



National
Qualifications
2022 MODIFIED

X849/76/12

**Modern Studies
Paper 2**

THURSDAY, 5 MAY
11:15 AM – 12:30 PM

Total marks — 28

Attempt **ALL** questions.

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



Question 1

Study Sources A, B and C then attempt the question which follows.

Source A

HIV/AIDS: impact on populations

HIV/AIDS has been a major global health issue since the 1980s. Today, it is still of foremost significance in many countries with the problem mainly concentrated in the continent of Africa. However, with the advancements in medicine, it is no longer a death sentence. Many people who have HIV/AIDS can live a long life by taking daily medication. This is called Antiretroviral Therapy (ART).

One of the most devastating impacts of HIV/AIDS is the loss of whole generations of people in communities hardest hit by the epidemic. In this regard, it is often children who feel the greatest impact via the loss of parents or older relatives. Children may be forced to leave primary school to care for younger siblings or seek work to support their family. The HIV/AIDS epidemic therefore has had a severe and wide-ranging impact upon households in Africa. In South America, a similar situation occurs and this affects developing countries more than wealthier countries.

The vast majority of Africans living with HIV/AIDS are between the ages of 15 and 49, which is the prime of their working lives. HIV/AIDS therefore can have a bearing on the labour supply, with employers, schools and factories having to constantly find and train staff to replace those who have become too ill to work. In Asia, one particular country that was badly affected by HIV/AIDS had an unemployment rate of 21% and public services such as hospitals and schools were forced to recruit professionals from across the region to fill vacancies. In HIV/AIDS affected countries, the number of people too ill to work due to HIV/AIDS can affect the productivity and wealth of a nation, which is known as Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

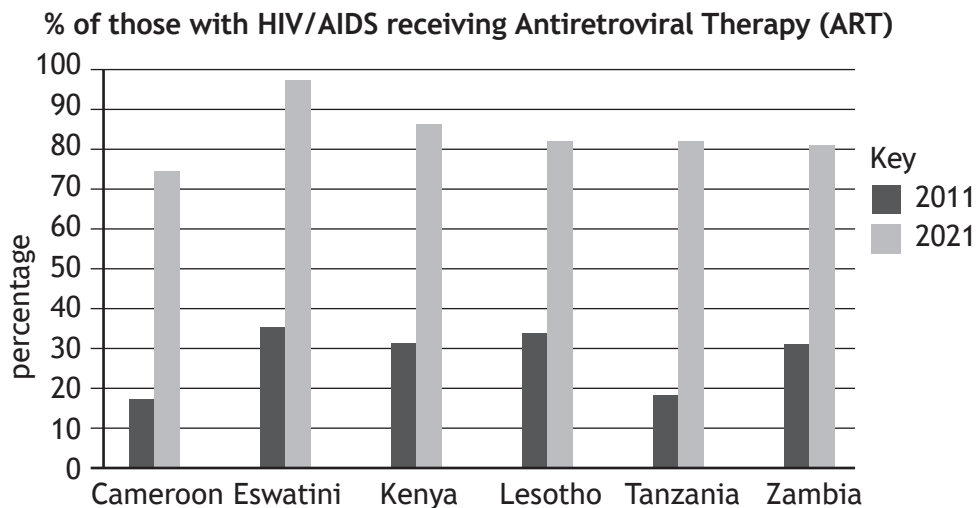
Discrimination still poses a major issue for people living with HIV/AIDS. Depressingly, across Africa, millions of people suspect they are HIV positive but due to discrimination they are more likely to resist admitting they have HIV/AIDS and less likely to seek treatment. Nations blighted by the virus have really struggled to educate people about the condition and tackle the discrimination that exists.

Source B

Statistics from African countries

Selected statistics					
Country	GDP per person (\$)	Primary school completion (%)	Unemployment rate (%)	% of 15-49-year-olds with HIV/AIDS	Life expectancy (years)
Cameroon	1,537	82.3	3.6	3.0	59
Eswatini	3,424	68.0	23.4	26.8	60
Kenya	1,878	80.8	3.0	4.2	67
Lesotho	875	77.1	24.6	21.1	54
Tanzania	1,076	83.7	2.2	4.7	65
Zambia	985	79.2	12.2	11.1	64

Source B (continued)



Source C

HIV/AIDS: the global outlook

In 2000, world leaders committed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a 15-year initiative to address global problems including poverty, hunger and disease. The MDGs consisted of eight goals, one of which was to work to end HIV/AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases. In relation to HIV/AIDS, the world struggled to meet the targets set by the MDGs. As a follow-up to the MDGs, governments signed up to a new framework for action: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 targets attached.

