



Candidates must complete this page and then give this cover and their final version of the extended essay to their supervisor.

Candidate session number

Candidate name

School number

School name

Examination session (May or November)

May

Year

2013

Diploma Programme subject in which this extended essay is registered: Politics

(For an extended essay in the area of languages, state the language and whether it is group 1 or group 2.)

Title of the extended essay: A comparison between Margaret Thatcher's England (1979-1990) and David Cameron's England (2010-present).

Candidate's declaration

This declaration must be signed by the candidate; otherwise a grade may not be issued.

The extended essay I am submitting is my own work (apart from guidance allowed by the International Baccalaureate).

I have acknowledged each use of the words, graphics or ideas of another person, whether written, oral or visual.

I am aware that the word limit for all extended essays is 4000 words and that examiners are not required to read beyond this limit.

This is the final version of my extended essay.

Candidate's signature:

Date:

Supervisor's report and declaration

The supervisor must complete this report, sign the declaration and then give the final version of the extended essay, with this cover attached, to the Diploma Programme coordinator.

Name of supervisor (CAPITAL letters)

Please comment, as appropriate, on the candidate's performance, the context in which the candidate undertook the research for the extended essay, any difficulties encountered and how these were overcome (see page 13 of the extended essay guide). The concluding interview (viva voce) may provide useful information. These comments can help the examiner award a level for criterion K (holistic judgment). Do not comment on any adverse personal circumstances that may have affected the candidate. If the amount of time spent with the candidate was zero, you must explain this, in particular how it was then possible to authenticate the essay as the candidate's own work. You may attach an additional sheet if there is insufficient space here.

This declaration must be signed by the supervisor; otherwise a grade may not be issued.

I have read the final version of the extended essay that will be submitted to the examiner.

To the best of my knowledge, the extended essay is the authentic work of the candidate.

I spent hours with the candidate discussing the progress of the extended essay.

Supervisor's signature:

Date:

Assessment form (for examiner use only)

Achievement level

Criteria	Examiner 1		Examiner 2		Examiner 3	
	Score	maximum	Score	maximum	Score	maximum
A research question	0	2		2		
B introduction	1	2		2		
C investigation	1	4		4		
D knowledge and understanding	0	4		4		
E reasoned argument	0	4		4		
F analysis and evaluation	0	4		4		
G use of subject language	0	4		4		
H conclusion	1	2		2		
I formal presentation	1	4		4		
J abstract	0	2		2		
K holistic judgment	0	4		4		
Total out of 36	4					

May 2013

Politics
Word Count: 2785

A Comparison between Margaret Thatcher's England (1979-1990) and David
Cameron's England (2010-present)

Abstract

My Extended essay consists of Secondary research gathered and collected from both books and Internet sources over the past two years. My essay looks at Margaret Thatcher's England and what she did for the country, and how the people of the country felt about her and what she was trying to achieve. I chose this topic because at the time of when our topics had to be chosen, the 2011 riots in London were taking place, whilst I was schooling in South Africa. I knew similar riots had taken place in Brixton in 1981, and wanted to further investigate the similarities and differences between the state of the country and what affect that had on the English citizens. Before I began investigating, I expected the riots to be caused by the same sort of reasons, whether it is due to high taxes and inflation or a high unemployment rate, however with investigation I began to find out that there were two different causes for the rioting. I then started focusing my research on who was a better prime minister for England. Judging on the economic stature of England in both Margaret Thatcher's reign and David Cameron's. The information I gathered through research tells us that Cameron's policies and economic leadership bettered England in comparison to Thatcher's.

Word count: 216

Contents page

Page 1 - Introduction to Essay

Page 2 - Margaret Thatcher's England and musical influence on England's youth culture

Page 2-3 - Immigration in England and affect on society

Page 4 - England's rise in immigration levels and how the public felt

Pages 4-5 - Rioting in England and unemployment levels

Pages 5-7 - England economic state (interest and inflations levels)

Page 8 - Introduction to David Cameron and economic growth under his reign

Page 9 - London riots (2011)

Page 10 - Conclusion

Page 11 - Bibliography

A Comparison between Margaret Thatcher's England (1979-1990) and David Cameron's England (2010-present)

In this essay I will be exploring the similarities and differences between Margaret Thatcher's England and David Cameron's, and how their strategies affected England. I will be investigating both the similar and different political issues that arose in both eras. My essay will be looking at how immigration affected England. In particular my essay will focus on:

- Changes in social behaviour which was influenced by music and other aspects)
- Religion
- Changes in the economy (inflation rates and increases in tax)

I will be discussing how these changes influenced the riots that took place in 1981 and 2011. The aims of this essay will be to evaluate who was the better Prime Minister for England in the eyes of the public.

