

Commentary on candidate evidence

Candidate 1

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

Question 12: To what extent were the Labour reforms of 1945-1951 effective in meeting the needs of the British people?

Introduction

The candidate gives background to the issue in the first 15 lines.

Factors: *'One of these giants was the giant of squalor and the reforms introduced to improve housing. Another reform introduced aimed to tackle the giant of disease by introducing the NHS. Another reform introduced aimed to tackle the giant of ignorance by improving the schooling system.'*

Line of argument: *'This essay will argue that the Labour reforms of 1945-51 were effective in meeting the needs of the British people to a great extent as they made a huge step towards solving Britain's problems.'*

The candidate is **awarded 3 marks**.

Paragraph 1: Squalor

The candidate starts this paragraph with a signpost sentence. No mark is given but this is good practice: *'One reform introduced by the Labour government aimed to tackle the giant of squalor.'*

Knowledge point awarded for: *'The Labour government aimed to build 200,000 houses a year and by 1951, they were successful in building 1 million new houses.'*

Knowledge point awarded for: *'These houses came equipped with electronics, indoor toilets and gardens.'*

Analysis point awarded for: *'Arguably this made the Labour reforms effective in meeting the needs of the British people as it meant that there were many more people now living in modern housing which greatly reduced the number of people who were living in slums.'*

Knowledge point awarded for: *'However, due to the baby boom that occurred after the war, the census on 1951 indicated that the labour government was still 750,000 houses short.'*

Analysis + point awarded for: *Arguably this made the Labour reforms less effective in meeting the needs of the British people as it meant that there were still many people in Britain who wouldn't access these modern new houses and therefore their living conditions remained poor.'*

Evaluation + point awarded for: *'In evaluation, even although the Labour government were short of thousands of houses which meant that many still had to live in slums, the Labour reforms were effective in dealing with the needs of the British people to a great extent as, (candidate's line of argument), not only were the new houses that Labour built modern and well equipped which greatly improved the living conditions of many, but the New Towns Act that Labour introduced meant that 14 new towns were built across Britain, including Livingston, which meant that many now had not only a modern home but a modern community in which to live instead of a slum. (Using new evidence)*

Paragraph 2: Disease

The candidate starts with a signpost sentence. No mark is given for this but it is good practice): *'Another reform introduced by the Labour government aimed to tackle the giant of disease.'*

Knowledge point awarded for: *'In 1948, the NHS was introduced and provided medical services such as GP visits, dentists, opticians and specialist services all free of charge at the point of use.'*

Analysis point awarded for: *Arguably, this makes the Labour reforms effective in meeting the needs of the British people as it meant that even the poorest in Britain could now access the healthcare that they needed which greatly improved Britain's overall health.'*

Knowledge point awarded for: *'However, the Labour government underestimated how many people would need medical attention, and within its first three years, the NHS budget increased from £134 million to £356 million.'*

Knowledge point awarded for: *'As a result of this, patients had to start paying half of the cost of glasses and false teeth.'*

Analysis + point awarded for: *'Arguably, this makes the Labour reforms less effective in dealing with the needs of the British people as, by introducing charges, it meant that there would once again be people who, due to poverty, would not be able to access the healthcare they needed and therefore remain in poor health.'*

Evaluation + point awarded for: *In evaluation, even though the charges for some services introduced as a result of the NHS budget not being able to cover all those who required medical attention meant that some services once again became inaccessible to Britain's poorest, the Labour reforms were effective in dealing with the needs of the British people to a great extent as, (candidate's line of argument), not only did the NHS provide most services free of charge at the point of use which made medical treatment accessible, but in its first year, the*

NHS was successful in treating 9 million dental patients and distributing 5 million pairs of glasses, which show just how many people the NHS helped. (Using new evidence)

Paragraph 3: Ignorance

The candidate starts with a signpost sentence. No mark is given for this but it is good practice: *'Another reform introduced by the Labour government aimed to tackle the giant of ignorance.'*

Knowledge point awarded for: *'The Labour government's Education Act made secondary school education free to all and raised the secondary school leaving age to 15.'*

Analysis point awarded for: *'Arguably, this made the Labour reforms effective in dealing with the needs of the British people as it made secondary school much more accessible to even the poorest and meant that children got a better and longer education which put them in a good place for the future.'*

Knowledge point awarded for: *'However, the Education Act also saw the introduction of the 11+ test which meant that 11-year olds had to sit a test to determine if they went to a 'senior secondary' school or a 'junior secondary' school.'*

Analysis + point awarded for: *'Arguably, this made the Labour reforms less effective in meeting the needs of the British people as it created a two-tiered education system which meant that those who didn't pass the 11+ test had to go to a 'junior secondary' school which weren't as well funded and were less academic which meant that those who went there would find it harder to find a well paid job.'*

Evaluation + point awarded for: *'In evaluation, even though the introduction of a two-tiered education system gave those who went to a 'senior secondary' school an advantage over those who went to a 'junior secondary' school, the Labour reforms were effective in meeting the needs of the British people to a great extent as, not only did making secondary school education mean that many more children could now get a good education, (candidate's line of argument), but by 1951 the Labour government built 1000 new secondary schools which meant that more children had a school in their area which increased school attendance and meant that more people got an education which helped them stay out of poverty in the future.'*

Conclusion

The candidate is awarded 3 marks for their conclusion which evaluates the presented evidence, makes a relative judgement in each of the factors showing balance and maintains their line of argument.

In conclusion, there were many reasons for the Labour reforms being effective in meeting the needs of the British people to a great extent. Even though the Labour government had not built enough modern houses for all those who needed them, the reform introduced to tackle squalor effectively met the needs of the British people to a great extent as the 1 million houses that the Labour government built had electricity and inside toilets which meant that many could now live in modern housing as opposed to slums. Even though the NHS had to

introduce charges for a small number of services which made them inaccessible to the poorest, the Labour reforms introduced to tackle disease were effective in meeting the needs of the British people to a great extent as the NHS provided almost every medical service free of charge which meant that the people of Britain could now access the health care they needed and the nations overall health improved. Even though the Education Act created a two-tiered education system, the labour reforms introduced to tackle the giant of ignorance effectively met the needs of the British people to a great extent as the fact that secondary education was made free to all meant that there were many more people now able to access it and get a good education. Overall, the Labour reforms of 1945-51, were effective in meeting the needs of the British people to a great extent as they resulted in great progress being made to improve the lives of the British people.

Introduction:	3/3
Analysis:	6/6
Evaluation:	3/4
Knowledge:	6/6
Conclusion:	3/3
Total:	21/22