While there have been challenges, a UNAIDS report found that in 2021 global HIV/AIDS-related deaths have declined – down by 33% since 2010 – as access to treatment grows and progress is made on delivering services globally. Despite Eswatini's advances in providing Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), a large number of young people have lost either one or both parents due to HIV/AIDS and as a result have stopped attending school regularly.

The health and wellbeing of a nation can be affected by a high rate of HIV/AIDS within the population. When a high percentage of citizens have HIV/AIDS, this can cause problems with the functioning of the health system. South Africa, for instance, has had serious difficulties in meeting the health needs of the millions of citizens with HIV/AIDS who require medicine, care and support. In addition, countries with a high rate of HIV/AIDS have to divert a significant amount of public money towards dealing with the epidemic – on average these countries will spend \$1 billion annually tackling the virus.

Attempt the following question, using only the information in Sources A, B, and C on page 02 and above.

What conclusions can be drawn about the impact of HIV/AIDS in Africa?

You must draw conclusions about:

- the impact of HIV/AIDS on education in Africa
- the economic impact of HIV/AIDS in Africa
- the success in tackling HIV/AIDS in Africa.

You must also make an overall conclusion on the African country **worst** affected by HIV/AIDS.

10

Question 2

Study Sources A, B and C then attempt the question which follows.

Source A

Approaches to drugs policy

While some countries have decided to take a hard-line criminal stance against drug use, other countries have taken more of a health-based approach.

Portugal decriminalised the possession of drugs for personal use in 2001 and now approaches drug use as a health issue, not a criminal issue. An increased number of harm reduction interventions were adopted, including needle and syringe programmes. This new approach has led to a positive impact - the number of deaths associated with drug use has decreased and health has improved. In the UK, drug use is treated as a criminal offence but there has been increasing pressure on the government to review drug laws as the UK has a high number of regular users of recreational drugs like cocaine. In Portugal, recovering drug users regularly state that they were able to kick their addiction due to the support from government and the fact they felt less discriminated against by society.

Singapore has the world's toughest drug laws and its approach to drug policy has a huge emphasis on punishment. Their zero-tolerance approach aims to wipe out the issue of drugs altogether and make the country completely 'drug free'. This is in contrast to Portugal who try to control drug use and treat those addicted. Government figures from Singapore suggest their approach is working; in 2020 the number of heroin users in Singapore was fewer than 30 per 100,000 people, compared with 500 per 100,000 people in Portugal. However, Portugal still has one of the lowest drug death rates in the world.

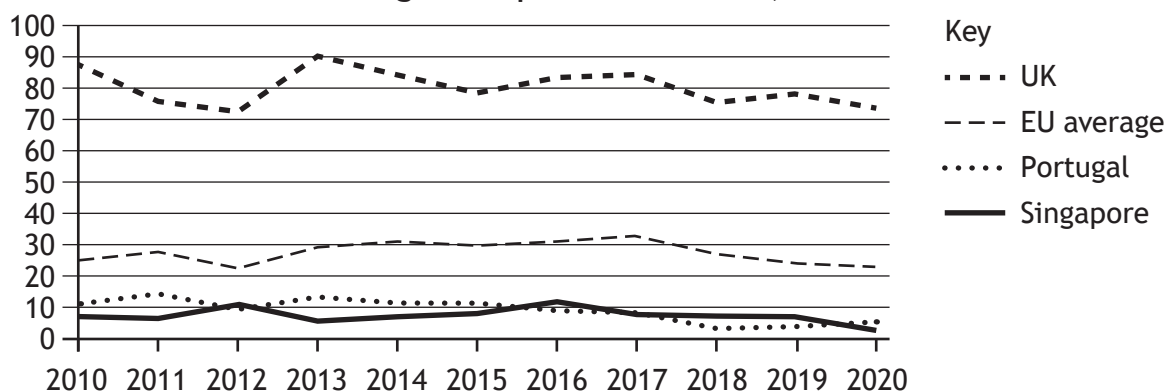
Source B

Selected statistics

Country	Drug usage % 15-64-year-olds			
	Heroin	Cocaine	Ecstasy	Cannabis
Portugal	0.3	0.3	0.2	5.8
UK	0.5	3.7	3.3	7.8
Singapore	0.1	0.4	0.5	2.0
EU average	0.4	1.9	1.8	8.9

EU average	Proportion of total drug deaths by age			
	<25 years	26-39 years	40-64 years	>65 years
EU average	10%	43%	44%	3%

