

A-level SOCIOLOGY

Paper 2 Topics in Sociology

Wednesday 13 June 2018

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-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 7192/2.
- Answer **all** questions from **one** topic 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 80.
- Questions should be answered in continuous prose.

You will be marked on your ability to:

- use good English
- organise information clearly
- use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Section A

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

Topic A1 Culture and Identity

0 1

Outline and explain **two** reasons why leisure choices may vary across different age groups.

[10 marks]**0 2**

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

Item A

Individuals have a sense of their own identity. This sense of identity is partly a result of the way in which individuals interpret their own experience. However, it may also be affected by the expectations and reactions of the rest of the society they live in.

Applying material from **Item A**, analyse **two** ways an individual's sense of self may be affected by their sexuality.

[10 marks]**0 3**

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

Item B

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

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

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

[20 marks]

Topic A2 Families and Households

0 4

Outline and explain **two** ways in which government policies may affect family structure.
[10 marks]

0 5

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

Item C

There have been a number of demographic changes since 1900. Life expectancy has increased and therefore several generations of a family may be alive at the same time. Also, people now have fewer children.

Applying material from **Item C**, analyse **two** ways in which demographic trends since 1900 may have affected the nature of childhood in the United Kingdom today.

[10 marks]**0 6**

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

Item D

Postmodernist sociologists argue that individual choice is now more important to people than their responsibilities to their family. As a result, people are choosing to live in a variety of different ways and the idea of family is more difficult to define.

However, other sociologists argue that postmodernists overestimate the extent of change in family life.

Applying material from **Item D** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that individual choice in personal relationships has made family life less important in the United Kingdom today.

[20 marks]**Turn over ►**

Topic A3 Health

0 7

Outline and explain **two** ways in which health professionals may affect inequalities in health care.

[10 marks]**0 8**

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

Item E

Most sociologists reject the idea of disability as a form of biological abnormality. They argue that it is the social reactions to people with impairments that create disabilities. People with impairments can also encounter economic barriers.

Applying material from **Item E**, analyse **two** ways in which disabilities may be socially constructed.

[10 marks]**0 9**

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

Item F

Statistics show that there are considerable differences in health chances between social classes. Sociologists have put forward a range of explanations for these differences. One view is that these differences in health chances are mainly the result of cultural factors such as attitudes to risk and values relating to diet and exercise.

However, other sociologists argue that material factors are more important.

Applying material from **Item F** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that social class differences in health chances are the result of cultural factors.

[20 marks]

Topic A4 Work, Poverty and Welfare

1 0

Outline and explain **two** ways in which globalisation may have increased levels of poverty in the United Kingdom.

[10 marks]**1 1**

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

Item G

Relative poverty is where individuals do not have the resources to sustain the lifestyle that people are accustomed to. Sociologists have drawn up lists of items for measuring the extent of relative poverty. If people do not have a number of these items, they are assumed to be relatively poor.

Applying material from **Item G**, analyse **two** difficulties that sociologists face in measuring relative poverty.

[10 marks]**1 2**

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

Item H

A mixed economy of welfare provision involves the private, informal and voluntary sectors as well as the state sector. Supporters of the mixed economy approach argue that the needs of the population are best met by having a number of different welfare providers. For example, family and friends may be able to offer more personalised care.

However, some critics argue that a mixed economy of welfare provision exploits the labour of informal carers.

Applying material from **Item H** and your knowledge, evaluate the claim that a mixed economy of welfare provision is the most effective way of meeting the needs of the population.

[20 marks]**Turn over ►**

Section B

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

Topic B1 Beliefs in Society

1 3

Outline and explain **two** ways in which globalisation may affect religious beliefs and practices.

[10 marks]**1 4**

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

Item I

Minority ethnic groups often arrive in the United Kingdom with a different culture from that of the host society. Also, members of minority ethnic groups often face racism in their everyday lives.

Applying material from **Item I**, analyse **two** reasons why minority ethnic groups in the United Kingdom are often more religious than the majority of the population.

[10 marks]**1 5**

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

Item J

Postmodernists argue that there has been an increase in spirituality in the United Kingdom. For example, there is increased interest in New Age activities such as yoga, meditation and crystal healing.

However, theories of secularisation claim that traditional organised religion has declined, while science and rational thought have become more important.

Applying material from **Item J** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that an increase in spirituality in the United Kingdom has compensated for the decline of organised religion.

[20 marks]

Topic B2 Global Development

1 6Outline and explain **two** ways in which aid may affect gender inequalities.**[10 marks]****1 7**Read **Item K** below and answer the question that follows.**Item K**

Globalisation refers to a set of related changes that have affected the lives of people around the world. One of these changes is the greater availability around the world of a wide range of consumer products. Another change is improved communication.

Applying material from **Item K**, analyse **two** ways in which globalisation may bring about cultural change in developing countries.

[10 marks]**1 8**Read **Item L** below and answer the question that follows.**Item L**

Dependency theory explanations of development and underdevelopment argue that countries are mainly prevented from developing by factors outside their control. They also argue that development is difficult to achieve within the existing capitalist world system.

However, critics claim that dependency theory does not consider how countries may be responsible for their own failure to develop.

Applying material from **Item L** and your knowledge, evaluate dependency theory explanations of development and underdevelopment.

[20 marks]**Turn over ►**

Topic B3 The Media

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Outline and explain **two** reasons why the news may portray young people negatively.

[10 marks]

2	0
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Read **Item M** below and answer the question that follows.

Item M

The new media are changing the way in which members of society interact with the media and with each other. New media users are no longer passive receivers of information and can be producers as well as consumers of media. However, new media content may not always be valid.

Applying material from **Item M**, analyse **two** ways in which the new media may affect the political process.

[10 marks]

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

Item N

The hypodermic syringe model argues that media messages are so powerful that they directly and immediately affect their audiences in various ways. For example, the model argues that exposure to media violence causes real-life violence.

However, critics argue that audiences are active rather than passive and are able to reject media messages.

Applying material from **Item N** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that the media have a direct and immediate effect on their audiences.

[20 marks]

Topic B4 Stratification and Differentiation

2	2
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Outline and explain **two** ways in which age may affect people's life chances.

[10 marks]

2	3
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Read **Item O** below and answer the question that follows.

Item O

Globalisation has led to the growth of a consumer society in which people are increasingly defined by the choices they make as consumers. It has also led to greater economic migration of people into the United Kingdom.

Applying material from **Item O**, analyse **two** effects of globalisation on the class structure of the United Kingdom.

[10 marks]

2	4
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Read **Item P** below and answer the question that follows.

Item P

One view is that ethnicity is the most important dimension of inequality today. For example, Black people are more likely to be unemployed. One reason for this may be institutional racism.

However, other sociologists argue that other dimensions of inequality such as social class are more important.

Applying material from **Item P** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that ethnicity is the most important dimension of inequality today.

[20 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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