



AET1

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part IB

Friday 27 May 2016 09.00 to 12.00

Paper J10

Japanese politics

Answer **three** questions. All questions carry **equal** marks.

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

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 page answer booklet

Rough Work Pad

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAMINATION

None

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.

1. 'The "Reverse Course" was a betrayal of the ideals of the early Occupation.' Discuss.
2. To what extent has geopolitics constrained Korea's political evolution?
3. To what extent is the failure of Japan's opposition parties a function of structure and institutions rather than ideology?
4. How convincing was Chalmers Johnson's 'plan rational developmental state' thesis and why was it so influential in the 1980s?
5. 'Personalities, rather than parties, are the key factors shaping political change in postwar South Korean politics.' Discuss.
6. Is Prime Minister Abe a 'pragmatist' or an 'ideologue' and how different is he from his post-war predecessors?
7. 'The contemporary political controversy over basing-rights in Okinawa demonstrates that Japanese politics is fundamentally elitist and centralist, rather than pluralist and local in character.' Discuss.
8. Why has Constitutional reform proven so elusive in post-war Japan?
9. To what degree does scholarly analysis of North Korea prove or disprove the notion that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is a 'rogue state'?
10. Both Japan and the Republic of Korea are common allies of the United States, and yet appear incapable of acting constructively together. Why is this the case, and what is needed to improve inter-allied cooperation?

END OF PAPER

Page 2 of 2