Annual drug deaths per million citizens, 2010–2020



Source C

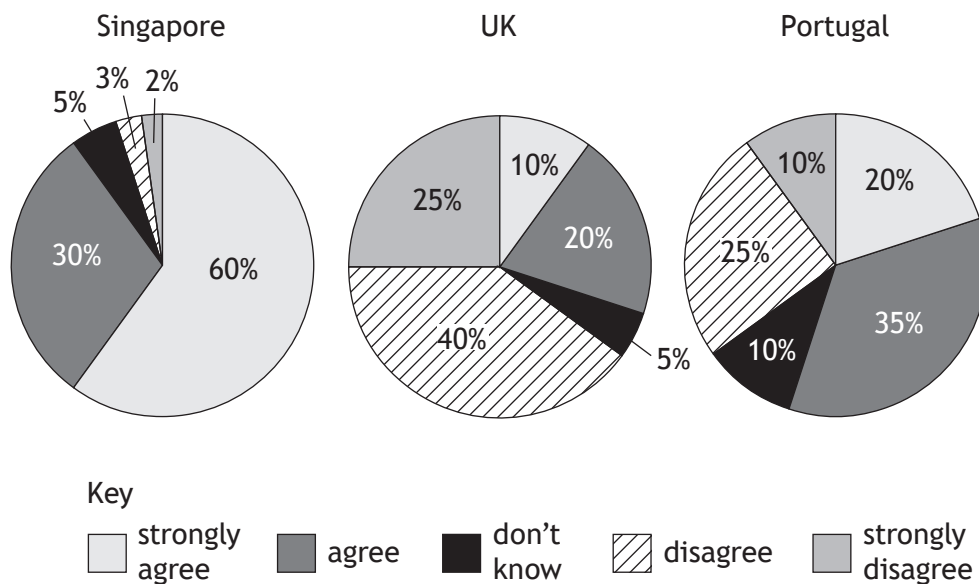
Drug use and crime

How a country deals with drugs has a major impact on another significant social issue – crime. One of the aims of any country’s drug policy is to reduce crime and make the public feel safer in their daily lives. Singapore’s government claims that their strict drug laws work effectively at deterring anyone from making, supplying or taking drugs in the first place. For example, possession of a small amount of cannabis could result in a prison sentence of 10 years. If a citizen is caught in possession of a large enough quantity of drugs then they are automatically presumed to be a drug dealer or trafficker and, in such cases, could receive the most extreme of punishments – the death penalty. Human rights groups have criticised this policy branding it ‘extreme and disproportionate’ and have claimed that Portugal’s approach is the most ‘compassionate and progressive’. Singapore’s Home Affairs Minister disagrees stating ‘we have no problems with drug hot-spots or drug cartels in this country, all because of our strict laws.’

In Portugal, decriminalisation of drug use has significantly reduced the Portuguese prison population and eased the burden on the criminal justice system. It also stops the issue of locking up those who are hopelessly addicted to drugs and allows these addicts to be helped through health programmes. In the UK, the public’s general attitude towards drug use is still very sceptical. However, there is growing support for decriminalisation amongst politicians and the public.

