**British History 1951-1979**

**End of AS Content Factual Test**

1. Complete the table below in chronological order of Prime Ministers 1951-1979, their party and their dates (24 marks)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Prime Ministers 1951-1979 | Party | Dates |
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1. Give a brief definition of the post-war consensus, including some of its key features (4 marks)
2. Give 2 main reasons why the Conservatives enjoyed a period of dominance from 1951-1964 (2 marks)
3. Describe how the stop-go economic cycle works, starting with a balance of payments crisis when imports exceed exports. (7 marks)
4. Give 3 key dates and events in foreign affairs between 1951 and 1964 (3 marks)
5. Give 5 examples of Britain becoming a more modern and progressive society during the Labour government 1964-1970 (5 marks)
6. Why did Enoch Powell cause controversy in 1968? (2 marks)
7. Describe the impact of industrial relations on Edward Heath’s government (4 marks)
8. Why was Britain successful in joining the EEC in 1973? (2 marks)
9. Give a brief summary of the Troubles 1968-1979. (5 marks)

/58 marks

**British History 1951-1979**

**End of AS Content Factual Test**

**Answer Sheet**

1. Complete the table below in chronological order of Prime Ministers 1951-1979, their party and their dates (24 marks)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Prime Ministers 1951-1979 | Party | Dates |
| Winston Churchill | Conservative | 1951-55 |
| Anthony Eden | Conservative | 1955-57 |
| Harold Macmillan | Conservative | 1957-63 |
| Alec Douglas-Home | Conservative | 1963-64 |
| Harold Wilson | Labour | 1964-1970 |
| Edward Heath | Conservative | 1970-1974 |
| Harold Wilson | Labour | 1974-1976 |
| James Callaghan | Labour | 1976-1979 |

1. Give a brief definition of the post-war consensus, including some of its key features (4 marks)

The post-war consensus was the period from 1945-1979 when both Conservative and Labour governments committed to certain policy ideas – commitment to the welfare state, a mixed economy, full employment and good relations with trade unions.

1. Give 2 main reasons why the Conservatives enjoyed a period of dominance from 1951-1964 (2 marks)

Age of Affluence, Labour infighting

1. Describe how the stop-go economic cycle works, starting with a balance of payments crisis when imports exceed exports. (7 marks)

When imports exceed exports the government puts in controls such as high interest rates and wage freezes to stop people wanting to spend money. This reduces the demand for imported goods and internal demand for goods which could be exported. However, too big a fall in demand leads to manufacturers not making enough money so their output decreases and exports fall. The government then removes the controls to encourage spending and investment in manufacturers. This sees an increase in demand for products but also leads to a rise in demand for imported goods which then leads to a balance of payments crisis.

1. Give 3 key dates and events in foreign affairs between 1951 and 1964 (3 marks)

1956 Suez Crisis, 1960 Winds of Change, 1963 Rejection of EEC application

1. Give 5 examples of Britain becoming a more modern and progressive society during the Labour government 1964-1970 (5 marks)

End of capital punishment 1965/69, Divorce Reform Act 1969, Abortion Act 1967, Sexual Offences Act 1967 decriminalised some homosexual activity, creation of comprehensive schools, expansion of higher education, Open University 1969, expansion of mass media, increased car and tv ownership and foreign holidays, reduction in theatre censorship, contraceptive pill 1967, Matrimonial Property Act 1970, Equal Pay Act 1970.

1. Why did Enoch Powell cause controversy in 1968? (2 marks)

“Rivers of Blood” speech warning of what he saw as the dangers of mass immigration. Perceived as racist but possibly helped Conservatives win the next election.

1. Describe the impact of industrial relations on Edward Heath’s government (4 marks)

Industrial Relations Act prompted anger – strikes in 1972 led to a State of Emergency and the introduction of the 3 day week. Further strikes in 1974, exacerbated by the OPEC crisis led to another 3 day week. General election 28 Feb 1974 – who governs Britain? Led to a hung parliament and Labour coming in as a minority government.

1. Why was Britain successful in joining the EEC in 1973? (2 marks)

Edward Heath passionately pro-Europe and had been one of chief negotiators for Conservatives in 1960s. Change of French president from Charles de Gaulle – very anti-English/American – to Georges Pompidou who recognised that the EEC needed Britain as much as Britain needed the EEC.

1. Give a brief summary of the Troubles 1968-1979. (5 marks)

Civil rights protests in 1968 as Catholics felt discriminated against and under-represented in Northern Ireland which was predominantly Protestant. 1969 rioting led to Wilson sending in British army troops to try and keep the peace. Introduction of internment in 1971 further alienated nationalist communities. Low point came in 1972 with Bloody Sunday when 13 protestors were shot by British Army – led to 1972 being bloodiest year of violence. 1973 Sunningdale Agreement drawn up to plan for a power-sharing agreement but didn’t gain enough support amongst Northern Irish political parties. Constitutional Convention 1974 also failed. 1976 Special Category status being removed from terrorist prisoners led to blanket and later dirty protests in 1978.

Total: 58 marks