



2018 M106



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit  
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate  
Sample Examination Paper

# Politics and Society

Higher Level

2½ hours duration

400 marks

Examination Number					

Centre Stamp
--------------



## Instructions

There are three sections in this examination paper.

Section A	Short Answer Questions	50 marks
Section B	Data-Based Questions	150 marks
Section C	Discursive Essays	200 marks

Answer All Sections.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. You may lose marks if you do not do so. You are not required to use all of the space provided.

Additional pages are provided if needed. Label any extra work clearly with the question number and part.

**You may only use blue or black pen when writing your answers. Do not use pencil.**

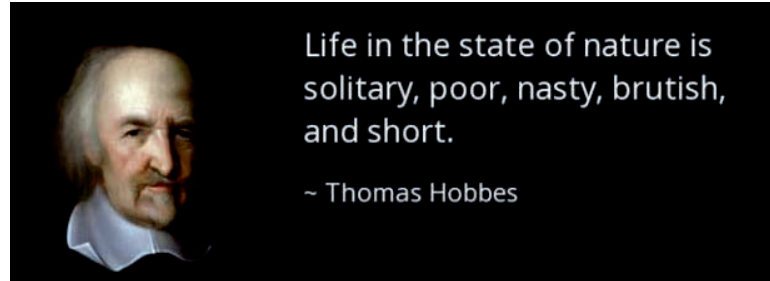


ANSWER QUESTION 1 IN THE SPACE PROVIDED

Question 1

Answer any **ten** of the following items, **(a), (b), (c) ...**

- (a) Read the quote from Thomas Hobbes and explain how this view of the human condition influences his view on the role of government and rules.



---

---

---

---

---

- (b) When it comes to education, the State in Ireland can provide equality of access but not equality of outcome. Do you agree with this statement? Give **two** reasons for your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

- (c) Describe what is meant by patriarchy and name three social structures that perpetuate patriarchy.

---

---

---

---

---



**(d) (i)** What is the European Convention on Human Rights?

---

---

**(ii)** What are the obligations for states when they sign up to this Convention?

---

---

**(e) (i)** Summarise the steps a person would take to seek redress if their rights under the European Convention of Human Rights were violated.

---

---

---

---

**(ii)** Name a case together with the issue that has successfully been brought through these steps.

---

---

---

---

**(f)** The European Union is an 'imagined community.' Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Justify your answer.

---

---

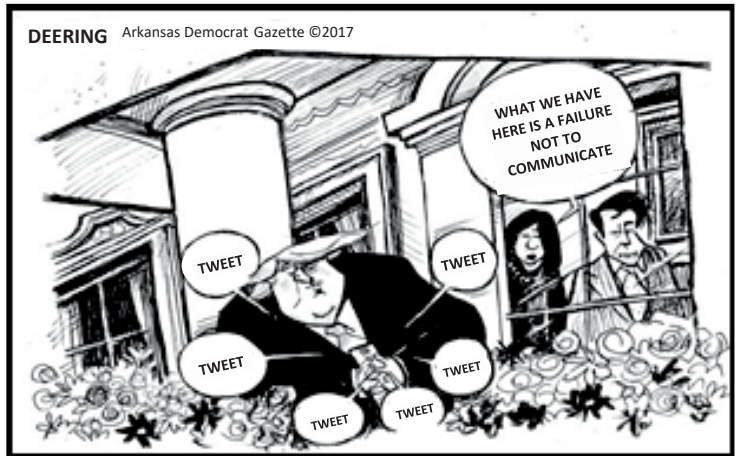
---

---



(g) Name one strength and one weakness of social media in politics as illustrated by this cartoon.

Strength: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Weakness: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(h) In 2017, the world’s largest greenhouse gas emitters were China, the United States and the European Union. The top 10 emitters contributed 72 percent of global emissions. Give **two** reasons why a small number of countries contribute such a large percentage of global emissions.

Reason 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Reason 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(i) Name two sovereign rights Ireland has given up in order to have membership of a supranational body. Identify the supranational body in your answer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



(j) Explain how this image challenges our understanding of charity.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Source: <https://bsllibrary.org.au/housing/homelessness/history-can-challenge-narrative-blame-homelessness-conversation-93196/>

(k) Name **one** of the articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) with which Ireland is not fully compliant. Give **two** ways in which Ireland is not fully compliant with this article.

---

---

---

---

---

---

(l) Positive rights are unfair as they make some people pay to implement the rights of other people. Name a political theorist who would hold this particular view. Why does this theorist hold this view?

