J.8 MODERN JAPAN, 2

*Answer three questions. All questions are of equal value.*

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

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

*20 Page Answer Book x 1*
*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 reasonable to argue that Japan’s nuclear allergy remains as strong today as it was in the 1950s?

2. How does Robert Pekkanen explain the apparent paradox of Japan’s dual civil society - a society of ‘members without advocates’? Illustrate your answer with reference to at least two distinctive Japanese interest groups.

3. What does it mean to argue that Japan’s 1947 Constitution is, or has been, a ‘contested’ (Hook and McCormack, 2001) document?

4. Is it helpful to suggest, as Daniel Bell has, that Japan’s democracy is distinguished by its ‘Confucian’ characteristics? What alternative models might be used analytically to characterise democracy in Japan?

5. How much of Japan’s post-war economic growth experience is a product of culture rather than strategic design?

6. ‘Abe Shinzō’s brief tenure as Japan’s Prime Minister demonstrates that the Japanese political system is inherently unsuited to assertive political leadership.’ Discuss.

7. What does the Minamata pollution controversy tell us about the relationship between central and local government in post-war Japan? How has this relationship changed, if at all, since 1993?

8. Is the ambiguity surrounding contemporary Japan’s national identity a function of history, education, or social fragmentation?

9. ‘Individual human rights in post-1945 Japan, whether by accident or design, have been and remain typically subordinated to collective interests.’ Discuss.

10. ‘Japan’s “Goldilocks strategy” (Richard Samuels, 2007) is the inevitable and ideal response to the ending of the Cold War.’ Discuss.

END OF PAPER