|  |
| --- |
| **A-level Politics** |
| **Paper 2: Non-Core Political Ideas** | Sad face with solid fill with solid fill | Confused face with solid fill with solid fill | Smiling face with solid fill with solid fill |
| **1 Ecologism: core ideas and principles**Core ideas and principles of ecologism and how they relate to human nature, the state, society and the economy:* **ecology** – to cover the extent to which the study of the relationship between living beings and the environment has implications for deep- and shallow-green views of the state, society and the economy
* **holism** – to cover the opposition to the mechanistic world view of post-Enlightenment science that dominates the state and society in its view of the non-human world and the economy
* **environmental ethics** − developing new moral standards and values for human relations with each other and the non-human world, which will underpin the state, society and economy – to cover the nature of ethics and how far they extend
* **environmental consciousness** – a state of being where one’s sense of self is fully realised by a deep identification with the non-human world – to cover the extent to which there needs to be a radical change in human nature and society
* **post materialist and anti-consumerism** – to cover the criticisms of materialism and consumerism and how to move beyond them
* **sustainability** − the capacity of the ecological system to maintain its health over time – to cover the need for, type and way of delivering sustainability, which has implications for the state, society and the economy.
 |  |  |  |
| **2 Different types of ecologism**The different types of ecologism:* deep green – environmental consciousness, ecocentrism and strong sustainability
* shallow green – enlightened anthropocentrism and weak sustainability
* social ecology – environmental degradation can be linked to existing social structures and sustainability is linked to radical social change
* ecosocialism
* eco-anarchism
* ecofeminism.
 |  |  |  |
| **3 Ecologist thinkers and their ideas**The key ideas of the following thinkers, to exemplify the content from areas 1 and 2:**Aldo Leopold (1887–1948)*** The land ethic – extends the community to include the non-human world and preserving the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community.
* Conservation fails – as it is still based on an economic model rather than moving beyond economics to a new human-land relationship.

**Rachel Carson (1907–1964)*** The state and society does not have the authority to dominate nature – the long-term effects of chemical pesticide use impact sustainability.
* Nature should be seen holistically – it does not exist for the convenience of man.

**E. F. Schumacher (1911–1977)*** Buddhist economics – economics as if people mattered, with the aim of the maximum of wellbeing with the minimum of consumption.
* Traditional economics – based on the fallacy that goods are more important than humans and that materialism is more important than human creative activity.

**Murray Bookchin (1921–2006)*** The environmental crisis emerges from existing social structures of oppression – so social structures and the state must be overthrown.
* Lessons should be learned from ecology – the future should be built around decentralised societies, organised as a collection of self-sufficient communes.

**Carolyn Merchant (1936– )*** The oppression and death of nature are linked to gender oppression – so radical, societal restructuring of gender relations is needed.
* Opposition to the mechanistic, male view of science and nature – this dominates society as it is not holistic.
 |  |  |  |