodities, food etc. we have seen the growth of huge media corporations, spanning the globe. <p>Support against cultural globalisation and for other forms of globalisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> homogenisation may have led to cultural backlash so this has an impact on the significance of cultural globalisation economic globalisation (the process whereby all national economies have, to a greater or lesser extent, been absorbed into an interlocking global economy) is also significant political globalisation (the growing importance of international organisations) is also significant as these organisations are transnational in that they exercise jurisdiction not within a single state but within an international area comprising several states there is evidence that all other forms of globalisation combined are continuing to develop in terms of their impact and that cultural globalisation is no more significant than other forms or there is the realist view that international systems remain substantially unchanged. <p>Candidates may refer to the following analytical (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when reviewing the support for cultural globalisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liberals tend to argue that cultural globalisation has had dramatic and far-reaching impact on international politics because of its impact in developing of shared values and norms in areas such as human rights (AO2), this therefore proves that the traditional concept of state sovereignty is being weakened and that we are losing distinct national, and even regional, cultures (AO3) cultural flattening may be associated with western values and the western economic model and therefore gives a reason for it being so attractive to nations, regions and individuals as it is perceived as successful and attractive (AO2), thus this is strong evidence that cultural globalisation will continue, as western dominance does not seem to be waning in the 21st century and therefore cultural globalisation will continue to have a significant effect in the future (AO3)

Question number	Indicative content
3(a) (contd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> homogenisation has become a hugely significant factor in society and seems an unstoppable trend in terms of how society is developing, with shared experiences across many cultural platforms (AO2), this, therefore, supports the idea of the huge impact that cultural globalisation can have and that there seems to be little that can be done to stop or minimise homogenisation (AO3) media corporations have grown with a western dominance, which has supported homogenisation and monoculture, this trend seems to be growing rather than diminishing, with the world turning into a 'global village' (AO2), consequently it is a very dominant trend globally and may be considered even more important than cultural globalisation, as there seems to be little to stop the growth of huge global media corporations (AO3). <p>Candidates may refer to the following analytical points (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when reviewing the other significant forms of globalisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> homogenisation may have led to cultural backlash, ethnic nationalism, religious fundamentalism and opposition to a perceived US dominance. Also, non-western products are spreading globally (AO2), therefore this represents there is a resistance to homogenisation and that it may be stemmed or at least pushed back, there is hope that cultural globalisation may not be totally dominant and that it can be countered if there is a coordinated effort against it (AO3) economic globalisation has impact as there is a view that a western dominance exists through emphasis on economic liberalism, and this has a clear stronghold on the thinking of many powerful countries that affects global issues (AO2), consequently, this may be considered the most significant form of globalisation as a driving force for other forms, as money is a highly significant factor in all countries and societies, and is ultimately more powerful than cultural elements, its power does not seem likely to diminish (AO3) political globalisation may be seen as the most significant form of globalisation as it impacts on state sovereignty, with the creation of many new intergovernmental, and even supranational, institutions such as the EU and the ECJ (AO2), this, therefore, goes against cultural globalisation having the greatest impact as such institutions do have a considerable amount of power in shaping the global agenda and in impacting on state sovereignty, i.e. through cases such as the UK court case <i>Factortame vs the ECJ</i> (AO3) there is evidence that all forms of globalisation are continuing to develop in terms of their impact, so it is hard to judge which has more impact. Also, the realist viewpoint that globalisation is insignificant in any form – therefore cultural is as insignificant as any other type (AO2), thus the backlash against cultural globalisation would suggest that other forms are more likely to have a greater significance. While there is resistance to cultural globalisation, political and economic globalisation seem to be far better received and are accepted almost universally (AO3). <p>Candidates may also evaluate that all forms of globalisation are so interlinked as to form a single process, with no dominant form of globalisation.</p> <p>Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way. The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusion</p>

Question number	Indicative content
3(a) (contd)	Candidates who <i>have not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2. Accept any other valid responses.