Margaret Thatcher brought controversy to England being the first female Prime Minister. Further controversy arose with her own new economic policies. This would eventually lead to the English public doubting her leadership and furthermore, doubting their country and the countries system. David Cameron was the first Prime Minister after the recession which meant he too would have to bring in new policies which the public might not agree with.

Before Margaret Thatcher took the Throne of England in 1979, the people of England were in a revolutionary decade of music with the likes of 'The Beatles' and 'The Rolling Stones' being introduced, which began to lead youth cultures. These cultures include the likes of the Mods, Rockers, Skinheads and Hippies. According to Thompson and Greek, Mods and Rockers were being associated with hooliganism and vandalism due to alcohol and drug consumption (*Mods and Rockers, Drunken Debutants and sozzled students*, Bill Thompson & Cecil Greek, P3). Speculators mention how influential music figures could easily have influenced these youths to consume alcohol and drugs. With two new bands that are still famously recognised today, the cultures began to idolize these bands and copied what they did. The members of the Beatles, Paul McCartney,

Ringo Starr, George Harrison and John Lennon enjoyed taking L.S.D and smoking Marijuana frequently. This led to the youth cultures of England in a drug thralled society which Thatcher would soon take over.

Before England showed light to new musicians, in the 1950's and throughout the 1960's, people from countries like India and Pakistan began to immigrate to England, with over 60, 000 Indians immigrating to England before 1955. England also saw post-war immigration from countries like Ukraine and Poland. The immigration levels escalated from 44, 642 Polish (in 1931) to 162, 339 (in 1951). These high immigration levels left the English citizens unhappy In Panikos Panayi's 'The Impact of Immigration' (pages 37 and 129) we can see that due to more and more immigrants coming in from the middle-east and eastern parts of Europe, the unhappiness of the English people began to turn into racism. With Racism comes opposers, and it was only a matter of time until the English citizens began to riot with other civilians and also against authorities. Riots did eventually happen and the most noted of these riots were the 1958 Nottingham riots between the English citizens and the West Indian immigrants and the Notting Hill riots where over 140 people got arrested from crimes like Grievous Bodily Harm, Affray and possession of weapons. It should be included that the majority of these arrests were white, but some of the rioters were black and found to be carrying offensive weaponry. The England that Margaret Thatcher took over was one full of unrest due to these reasons explained.

Immigration caused more problems for Thatcher due to the lack of jobs that the British people had. This led to an unrestful society and problems with employment, which Thatcher had to address. The racial abuse and hatred may have stemmed from the fact that the immigrants began to rise to substantial job positions. Immigrants were beginning to take jobs like doctors and nurses. Not only were substantial job positions being taken, common job positions were becoming occupied, with immigrants opening corner shops, and running post offices, making it harder for the people of England to get a job themselves. This can be seen through various biased newspapers articles between 1965 and the early 1970's.

Religious observance seemed to decline noticeably throughout the 20th Century despite the growth of non-Christians immigrating and travelling into England. Even the

Church of England attendance noticed a particular drop, although enthusiastic churches like Elim (or Elim Pentecostal church) and AOG (Assemblies of God) continued to grow. The idea of keeping Sunday a special day of worship and a day absent of working seemed to have been lost at the beginning of the 21st century.

When Margaret Thatcher took the throne in 1979, she was left with an English society who were either angry at the immigration levels rising, jobs being taken by the immigrants coming into England or enticing in drug-taking and engaging in the rock and roll mind-set. As well as the English society being hard enough to control as it was, there was more uproar due to the fact that Margaret Thatcher was the first female Prime Minister England had ever seen. All of the tension that had been created from various outcomes led to more rioting in 1981, which took place mainly in Brixton and in Toxteth, Liverpool.

Thirteen black youths died in the New Cross fire on the 13th of January in 1981. The Metropolitan Police were quick to dismiss any ideas about racial implement and being reason for the arson attack, and the local community within London were more than upset by the lack of concern shown in the media towards the number of deaths. There were 15,000 people that marched that were seeking action in Central London, where London saw the biggest black people demonstration (in terms of population) in the UK.

The racial tensions between the English citizens and the immigrants continuously rose throughout the early stages of 1981. A notoriously known Member of Parliament for the Conservative party spoke to the public expressing his feelings about the potential "racial civil war" that could arise and lead to a great divide between the people in Britain. The overall unemployment rate in Britain saw a rise on the 6th of April, rising from 1.5million people to an extortionate 2.5million people all within twelve months, which are a million people in the country losing work a year. The unemployment rates grew quicker within ethnic minorities, with an overall increase of 82%, all of which happened within the same 12 months where Britain saw an overall rise. The unemployment rates rose to 3.3million people being unemployed in England, 1986.

