



Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number

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Candidate number

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Surname

Forename(s)

Candidate signature

A-level SOCIOLOGY

Paper 1 Education with Theory and Methods

Tuesday 5 June 2018

Afternoon

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 Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
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TOTAL	



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Education

Answer **all** questions.

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Outline **two** reasons why marketisation policies may produce inequality of educational achievement between social classes.

[4 marks]

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Outline **three** reasons for gender differences in educational achievement.

[6 marks]

Extra space

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0 3

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

Item A

According to Marx, capitalism is based on the ownership of the means of production by a wealthy minority. Capitalism continues to exist because each new generation of workers is forced to undertake low-paid, alienating work to survive. This makes capitalism potentially unstable, since it depends on the proletariat not seeking to overthrow this unequal system.

Applying material from **Item A**, analyse **two** ways in which the education system might serve the needs of capitalism.

[10 marks]



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

Item B

Social class differences in achievement are found at all stages of the education system and sociologists have put forward several explanations for these differences. Some sociologists focus on factors outside school, such as the material circumstances of pupils' families or the ways in which parents socialise their children. Other sociologists see factors internal to the education system itself as responsible.

However, it can be argued that it is the interaction between these external and internal factors that produces class differences in educational achievement.

Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of social class differences in educational achievement.

[30 marks]



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Methods in Context

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

Item C

Investigating pupil exclusions

Pupil exclusions take many forms. Permanent exclusions from school are rare, but about 1 pupil in 20 is excluded for a fixed period, often for physical assaults against staff. There are no reliable figures for pupils sent out of individual lessons. Pupils may also self-exclude by truanting or simply by 'switching off' in class.

Boys, pupils with special educational needs, poorer pupils and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils are much more likely to be excluded.

One way of studying pupil exclusions is to use participant observation. By adopting an appropriate role, the researcher may be able to get close to pupils. However, participant observers usually can only study fairly small groups. Furthermore, success greatly depends on the researcher's ability to establish a good relationship with those being studied.

Applying material from **Item C** and your knowledge of research methods, evaluate the strengths and limitations of using participant observation to investigate pupil exclusions.

[20 marks]

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Theory and Methods

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Outline and explain **two** problems of using the functionalist perspective to study today's society.

[10 marks]

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