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates superficial knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, with limited underpinning of analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Limited analysis of aspects of politics with partial, logical chains of reasoning, which makes simplistic connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Makes superficial evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing simple arguments and judgements, many which are descriptive and lead to limited unsubstantiated conclusions (AO3).
Level 2	7–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, some of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Some emerging analysis of aspects of politics with some focused, logical chains of reasoning, which make some relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs some relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing occasionally effective arguments and judgements, some are partially substantiated and lead to generic conclusions without much justification (AO3).
Level 3	13–18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates mostly accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, many of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Mostly focused analysis of aspects of politics with focused, logical chains of reasoning, which make mostly relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs generally relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing generally effective arguments and judgements, many of which are substantiated and lead to some focused conclusions that are sometimes justified (AO3).
Level 4	19–24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are carefully selected in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Consistent analysis of aspects of politics, with coherent logical chains of reasoning, which make relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs mostly relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing mostly effective arguments and judgements, which are mostly substantiated and lead to mostly focused, justified conclusions (AO3).
Level 5	25–30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates thorough and in-depth knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are effectively selected in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Perceptive analysis of aspects of politics, with sustained, logical chains of reasoning, which make cohesive and convincing connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs fully relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing fully effective substantiated arguments and judgements, which are consistently substantiated and lead to fully focused and justified conclusions (AO3).

Question number	Indicative content
3(b)	<p>AO1 (10 marks), AO2 (10 marks), AO3 (10 marks)</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis (AO2) and evaluation (AO3). AO2 and AO3 require candidates to develop their answers showing analytical and evaluative skills to address the question – such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Candidates may demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding (AO1) in relation to view that the EU is a model for regionalism:</p> <p>Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • awareness of the transformation of the European Coal and Steel Community (Treaty 1951) to European Economic Community (Treaty 1957) to European Union (Treaty 1993) • awareness of the features of the EU, such as acceptance of pooled sovereignty, elements of supranationalism, single currency and establishment of the European Court of Justice • the EU has had to respond to the onset of the process of globalisation • the EU, like other regional economic blocs, serves as a free-trade area, giving member states access to a larger internal market. <p>Disagreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the EEC/EC/EU stemmed from particular historical circumstances of the time that make it unique in structure • the EU is unlike other economic blocs in that it has developed a significant dimension of political union • other regional bodies have not used the EU as a model and are operational and effective • there is no one perfect model of regionalism as regional bodies are very different. <p>Candidates may refer to the following analytical (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when agreeing with the view:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the transformative effects of the treaties have ensured that there has been an inevitable movement from loose economic arrangement to more formal political agreement, this has been attractive in terms of a post-war landscape and into the 21st century (AO2), as the EU can be seen as a successful model it is therefore reasonable that other regional bodies will follow in its footsteps, particularly as it has been established for such a long period (AO3) • the features of the EU have been copied in other regional bodies such as the African Union, NAFTA and ASEAN (AO2), this is clear evidence that it is the go-to model in terms of regionalism and is the gold standard in regionalism, so can be seen as an effective model that has been copied successfully (AO3) • the EU model has transformed with globalisation to include monetary union, the creation of an economic single market, social and political union, economic growth and prosperity have accompanied this (AO2), this therefore suggests that the EU model has been a superior model/response to globalisation, has a far-reaching and important role and is the best model to follow in terms of success for regionalism (AO3)

