

Commentary on candidate evidence

Candidate 1

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each section of this course assessment component.

Title: To what extent was women's war work the most important reason for women gaining the vote?

Introduction

- ◆ The candidate gives background to the issue in the first two sentences.
- ◆ The factors are listed ... *'war work, work of the suffragettes, changing attitudes and the work of the Suffragists.'*
- ◆ The candidate does not provide a line of argument

The candidate was awarded **2/3 marks** for the introduction

Paragraph 1: Women's war work

- ◆ The candidate opens the paragraph with a signpost sentence. No marks are given but it is good practice and introduces war work.
- ◆ **Knowledge point:** discussion about suspension of the suffrage campaigns to support 'the war effort through encouraging both women to do war work and men to enlist.'
- ◆ **Knowledge point:** 'war brought new employment opportunities for women ... conductors on trams ... police and over 700,000 ... munitions'
- ◆ **Analysis point:** 'This is important ... Suffrage campaigns gained support and respect ... willingness to get behind the war effort and muck in ...'
- ◆ **REFERENCE 1 awarded:** with Historian **AJP Taylor quote** on the resource sheet, properly referenced, good practice.
- ◆ **Knowledge point** for discussion about the new PM David Lloyd George being more sympathetic to changes in voting: 'there was plans to change the rules about voting as they applied to men.'
- ◆ **Analysis point:** 'This is important ... the importance of the Great War in women gaining the vote ... suggested that some measure of women's suffrage should be conferred.'
- ◆ **Knowledge point** for 'the Representation of the People Act 1918 ... 13 million men and 8 million women'
- ◆ **Analysis + point** for discussion on the limitation of the Act itself: '... only women over 30 who owned property ... wasn't an accurate representation of women who done the work.'
- ◆ **Isolated evaluation point** awarded for: 'In evaluation ... most important factor ... women who had proved that they could work just as hard as men ... Asquith who was a main opponent of women's suffrage ... admitted the war could not have been won without the work of women. (Using new evidence).'

Paragraph 2: The Suffragettes (WSPU)

- ◆ The candidate opens the paragraph with a signpost sentence. No mark is given but it is good practice and introduces the WSPU.
- ◆ **Knowledge point** on Emmeline Pankhurst forming the WSPU because of 'frustration with the lack of progress achieved by the NUWSS.'
- ◆ **Knowledge point:** 'They adopted the motto 'deeds not words' ... shows their intent ...'
- ◆ **Analysis point:** 'This is important ... the Suffragettes ... gained publicity'
- ◆ **REFERENCE 2 awarded:** with Historian **M Mackenzie quote** on the resource sheet, properly referenced, good practice.
- ◆ **Knowledge point:** 'used dramatic tactics ... heckling of ministers at public meetings, interventions in by-elections'
- ◆ **Knowledge point:** 'the Temporary Discharge for Ill Health Act ... Cat and Mouse Act ... died in custody.'
- ◆ **Analysis point:** 'This flipped the balance and women began to gain sympathy ... the government were seen as the "bad guys"'
- ◆ **Knowledge point:** 'Emily Wilding Davison ... Epsom Derby ... end up dying.'
- ◆ **Analysis point:** 'This drew attention to women ...'
- ◆ **Analysis + point:** '... However women were often seen as terrorists ... hindered the vote for women.'
- ◆ No evaluation: ... Suffragettes were important ... the candidate's evidence contradicts her argument.

Paragraph 3: Changing attitudes

- ◆ The candidate opens the paragraph with a signpost sentence. No mark is given but it is good practice and introduces the discussion on a change in attitudes.
- ◆ **Knowledge point** on political change: '... in 1869 single female ratepayers given the right to vote in council elections ... 15% of total electorate'
- ◆ **Knowledge point:** 'By 1907 women could stand as candidates in county council elections ... gave them a voice within politics.'
- ◆ **Analysis point:** 'This is important to women gaining greater political equality ...'
- ◆ **REFERENCE 3 awarded:** **Martin Pugh quote** on resource sheet, properly referenced, good practice.
- ◆ **Knowledge point** on women attending school: 'literacy rates increasing to 97% in 1900.'
- ◆ **Analysis point:** 'This helped destroy the image of women being "too stupid for politics".'
- ◆ **Analysis + point:** 'However women were still not seen as equal to men ... until the Representation of the People Act 1928'
- ◆ **Evaluation + point** awarded for: 'In evaluation ... lesser importance ... although women were gaining more respect ... usually aimed at middle or upper class women ... on the other hand ... women's war work united ... women ... broke down barriers (Candidate's line of argument) ... women could handle a job,(Using new evidence)(Using new evidence)

Paragraph 4: The Suffragists (NUWSS)

- ◆ The candidate opens the paragraph with a signpost sentence. No mark is given but it is good practice and introduces the NUWSS
- ◆ **Knowledge point** on how the local women's suffrage societies 'joined together to form one united organisation.'
- ◆ **Knowledge point** on NUWSS campaign meetings, pamphlets, parliamentary bills.
- ◆ **Analysis point:** 'This is important ... the Suffragists impressed many British people, this showed that they were capable and trustworthy ... nationwide campaign.'
- ◆ **REFERENCE 4 awarded:** **John Kerr quote** properly referenced, is included in the resource sheet. This is considered good practice.
- ◆ **Knowledge point** on growth of NUWSS membership to 53,000 by 1914, trade union support and support from Labour.
- ◆ **Analysis point:** 'The NUWSS also sped up the vote for women as many pro-suffrage MPs held influential places in the government.'
- ◆ **Analysis + point:** 'However ... they still didn't win the vote ... despite 4 attempts to introduce women's suffrage in parliament ... still a lot of anti-suffrage feeling ... for example Queen Victoria ... outspoken opposition figure'
- ◆ **Evaluation + point** awarded for: '... suffragists ... least important ... they were too slow ... On the other hand war work was more important ... 1912 Coalition Bill 208 MPs voted for ... and 222 against. By 1917, 387 voted for ... and 57 against (candidate's line of argument) ... won admiration and respect from men, even Asquith.' (Using new evidence).

Conclusion

- ◆ Balanced judgement in terms of the question.
- ◆ *On the one hand ... war work proved that women could handle extra responsibilities given to them without men*
- ◆ *A less important reason ... change in attitudes ... new evidence?*
- ◆ *On the other hand ... the Suffragists ... least important ... slow progress ... only aimed at middle and upper class women*
- ◆ *A less important reason ... the Suffragettes made women look irresponsible ... hindering the vote.*
- ◆ Final overall point in terms of the question ... Women gained the vote due to their *war work which made the most impact towards women's suffrage*
- ◆ There is no relative judgement between the factors.

The candidate was awarded **2/3 marks** for the conclusion

Introduction:	2/3
Analysis:	7/7
Evaluation:	3/5
References:	4/4
Knowledge:	8/8
Conclusion:	2/3
Total	26/30