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A-level SOCIOLOGY

Paper 1 Education with Theory and Methods

Wednesday 22 May 2019

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

You will need no other materials.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- Answer all questions.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- Questions carrying 10 marks or more should be answered in continuous prose.
 In these questions you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

For Exam	iner's Use
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Answer all questions.

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0 2	Outline three ways in which the characteristics of schools may be similar to the characteristics of workplaces.		Do not write outside the box
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Read Item A below and answer the question that follows.

Item A

Some sociologists suggest that pupils of different social classes have different experiences in schools. The curriculum may place a higher value on middle-class cultural capital and place some pupils at a disadvantage. Both teacher-pupil relationships and interactions within peer groups are likely to affect how pupils of different social classes see themselves.

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Read Item B below and answer the question that follows.

Item B

All levels of the education system show differences in achievement between ethnic groups. When explaining these patterns, some sociologists focus on the role of the home and family life in promoting educational achievement for some ethnic groups.

However, other sociologists suggest that factors within schools are more important in explaining differences in achievement between ethnic groups.

[30 marks



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Read **Item C** below and answer the question that follows.

Item C

Investigating the role of parents in pupils' achievement

Sociological research has shown how much parents can contribute, materially and culturally, to their children's achievement in education. For example, parents can support their children by having regular contact with schools and teachers, and by helping them with their homework. However, parents' own education and their attitudes to school may affect their ability or willingness to help.

One way of studying the role of parents in their children's achievement is to use written questionnaires. One advantage of these is that they can be completed outside the school setting. However, operationalising concepts in questionnaires can be difficult. Furthermore, for a variety of reasons, some questionnaires may not be returned.

Applying material from Item C and your knowledge of research methods, evaluate the strengths and limitations of using written questionnaires to investigate the role of parents in their children's achievement in school.
[20 marks



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END OF QUESTIONS

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