Question number	Indicative content
3(b) (contd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> like most regional economic blocs, the EU establishes common tariffs that enable it to protect member states from competitive pressures beyond their borders and this is very appealing in terms of a regionalism model (AO2), these factors can seem, therefore, to support the conclusion that the EU is a model that others will inevitably follow as it protects its members well (AO3). <p>Candidates may refer to the following analytical (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when disagreeing with the view:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the EU's unique historical position means that it has particular features such as pooled sovereignty, elements of supranationalism, single currency and the ECJ (AO2), this means that it is not the best model to replicate as its historical circumstances and development have shaped its existence and structure, and may not be appropriate for other forms of regionalism to adopt wholesale (AO3) the EU has had increased pressure for political union, meaning that it is advanced in terms of playing a global role through membership of bodies such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) (AO2), therefore the range and scale of areas that the EU has developed can be used to prove that the EU is an unlikely model for others to replicate as it developed under unique circumstances (AO3) the particular features of the EU do not appear to be replicated in other regional bodies such as the African Union, NAFTA and ASEAN, as they are such different bodies to the EU, they have adopted features that meet their own needs rather than using the EU as a model. They appear to value the retention of individual state decision making in political areas rather than allowing a loss or pooling of sovereignty (AO2), therefore the lack of such developments is clear evidence that the EU is not a model that has been used by other bodies and therefore does not represent the better model and that there are other ways to approach regionalism that can be just as effective (AO3) regional bodies vary from loose and non-binding agreements among states to complex institutional arrangements, as found in the EU (AO2), therefore there are arguably lots of other models of regionalism and it is too simplistic to look at the EU as the only model for regionalism as there are many factors that can influence how bodies are organised and what makes them effective (AO3). <p>Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way. The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusion.</p> <p>Candidates who <i>have not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p> <p>Accept any other valid points.</p>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates superficial knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, with limited underpinning of analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Limited analysis of aspects of politics with partial, logical chains of reasoning, which makes simplistic connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Makes superficial evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing simple arguments and judgements, many which are descriptive and lead to limited unsubstantiated conclusions (AO3).
Level 2	7–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, some of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Some emerging analysis of aspects of politics with some focused, logical chains of reasoning, which make some relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs some relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing occasionally effective arguments and judgements, some are partially substantiated and lead to generic conclusions without much justification (AO3).
Level 3	13–18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates mostly accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, many of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Mostly focused analysis of aspects of politics with focused, logical chains of reasoning, which make mostly relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs generally relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing generally effective arguments and judgements, many of which are substantiated and lead to some focused conclusions that are sometimes justified (AO3).
Level 4	19–24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are carefully selected in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Consistent analysis of aspects of politics, with coherent logical chains of reasoning, which make relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs mostly relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing mostly effective arguments and judgements, which are mostly substantiated and lead to mostly focused, justified conclusions (AO3).
Level 5	25–30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates thorough and in-depth knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are effectively selected in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Perceptive analysis of aspects of politics, with sustained, logical chains of reasoning, which make cohesive and convincing connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs fully relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing fully effective substantiated arguments and judgements, which are consistently substantiated and lead to fully focused and justified conclusions (AO3).

Question number	Indicative content
3(c)	<p>AO1 (10 marks), AO2 (10 marks), AO3 (10 marks)</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis (AO2) and evaluation (AO3). AO2 and AO3 require candidates to develop their answers showing analytical and evaluative skills to address the question – such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Candidates may demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding (AO1) in relation to the view that the US is a diminishing global hegemonic power:</p> <p>Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the USA has faced difficulties in wars such as Iraq and Afghanistan, and US soft power has also been weakened by the 'war on terror' and the extraordinary rendition and Guantanamo Bay incidents the economic model of the USA has been challenged by the global financial crisis. China, in particular, has grown at a remarkable rate and is expected to overtake the US economy within a decade or so. There has been a rise of the BRIC states there have been a number of areas where the USA has been unable to exert significant political influence, such as the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Russian support for Assad in Syria, Chinese ambitions in Asia the actions of North Korea and Iranian nuclear ambitions mean that the US has faced new challengers, including the EU, as a collection of states, a resurgent Russia and a growing China. <p>Disagreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the USA has a global military reach and accounts for approximately 50% of world military spending the USA has structural power in most major international organisations, from the Security Council to G7, the IMF and the World Bank the USA remains the world's largest economy and has established the dominant economic model globally the US has influence and global reach, which impacts on most countries and global issues, for example nuclear proliferation. <p>Candidates may refer to the following analytical (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when agreeing with the view:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a counter-argument to the dominance of US military power could be built on the reduced significance of hard power in global politics, this may be judged as showing diminished hegemony (AO2), therefore US hard power was discredited in Iraq and Afghanistan and there is a growing view that soft power is becoming more significant and as this is not an approach adopted by the US, if it continues to grow it could signal a weakening of its hegemony (AO3) the rise of BRIC states seems to challenge economic, and even structural, dominance and the USA has found that it is unable to tackle the global financial crisis alone. Economic competitors have seen significant growth, suggesting that US economic dominance may be weakening (AO2), therefore this may be judged to indicate diminished hegemony, and the fact that China is continuing to grow in importance and that the financial crisis is still not totally resolved, this may lead to further weakening of the US grip on power (AO3)

