INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Use black ink.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what to do before starting your answer.
- Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You are advised to spend at least ten minutes doing this.
- Answer all the questions.
- Write the numbers of the questions you have answered in the box on the front of the answer booklet.
- Do not write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 50.
- This document consists of 6 pages. Any blank pages are indicated.
Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You should spend at least ten minutes doing this.

In answering the questions, you will need to use your knowledge of the topic to interpret and evaluate the sources. When you are asked to use specific sources you must do so, but you may also use any of the other sources if they are relevant.

Answer ALL the questions.

1 Study Source A.

What is the message of this cartoon? Use details of the cartoon and your knowledge to explain your answer. [6]

2 Study Sources B and C.

Is one source more reliable than the other in helping you to understand who opposed votes for women? Use details of the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

3 Study Source D.

Is this cartoon for or against votes for women? Use details of the cartoon and your knowledge to explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Sources E and F.

How different are the attitudes to votes for women in these two sources? Use details of the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

5 Study Source G.

Why was this poster published in 1912? Use details of the poster and your knowledge to explain your answer. [7]

6 Study all the sources.

‘It was the suffragettes’ fault that women did not win the vote before 1918.’

How far do the sources in this paper support this statement? Use details of the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. Remember to identify the sources you use. [12]

[Total: 50]
Why was it so difficult for women to win the vote before 1918?

Background Information

‘Votes for Women’ had been an issue in Britain since the nineteenth century. One group which fought for female votes was the Women’s Social and Political Union, the suffragettes. In spite of decades of action by women, often supported by some men, women did not get the vote until 1918. Why was it so difficult for women to win the vote before then?

SOURCE A

A politician, who is holding women back, is saying: ‘Make way, Mr Asquith has Social Reform for these gentlemen who have votes. You women must wait.’

A British cartoon, June 1913.

SOURCE B

The Labour Party is not fighting for us. It is not actually against ‘Votes for Women’, but it keeps a distance from the issue. Consequently, it appears that if the Labour Party is in power and has nothing better to do, it will give women the vote. At present it shows no interest in the subject. Why are women expected to have any confidence in the men of the Labour Party? Working men are as unjust to women as men of any other class.

From a newspaper article by Christabel Pankhurst, 1903.

SOURCE C

‘Votes for Women!’ is the shrill cry of unhappy ladies who have missed the best of life. A woman’s role is to give birth to future voters, not to be a voter. If we go against Nature we sacrifice our Womanhood to Politics. Suffragettes are short-sighted, obstinate and dangerous. If the mothers of the British race give up being feminine for politics, then dark days are in store for our Nation. Women are the protectors of the Home, and the Home is the foundation of the British Empire. When women desert their God-appointed place our Nation will collapse.

From ‘Woman or Suffragette?’ written by Marie Corelli, 1907.
She was a very popular British novelist.
Shortly before the Great War nothing was safe from the attacks of the militant suffragettes. Those frightful women did everything possible to frustrate or annoy respectable citizens. Their disgraceful and illegal actions made the House of Commons harden its opposition to their demands for the vote. So, it was no surprise that in May 1913 a proposal to give women the vote was defeated easily. The House of Commons never gives in to blackmail.

From the autobiography of Lord Ullswater, 1925. He was a Conservative MP, 1886–1921.

I have no special desire to give women the vote, but the arguments of those in favour are very powerful and totally convincing. They point out that during this War the women of Britain have been as important as any other class of the community in helping us fight our enemy. Women are doing work now which men had to perform before. We cannot carry on the War without them.

From a speech in the House of Commons by Asquith, the Prime Minister, August 1916.
SOURCE G

A suffragette's home

A British poster, 1912