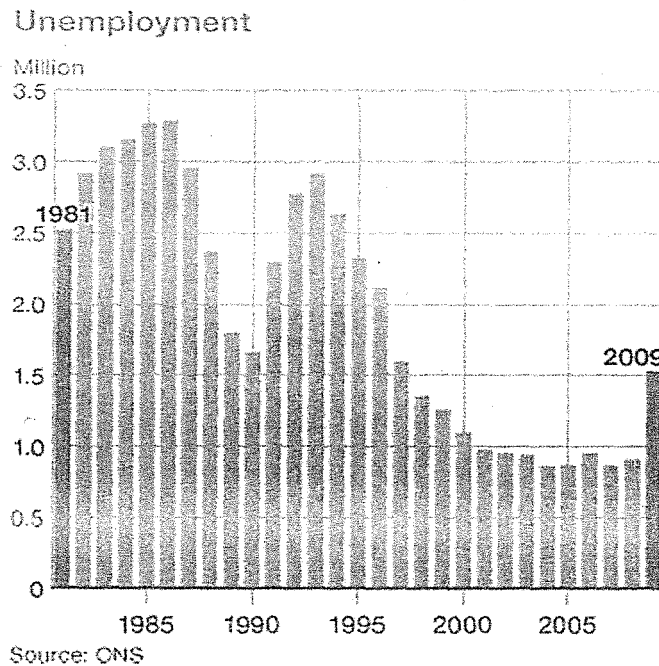


Image taken from

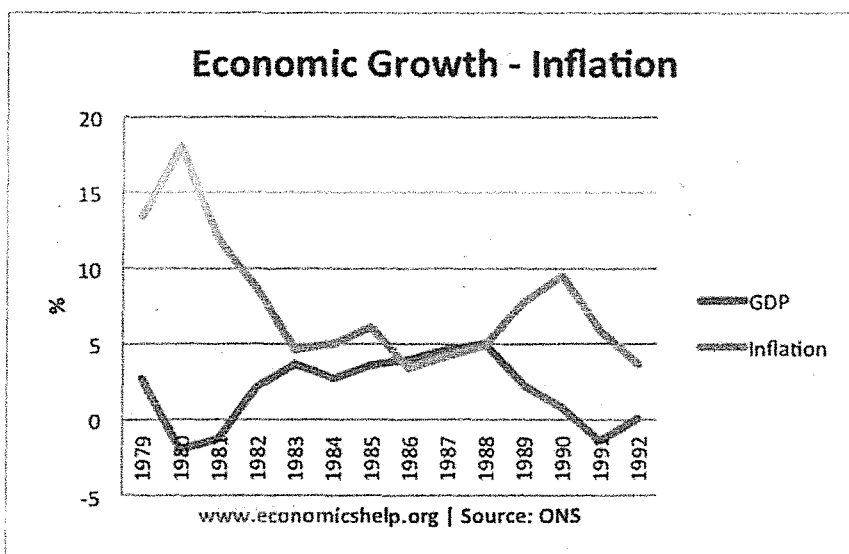
BBC, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11792706>

The Metropolitan Police engaged in Operation Swamp 81 in March and April of 1981, which was a London-wide campaign tackling burglary and robbery. This was originally an idea of Thatcher's in order to reduce the crime rate and rioting within London. 'Six days spent in Brixton and 120 undercover police officers stopped 943 people, arresting 118 – the majority of the culprits being black youths. The Metropolitan Police justified their heavy handed policing statistics showing that while street robberies had increased by 38% across the whole of London between 1976-80; in Brixton it has risen 138%.'

If the people of the English society weren't unhappy enough, to make it even more difficult for Thatcher, she took the throne with interest rates as high as 12.5%, and would eventually continue to rise to about 17%. Even furthermore, inflation rates were around 13.4% in 1979, which rose to 18% in 1980. After entering 10 Downing Street, Thatcher's main goal was to get England out of what she referred to as 'a precipitous national decline'. She particularly wanted to deregulate the financial sector, make labour markets more flexible, and emphasize the sale or closure of state-owned companies, and the withdrawal of subsidies to others. Thatcher's popularity appeared

fragile throughout the recession due to high unemployment levels. Thatcher discovered that this changed in 1982 when the economy began to recover after the Falklands War, which resulted in her being re-elected in 1983.