---

---

---

---



**Section B****Data-Based Questions****150 marks**Answer **all** questions in this section.**ANSWER IN THE SPACE PROVIDED****Document A**

In March, 2017 Oxfam International published a report entitled ‘*An economy that works for women.*’ The report is based on evidence from research as well as Oxfam’s experience of working directly with people in less developed countries. Below is a case study from the report:

Social norms and care work in Uganda mean women and men have unequal responsibilities for unpaid care work. Florence and Zakayo live with their two young children in the Acholi sub-region of Uganda and are small-scale farmers. Traditional gender roles are strongly held in the community, with women generally being responsible for household and domestic work, and men’s authority being seen as absolute.

Florence was the typical Acholi wife, waking up earlier than the rest of the family each morning to fetch water and firewood, bathe the children, prepare and serve them and her husband breakfast, before working to grow the family’s food. At lunchtime, she would return home to make lunch and then go back to the field till the end of the day, when she would return home in time to prepare supper before Zakayo came back from the bar.

She says: ‘*When we got married I was living at my husband’s extended family home. We left after I had my second child. It was a big family of about 20 people, and I was among the few who were doing most of the household chores and the farming. I would leave the field to go to prepare lunch and return to the field until 6pm. My brother-in-law’s wife and I used to do most of the work. We would work a lot, just the two of us, to produce food for the entire family. There was nothing like division of labour.*’ For Florence, long hours spent doing unpaid farming and domestic work meant she had little time to spend on income earning activities.

Zakayo recalls that he would resort to violence towards Florence whenever he found she had not done something he was expecting her to: ‘*I used to beat my wife. I would expect her to wash my clothes, for example, and if she hadn’t done it I would beat her.*’

Oxfam’s WE-Care initiative works in the community to give training and raise awareness about women’s heavy and unequal responsibility for care work. Zakayo attended the training, and reports that it changed his attitudes towards domestic tasks and his wife’s role: ‘*As a man, I used to feel it was not my responsibility to engage in that kind of work. It was a mindset borne out of the patriarchal nature of our Acholi society that gave the men absolute authority over their wives. Of course, I now know it was wrong to subject my wife to such a punishing schedule that would not allow her to do anything else that was beneficial to all of us.*’

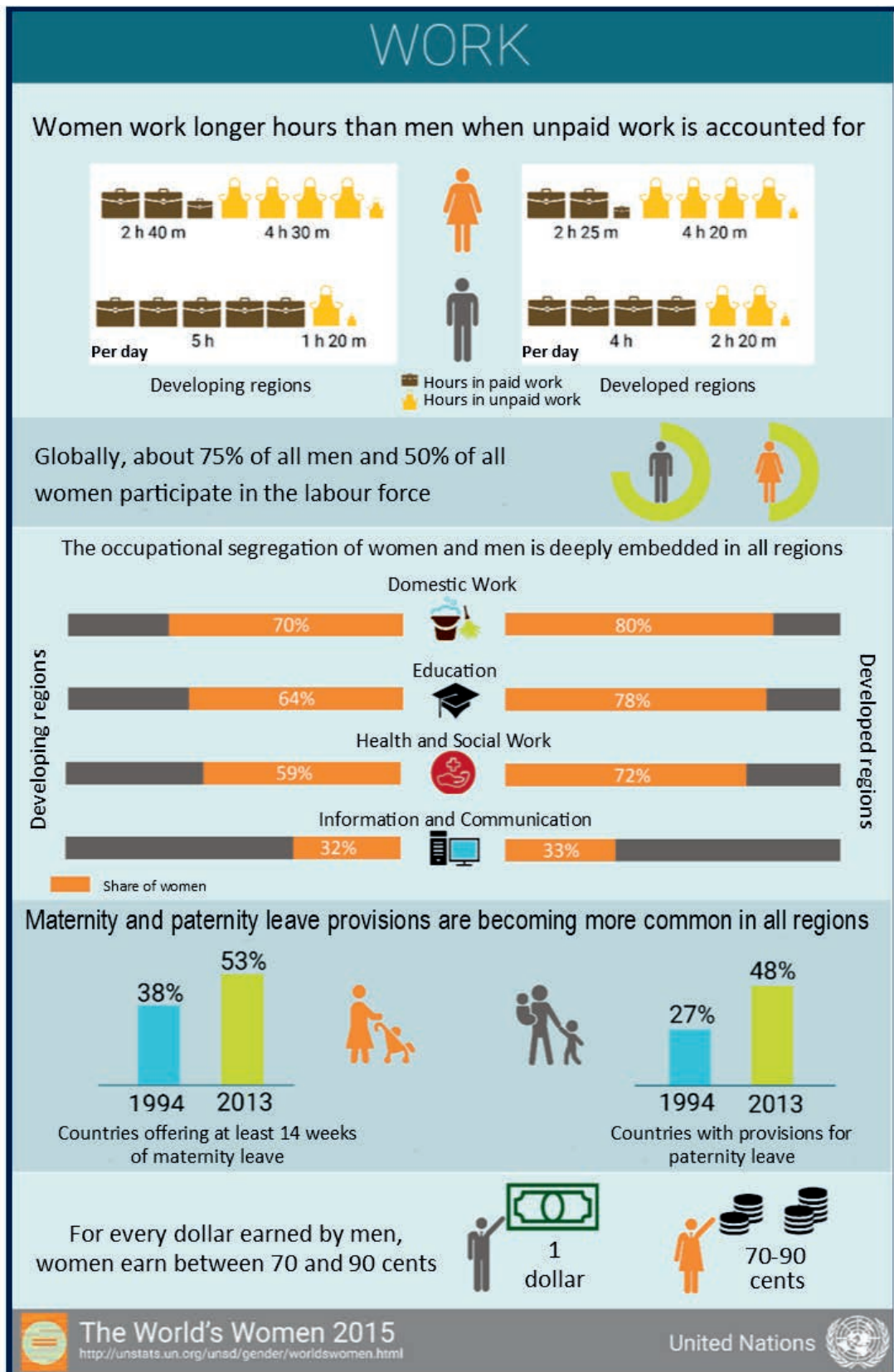
As a result, Zakayo now helps with both farming to support the family and domestic work. The couple have faced criticism from their peers because they are acting contrary to traditional gender roles, and Florence also admits that she needed to adjust her own views: ‘*Before the training, whenever I saw Zakayo washing his own clothes, I would get offended, thinking he was taking up my role.*’ However, despite these challenges there have been many benefits to the family. And because Zakayo now helps with both farming to support the family and domestic work, they have more time for activities that boost the family’s income.

