1.3 Political issues and sources (Paper 1 skills)

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 30 marks**

KEY WORDS claim • evidence • perspective • veto • self-defence

Objective

Build the **Paper 1** skills: read political sources (texts, data, cartoons) for their **claim**, **evidence** and **perspective**, compare sources, and use them with your own knowledge to answer a question about a political issue.

You must be able to:

- identify the claim, evidence and perspective of a source
- explain what a cartoon or a table shows
- compare two sources on similarities and differences
- evaluate a source's origin and purpose
- combine sources with own knowledge in a short argument

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

Reading a source

ask	meaning
claim	What does the source say is true or should happen?
evidence	What facts, numbers or examples support the claim?
perspective	Whose view is this? A government, an NGO, a journalist, a victim?
origin and purpose	Who made it, when, and why?
silences	What is missing? Who is not heard?

Source A: the UN Charter (1945), extracts

> *Article 2(4)*: All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state…

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> *Article 51*: Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a Member…

■ **Source B: a newspaper comment, written for practice**

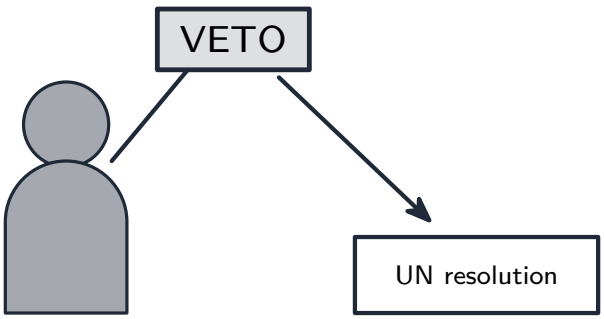
> "The Charter promises peace, but the five permanent members of the Security Council can veto any action against themselves or their friends. When a great power uses force, the UN can only talk."

Worked comparison. Both sources are about the use of force. Source A sets the legal rule: no force, except in self-defence or with Security Council action. Source B argues that the rule is weak in practice because of the veto. A is a legal text with a universal purpose; B is an opinion written to persuade.

2 Practice

2.1 State the **claim** of Source B, and **one** piece of evidence it gives. [2]

2.2 The cartoon shows a large figure holding a "VETO" stamp over a small figure labelled "UN Security Council resolution". Explain the message of the cartoon. [3]



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2.3 Explain **two** ways in which Source A and Source B are **similar** or **different**. [4]

2.4 Evaluate the **origin** and **purpose** of Source B for a student investigating whether the UN prevents war. [6]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 *(Paper 1 style.)* With reference to Source A, identify **three** situations in which force may be used legally under the UN Charter. Use your own knowledge for the third. [3]

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3.2 *(Paper 1 style.)* With reference to Sources A and B, explain why the rule on the use of force is hard to enforce. [4]

3.3 *(Paper 1 style.)* Using Sources A and B and your own knowledge, discuss the view that the United Nations has failed to prevent the use of force between states. [8]

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