Question number	Indicative content
3(c) (contd.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> failure of the USA to exert influence in numerous areas appears to challenge the idea of US influence, as US hard power failed against opponents using guerrilla tactics in asymmetric war in Afghanistan and Iraq. Global criticism of US tactics increased as did a wider criticism of the tactics used in the 'War on Terror', including extraordinary rendition and Guantanamo Bay (AO2), this therefore may be judged to indicate diminished hegemony as the US has been fundamentally weakened and discredited by the actions in Iraq and Afghanistan and will find it far harder to successfully engage in similar military action in the future (AO3). Chinese military expenditure and economic growth alongside soft power development means that it is becoming a significant challenge to US hegemony. The EU has a growing involvement in foreign policy areas, as well as an economic strength and soft power ability, and also challenges US hegemony. A resurgent Russia, able to resist US pressure in areas such as Crimea and Syria also suggests a weakening US position (AO2), consequently long-term US hegemony, measured in a number of ways has been questioned on several occasions and will, inevitably, remain a topic of debate. Loss of military, economic and structural dominance may be judged to signify lost or, at least, diminished hegemony (AO3). <p>Candidates may refer to the following analytical (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when disagreeing with the view:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> military power may be central in defining hegemony and the US has had a dominant role in intervention in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria etc. (AO2), therefore this is a clear indication that the US remains the global hegemon, despite challengers that do not have the same power to effectively challenge, and so the US will continue to be major force in deciding on foreign military intervention (AO3) structural power may be central in defining hegemony and the US has clearly been influential in effective change in these major international institutions. The US is a permanent member of the Security Council with a veto power, member of the elite G7 organisation and has share dominance in the IMF and the World Bank, as well as the ability to select the World Bank leader (AO2), consequently structural challengers may not be deemed significant enough to challenge hegemony and the US has had significant influence in these major structural institutions for a considerable number of years, it seems unlikely that this will change (AO3) economic power may be central in defining hegemony and the US has a clear hold on global affairs as the global economic system is based on a US model, and as the US dominates the IMF and the World Bank, which make key decisions on lending policy etc., and the US has a number of powerful multinational companies globally (AO2), therefore economic challengers may not be deemed significant enough to challenge hegemony (AO3) influence and reach may be assessed to be central in hegemonic dominance and it is clear that the US does not have any significant challengers to its power base as the leader of the free world. The US is at the heart of numerous global issues such as nuclear proliferation (Iran and North Korea), global warming and conflict in areas such as Syria (AO2), thus the rise of other states may not be deemed significant enough to have diminished US dominance in any of these areas (AO3). <p>Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way. The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusion.</p>

Question number	Indicative content
3(c) (contd.)	Candidates who <i>have not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2. Accept any other valid points.

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates superficial knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, with limited underpinning of analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Limited analysis of aspects of politics with partial, logical chains of reasoning, which makes simplistic connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Makes superficial evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing simple arguments and judgements, many which are descriptive and lead to limited unsubstantiated conclusions (AO3).
Level 2	7–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, some of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Some emerging analysis of aspects of politics with some focused, logical chains of reasoning, which make some relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs some relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing occasionally effective arguments and judgements, some are partially substantiated and lead to generic conclusions without much justification (AO3).
Level 3	13–18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates mostly accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, many of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Mostly focused analysis of aspects of politics with focused, logical chains of reasoning, which make mostly relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs generally relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing generally effective arguments and judgements, many of which are substantiated and lead to some focused conclusions that are sometimes justified (AO3).
Level 4	19–24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are carefully selected in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Consistent analysis of aspects of politics, with coherent logical chains of reasoning, which make relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs mostly relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing mostly effective arguments and judgements, which are mostly substantiated and lead to mostly focused, justified conclusions (AO3).
Level 5	25–30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates thorough and in-depth knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are effectively selected in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Perceptive analysis of aspects of politics, with sustained, logical chains of reasoning, which make cohesive and convincing connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs fully relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing fully effective substantiated arguments and judgements, which are consistently substantiated and lead to fully focused and justified conclusions (AO3).