Public opinion poll

Your country’s drugs policy makes you feel safe on the street



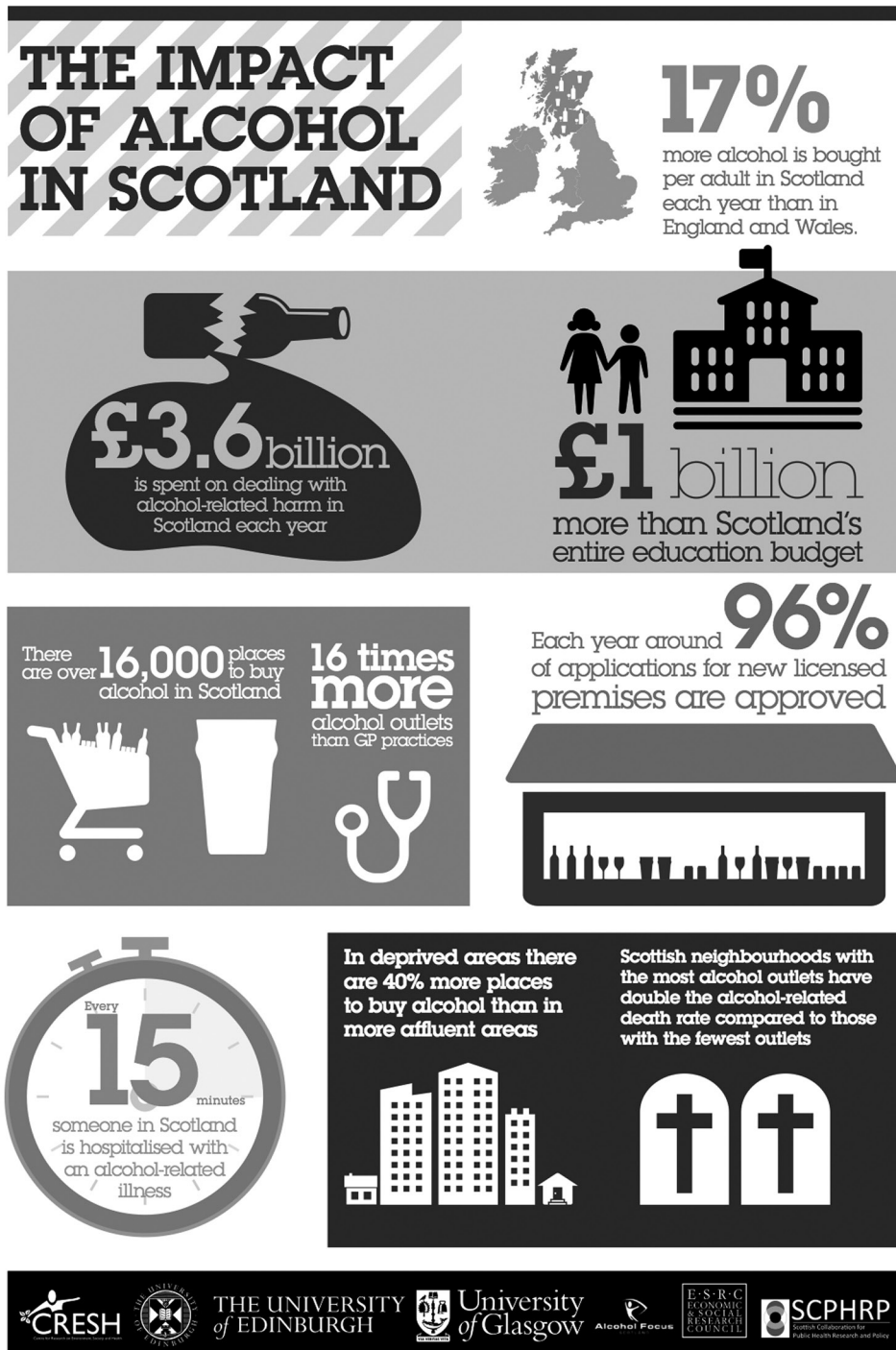
Attempt the following question, using only the information in Sources A, B and C on page 04 and above.

To what extent is it accurate to state that Portugal’s approach to drugs policy is the most effective?

Question 3

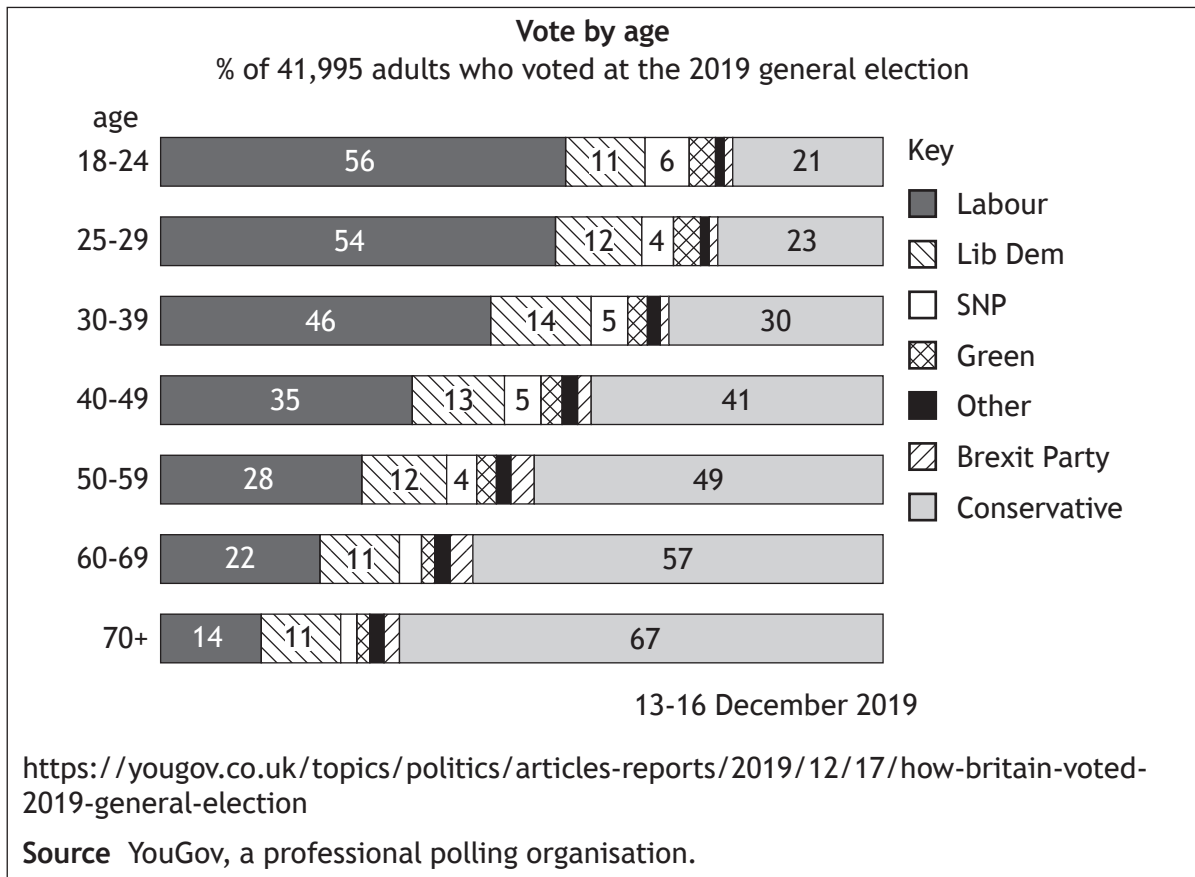
Study Sources A, B and C then attempt the question which follows.