Many people thought that Margaret Thatcher was a revolutionary model for England on the surface, but once people felt the effects of her economic policies, the English public began to doubt Thatcher's leadership. This was because her policies tended to involve short-term pain for many and long-term gain for few. Rather than stimulating the economy through investment and tax cuts, she tried to control the amount of money in circulation. This is called Monetarism, a policy that Thatcher introduced England to with an attempt to adjust the inflation and interest rates to a satisfactory level for the English public. Monetarism has influence on national output in



the short run and price level in the long run. Mrs Thatcher's plan to reduce inflation worked but with the fall of inflation saw a massive drop in output levels.

According to Dominic Sandbrook's article in 'The Daily Mail', Indirect taxes

Image from www.economicshelp.org

had risen (VAT rose from 8% to 15%), as had interest rates (topping 17%). Subsidies for industries were reduced, some completely withdrawn. The result of this saw a massive rise in unemployment from 1.4million in 1979 to 3.3million by 1986, or one in eight people out of work. "I knew that when you change from one set of policies to another, the transition is very difficult," Mrs Thatcher later reflected, "but benefits would come in the longer run." Thatcher was confident that she had made no mistake.

Long-term unemployment hit an entire generation in Northern Ireland (where 20% of people were left out of work), Scotland and the northeast and northwest of

England (16%). Supporters insisted work was there to be found; critics argued it was unreasonable to expect people to leave homes and families to take a job 100 miles away.

A disunited kingdom emerged as some parts of the country succeeded with good unemployment figures, while others began to fall considerably behind. Industry decreased in the north; new sectors such as financial services boomed in the south. Mrs Thatcher went taking a stern economic and moral approach. There was "no such thing as society, there are individual men and women and there are families. People should look to their own and not rely on the government for help" said a journalist in a Conservative interview in 1983.

This gave Thatcher the mind-set of focusing on the people who were succeeding and making money. Making money was on everyone's agenda, and some did, but the majority of the English citizens did not, which created tensions between the citizens of England and Thatcher. The success that Thatcher did bring to England was selective, and wasn't long lasting. She left England in a better place only for a minority (those who prospered in her reign). England was left in a recession with rising unemployment figures, interest and inflation rates with Thatcher's leave.

Based on the evidence I have presented, I have come to the conclusion that Thatcher was not as successful and/or popular for the country as previous Prime Ministers. Her presence can still be felt, with an economy still struggling. The causes of the present slump - unrestricted credit, deregulation and too much financial speculation - all date back to the 1980s, which lead David Cameron into power with Thatcher's political influence still felt.

David Cameron took the title of prime minister in May 2010. He studied philosophy, politics and economics at Oxford, and received a first class honours degree, which gave him an excellent profile to take over England. 2010 was a good year for England. England had previously entered a severe recession in the latter stage of 2008, and according to the BBC unemployment levels raised from 5.2% to 7.6% in early 2009. According to the UK's commissions for employment, the statistics of unemployment levels for 18 to 24 year olds shows an increase from 11.9% to 17.3%. Despite these rates, it was confirmed that Britain had left its recession on the 26th of January in 2010; this was helped by Cameron's plans on cutting employment taxes and increasing public

spending. However it was the last major economy in the world to do so. According to Graeme Wearden's article in 'The Guardian', Britain's Gross Domestic Product value (GDP) grew with its economy in February of the same year by 0.4%. The economy continued to grow in the 2nd quarter of the year by 1.2%, being the quickest growth rate that Britain had seen in nine years. It saw furthermore growth in the 3rd quarter, with a raise of 0.8%; this was the quickest growth that the U.K's economy had seen in ten years. Unemployment levels were now back down to around 6% with the help of opening new job centres which were evenly distributed around Britain to avoid 'clustered' unemployment. The statistics from 'Towers Watson' shows inflation rates as high as 5.3% in April 2010, which is 13% lower than its peak which was in Margaret Thatcher's reign in 1980.

Between 6 and 10 August 2011, several London boroughs and districts of cities and towns across England suffered widespread rioting, looting and arson, due to the youth citizens of England and their feelings towards the Metropolitan Police. On the 6th August, the public went on a march through London, and there was no trouble. According to Paul Lewis' article in 'The Guardian', the march was a response to the Mark Duggan shooting, an English youth who was shot dead by the London Metropolitan Police Service firearms officers which happened two days previous. After the peaceful march, riots broke out in Tottenham, North London. These riots caused further riots to break out all over the country, including Bristol, Liverpool and other borough surrounding London. These riots consisted of mostly youths, rioting, looting and arson.

