J.10 JAPANESE POLITICS
POL. 10 THE POLITICS OF MODERN JAPAN

Candidates should answer three out of the following ten questions.

All questions are of equal value.

Write your number not your name on the cover sheet of each Section booklet.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS  SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS
20 page Answer Book x 1  None
A Rough Work Pad

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator
1. Is it fair to argue that US attempts at post-1945 nation building worked in Japan but failed in the case of South Korea?

2. ‘1993 and 1997 are pivotal moments of political change in, respectively, Japan and South Korea.’ Discuss.

3. To what extent does the electoral success of the DPJ in 2009 represent the end of the ‘1955 system’?

4. What are the similarities and differences between the Japanese and South Korean experiences of post-war rapid economic growth?

5. ‘The short-comings of local governance in Japan are evidence of contemporary Japan’s democratic deficit.’ Discuss.

6. How effective have interest groups been in delivering meaningful and durable political change in both Japan and South Korea?

7. In what sense might it be fair to argue that historical amnesia and/or historical distortion have influenced the contemporary national identities of both Japan and South Korea?

8. To what extent does the law in Japan protect individual rights?

9. In describing Japanese foreign and defence policy, is it still appropriate to characterize the Japanese state as a ‘reluctant realist’ (Michael Green)?

10. Are the Six Party Talks necessary and/or sufficient for resolving the North Korean nuclear crisis?

END OF PAPER