Source A

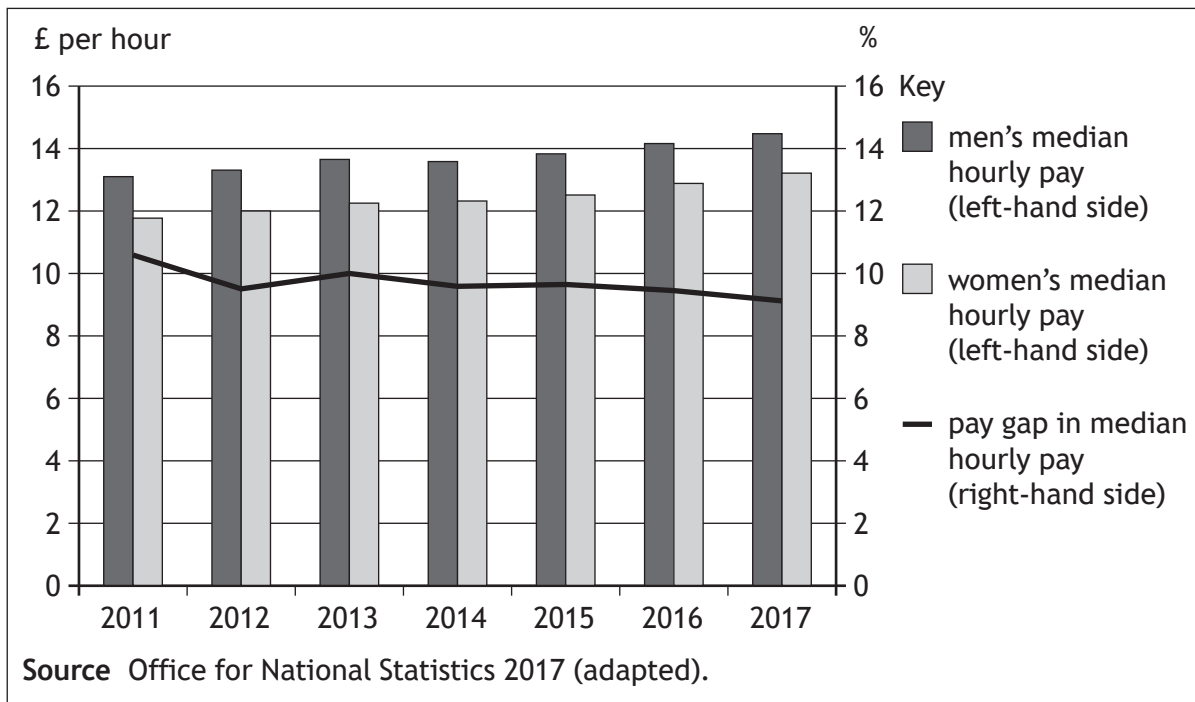


Source Cresh.org.uk – a research centre for scientists from the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Source B



Source C



Attempt the following question, using only the information in Sources A, B and C on page 06 and above.

To what extent are Sources A, B and C reliable?

You must provide an overall conclusion on the most reliable source of information.

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