



WESTMINSTER SCHOOL THE CHALLENGE 2024

HISTORY

Tuesday 30 April 2024

You have ONE HOUR for this paper. Answer ALL the questions in Section A and ONE essay from Section B.

You should spend 30 minutes on Section A and 30 minutes on Section B.

- **Please write in black or blue ink. Answer all questions in the answer sheet provided – do not answer in the exam paper.**

Section A: WHY DID SOME WOMEN GET THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN BRITAIN IN 1918?

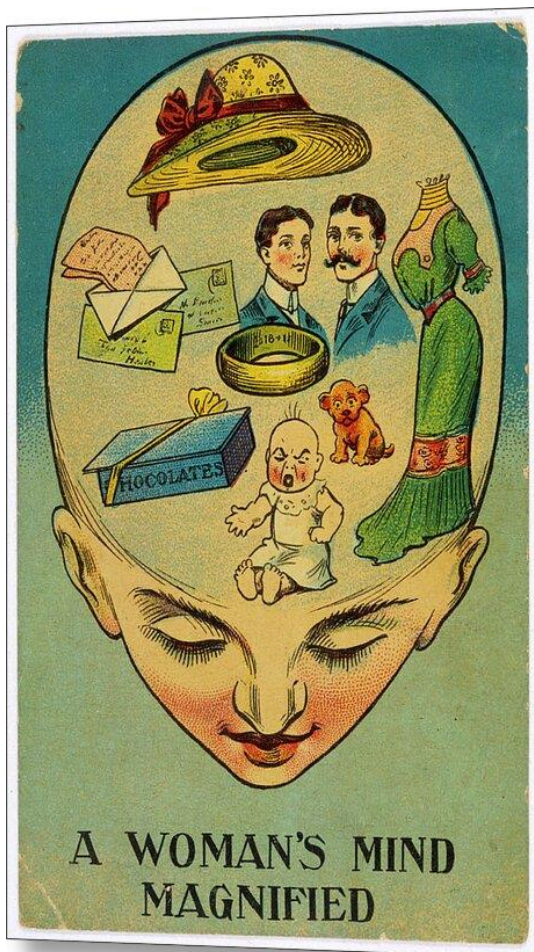
Historical Background

Before the First World War, women in Great Britain were not entitled to vote. Many people thought that men and women had 'separate spheres': women were suited to the private sphere of bringing up children and looking after the house, while men were suited to the public sphere of work and politics. Others believed that women were the equals of men and should have the same rights. Campaign groups of the early 1900s aimed to secure the right to vote for all women. One of the main groups was the suffragettes, who were prepared to use violence. Then, during the war, thousands of women were employed to do jobs left vacant by men who had gone to fight. Finally, in 1918, some adult women were given the right to vote. How did this come about?

Don't worry at all if you have never studied this period of history. No 'own knowledge' is required. All the information you need is to be found in the paper.

Look at all the sources closely and then answer ALL the questions which follow.

Source A



A poster from 1910

Source B

Window-breaking began that night. It was the women's first use of the political argument of the stone. Mary Leigh and Edith New ... had gone to Downing Street carrying stones, and flung them at the windows of the Prime Minister's official residence. Defending this action in Court the next day, the two prisoners said that having tried every other means to achieve their ends, and having failed, they had to take more militant measures. The responsibility for what they have done rested on those who made women outlaws by the law of the land.

From *Unshackled*, by Christabel Pankhurst (a leading suffragette), published in 1959. She is describing an incident in June 1908.

Source C

How could we have carried on the war without women? There is hardly a service in which women have not been at least as active as men. Wherever we turn we see them doing work which three years ago we would have regarded as being exclusively 'men's work'. But what moves me still more in this matter is the problem of what to do when the war is over. I would find it impossible to withhold from women the power and the right of making their voices directly heard.

Herbert Asquith speaking in Parliament in 1917
(He had been Prime Minister until the previous year)

Now answer ALL of the following questions. Remember to use details from the sources in your answers.

1. **Look at Source A.** What can you learn from this source about the attitude of some people towards women at this time? [8 marks]
2. **Look at Source B.** Why, according to this source, was it necessary for the suffragettes to turn to violence? [7 marks]
3. **Read Source C.** In what ways is this source useful to a historian studying the campaign for votes for women? [10 marks]

Total: 25 marks

Section B: Essay

Answer ONE of the following questions

In answering your chosen question, you should try to use examples and comparisons from your own study of History, together with your wider knowledge and reading, and you must write in good English. Remember to explain your answer fully.

1. Explain why any ONE war that you have studied was won and lost. Try to demonstrate how some factors are more important than others in securing the outcome.
2. 'Individuals do not shape events; they are shaped by them'. How far do you agree with this view? Discuss at least two individuals you have studied in your answer.
3. Choose any woman in History and discuss the extent to which her reputation is deserved.
4. Is it appropriate for former slave-owning powers like Britain to pay compensation to the descendants of people they enslaved more than 200 years ago? Consider different arguments and make your own case.
5. If you were asked to write a book about the history of the 21st century so far, what would your first chapter be about and why?

Total: 25 marks

END OF PAPER