Source: [https://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/file\\_attachments/bp-an-economy-that-works-for-women-020317-en.pdf](https://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/file_attachments/bp-an-economy-that-works-for-women-020317-en.pdf)



**Document B**

The following infographic was published by the UN Statistics Division as part of its report: *The World's Women 2015*. It compares women's work in developed and developing countries.











**Section C****Discursive Essays****200 marks**Answer any **two** from questions 3, 4, 5 and 6.**ANSWER IN THE SPACE PROVIDED****Question 3**

**Children and young people have a right to express their views and be heard on matters that affect them (Article 12 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child).**

Is this right enjoyed by young people in Ireland? Discuss.

[Your answer should include current examples and evidence and make reference to the work of one or more state bodies involved in supporting this right.]

**OR**

**Marxists would argue that those who have the most power or influence can make rules that suit their own interests and not the interests of everyone in the community.**

Discuss this statement.

[Your answer should include contemporary examples and evidence from a local or global context to support your argument. You should also refer to the views of at least one other named theorist you have studied.]

**Question 4**

**Development in harmony with nature requires a move away from big industries and urbanisation and towards small scale, self-reliant communities using renewable resources.**

State whether you agree or disagree with this statement. Justify your position.

[Your answer should include examples and evidence from a local or global context to support your argument. You should also refer to the views of two or more named theorists you have studied.]



### Question 5

**Britain's vote to leave the European Union (Brexit) provides evidence of people's growing concerns about national identity and sovereignty in a globalised world.**

Evaluate this view, drawing on relevant theorists and evidence to support your answer.

**OR**

Examine the relevance of Huntington's statement below by making reference to recent world events and to the theories of at least one other participant in this debate:

***It is my hypothesis that the fundamental source of conflict in this new world will not be primarily ideological or primarily economic. The great divisions among humankind and the dominating source of conflict will be cultural. Nation states will remain the most powerful actors in world affairs, but the principal conflicts of global politics will occur between nations and groups of different civilizations. The clash of civilizations will dominate global politics.'***

Source: Huntington, S.P., *The Clash of Civilizations?* Foreign Affairs, Vol. 72, No. 3, (1993)

### Question 6

Critically evaluate the statement - ***Human rights are a western concept.***

[Your answer should include current examples and evidence from a local or global context to support your argument. You should also refer to the views of at least one named theorist you have studied.]



Section C – Answer to Question \_\_\_\_

Optional space to help you prepare your answer.











Section C – Answer to Question \_\_\_\_

Optional space to help you prepare your answer.













## Acknowledgements

### Images

Image on page 3: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Thomas\\_Hobbes\\_\(portrait\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Thomas_Hobbes_(portrait).jpg)

Image on page 5: <http://www.arkansasonline.com/photos/galleries/2017/jul/01/editorial-cartoons-july-2017/54323/>  
John Deering, Copyright 2017, Cagle Cartoons (27/7/2017)

### Copyright notice

The sample examination paper may contain text or images for which the State Examinations Commission is not the copyright owner. It has been prepared in accordance with Section 53(5) of the Copyright and Related Rights Act, (2000). Any subsequent use for a purpose other than the intended purpose is not authorised. The Commission does not accept liability for any infringement of third-party rights arising from unauthorised distribution or use of this sample examination paper.

Leaving Certificate – Higher Level – Sample Paper

# Politics and Society

2½ hours duration



2018 L 568 H 1 E 24 24