As a result, David Cameron had to abandon his holiday which he spent in Italy with his family, and other government and opposition leaders ended their holidays early too, in order to attend to the major problem that England had seen before, and was again undergoing. The Metropolitan Police leaves and holidays were cancelled and Parliament was called on 11 August to debate the situation. Over 3,000 people had been arrested on August 15th with riot-relating charges. Over 1,000 of these people were then charged for theft, arson and assault. Arrests, charges and court proceedings continued, leaving judges and magistrates working more and extended hours in order to sentence all of the people who were to be charged. The Derelict London said 3,443 was the number of riot-related crimes. The English youth began to take matters too far, and they began rioting because everyone else was. The motive was no longer there.

Five people died and at least 16 others were injured as a direct result of related violent acts. 'An estimated £200 million worth of property damage was incurred' based on Derelict London's statistics, and the economic activity of England was jeopardized. Although the damage done in these riots knocked the economy off balance for a short while, David Cameron's plan to increase government spending solved the majority of the problem, keeping Britain's economy fairly stable.

Conclusion

Thatcher's reign saw Britain through tough times and had a tough job to do. However David Cameron's job was equally as difficult as he became Prime Minister of England in the recession. Both Prime Ministers had to take big risks; Thatcher had to introduce a new policy, monetary policy. A new policy never bodes well with a community to begin with. Equally, Cameron had to do the same by adjusting taxes and spending. Both prime ministers also got Britain through difficult economic climate in fairly good shape. However Thatcher made little effort to please the citizens of Britain. She could have done this by countering immigration, or at least making some kind of an effort to moderate it. Instead Thatcher tried to address the economical nominal figures, which some might argue is better for the country rather than just keeping the people happy. Cameron wanted to please his people, and took measure such as making sure foreign people could only immigrate to England if they could speak Basic English, he did this in 2010. This was so that if they do take up work then they can at least communicate with the English citizens. Of course, this didn't solve everyone's problems, but he at least to some measures to please his country. Cameron also saw England's highest economic growth seen in ten years in his first year of leadership. On these facts, it would be fair to say that Cameron is more liked and better for England than Thatcher was.

Citations

"History of the Metropolitan Police." *Metropolitan Police Service*. N.p., n.d. Web.
<http://www.met.police.uk/history/brixton_riots.htm>

"UK Inflation History: 1976 - 1995." *Retail Price Index by Month 1976*. N.p., n.d. Web.
<<http://swanlowpark.co.uk/rpi0106.jsp>>.

"Economics Essays: UK Economy under Mrs Thatcher 1979-1984." *Economics Essays: UK Economy under Mrs Thatcher 1979-1984*. N.p., n.d. Web.
<<http://econ.economicshelp.org/2007/03/uk-economy-under-mrs-thatcher-1979-1984.html>>.

"Journal of Refugee Studies." *Refugees or Migrant Workers? The Case of the European Volunteer Workers in Britain (1946-1951)*. N.p., n.d. Web.
<<http://jrs.oxfordjournals.org/content/1/3-4/214.abstract>>.

"Release: Labour Market Statistics, August 2008." *Labour Market Statistics, August 2008*. N.p., n.d. Web. <<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/august-2008/index.html>>.

BBC News. BBC, 26 Apr. 1993. Web.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/april/26/newsid_2503000/2503271.stm>.

"1981 England Riots." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, 11 Dec. 2012. Web.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1981_England_riots

"Royal Wedding: The Way We Were in 1981." *BBC News*. BBC, 19 Nov. 2010. Web.

"Economics Help - Helping to Simplify Economics." *Thatcher's Economic Policies*. N.p., n.d. 14 Oct. 2010. Web.

"Interest Rates at 8%? What Short Memories We Have If We Think It's a Nightmare That Can't Come True." *Mail Online*. N.p., n.d. 5 Sep. 2011. Web.

"Unemployment Passes Two Million." *BBC News*. BBC, 18 Mar. 2009. Web.

Wearden, Graeme. "UK's Official Economic Growth Estimates Revised down." *The Guardian*. Guardian News and Media, 22 Dec. 2010. Web.

"UK % Annual Inflation Rates." *Www.watsonwyatt.com*. N.p., n.d. 12 Jan. 2011. Web.

"Derelict London - London Riots 2011." *Www.derelictlondon.com*. N.p., n.d. 14 Aug. 2011. Web.

Lewis, Paul. "Tottenham Riots: A Peaceful Protest, Then Suddenly All Hell Broke Loose." *The Guardian*. Guardian News and Media, 07 Aug. 2011. Web.