
AS SOCIOLOGY

Paper 2 Research Methods and Topics in Sociology

Tuesday 22 May 2018

Morning

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7191/2.
- Answer **all** questions in **Section A** and **all** questions from **one** topic in **Section B**.
- Do all rough work in your answer 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 60.
- 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.

Section A**Research Methods**

Answer **all** questions in this section.

0	1
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Outline **two** problems of using questionnaires with closed questions in sociological research.

[4 marks]

0	2
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Evaluate the disadvantages of using qualitative methods in sociological research.

[16 marks]

Section B

Choose **one** topic from this section and answer **all** the questions on that topic.

Topic B1 Culture and Identity

0	3
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Define the term 'master status'.

[2 marks]

0	4
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Using **one** example, briefly explain how an individual's identity may be shaped by their work.

[2 marks]

0	5
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Outline **three** characteristics of folk culture.

[6 marks]

0	6
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Outline and explain **two** ways in which agencies of socialisation may socialise individuals into a national identity.

[10 marks]

0	7
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Read **Item A** below and answer the question that follows.

Item A

From a Marxist perspective, the role of the socialisation process is to make sure that people accept the beliefs and values of the dominant class. All agencies of socialisation play a part in promoting these beliefs and values.

However, some sociologists argue that socialisation benefits society as a whole.

Applying material from **Item A** and your knowledge, evaluate the Marxist view of the role of the socialisation process.

[20 marks]

Turn over for the next topic

Turn over ►

Topic B2 Families and Households

0	8
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Define the term 'primary socialisation'.

[2 marks]

0	9
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Using **one** example, briefly explain how childhood may be a negative experience for some children in the United Kingdom today.**[2 marks]**

1	0
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Outline **three** reasons for the fall in the death rate in the United Kingdom since 1900.**[6 marks]**

1	1
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Outline and explain **two** ways in which postmodernists argue that increased choice for individuals has affected patterns of family life.**[10 marks]**

1	2
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Read **Item B** below and answer the question that follows.**Item B**

From a functionalist perspective, government policies and laws support families in performing their functions. For example, the provision of welfare services by the state.

However, from a New Right perspective, legislation such as changes to divorce laws have undermined the traditional role of the family.

Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate sociological views on the impact of government policies and laws on the role of the family.

[20 marks]

Topic B3 Health

1 3 Define the term 'medicalisation'. **[2 marks]**

1 4 Using **one** example, briefly explain how individuals with mental illness may be stigmatised. **[2 marks]**

1 5 Outline **three** reasons for geographical differences in life expectancy across the United Kingdom. **[6 marks]**

1 6 Outline and explain **two** ways in which differences in accessing health care may explain ethnic differences in health chances. **[10 marks]**

1 7 Read **Item C** below and answer the question that follows.

Item C

Feminists argue that the medical profession and the biomedical model of health serve the interests of patriarchy. They argue that women's views and women's interests are often marginalised by modern medical practice.

However, some sociologists argue that modern medicine serves the interests of society as a whole.

Applying material from **Item C** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that modern medicine serves the interests of patriarchy.

[20 marks]

Turn over for the next topic

Turn over ►

Topic B4 Work, Poverty and Welfare

1	8
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 Define the term 'subjective poverty'. [2 marks]

1	9
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 Using **one** example, briefly explain how an individual's sense of identity may be affected by losing their job. [2 marks]

2	0
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 Outline **three** advantages of voluntary groups providing welfare services. [6 marks]

2	1
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 Outline and explain **two** reasons why technological change in the workplace may affect different social groups differently. [10 marks]

2	2
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 Read **Item D** below and answer the question that follows.

Item D

The distribution of poverty among different social groups in the United Kingdom population is complex. Certain social groups are at greater risk of poverty than others.

Some sociologists would argue that type of family and unemployment are important causes of poverty.

Applying material from **Item D** and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations for the distribution of poverty among different social groups in the United Kingdom.

[20 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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