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# AS SOCIOLOGY

## Paper 2 Research Methods and Topics in Sociology

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Tuesday 23 May 2023

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.

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**Section A**

**Research Methods**

Answer **all** questions in this section.

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 Outline **two** advantages of using primary research methods in sociological investigations.  
**[4 marks]**

0	2
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 Evaluate the disadvantages of using covert observation in sociological research.  
**[16 marks]**

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**Section B**

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

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**Topic B1 Culture and Identity**

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**0 3**

Define the term 'stereotype'.

**[2 marks]**

**0 4**

Using **one** example, briefly explain how an individual's sexuality may shape their social experiences.

**[2 marks]**

**0 5**

Outline **three** features of the postmodernist view of identity.

**[6 marks]**

**0 6**

Outline and explain **two** ways in which changes in work may have affected social class identity.

**[10 marks]**

**0 7**

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

**Item A**

Globalisation is now a significant feature of society. Some sociologists argue that the impact of globalisation is to undermine the traditional sources of people's national identity and open up a range of choices for individuals.

Alternatively, other sociologists see the rise of nationalism as a reaction to the perceived threat of globalisation.

Applying material from **Item A** and your knowledge, evaluate the impact of globalisation on individuals' national identity in the United Kingdom.

**[20 marks]**

**Turn over for the next topic**

**Turn over ►**

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**Topic B2 Families and Households**

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**0 8**

Define the term 'birth rate'.

**[2 marks]****0 9**Using **one** example, briefly explain how the experience of childhood may differ between ethnic groups.**[2 marks]****1 0**Outline **three** features of the symmetrical family.**[6 marks]****1 1**Outline and explain **two** ways in which government policies may have affected gender roles in the family.**[10 marks]****1 2**Read **Item B** below and answer the question that follows.**Item B**

In common with many Western societies, the United Kingdom has an ageing population. Rising life expectancy and a relatively low birth rate has meant that the average age of the population is rising. This can have a positive impact and provide an opportunity to reconsider the role of older people in families and wider society.

However, others point to the impact on families and wider society of older people no longer being in paid work.

Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate the impact of an ageing population on families and wider society.

**[20 marks]**

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**Topic B3 Health**

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- 1 3** Define the term 'social construction' of mental illness. **[2 marks]**
- 1 4** Using **one** example, briefly explain how individuals with a disability may have difficulty getting the healthcare they need. **[2 marks]**
- 1 5** Outline **three** cultural factors that may explain social class differences in health chances. **[6 marks]**
- 1 6** Outline and explain **two** ways in which gender patterns of health may be affected by gender differences in accessing health care from medical professionals. **[10 marks]**
- 1 7** Read **Item C** below and answer the question that follows.

**Item C**

Some sociologists argue that global pharmaceutical companies ('big pharma') have a negative impact on patient wellbeing and society as a whole. They point to the general medicalisation of aspects of social life as well as specific examples of negative consequences of some drug treatments.

Supporters of global pharmaceutical companies point to the substantial advances in medical knowledge that continue to be driven by these companies.

Applying material from **Item C** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that global pharmaceutical companies have a negative impact on patient wellbeing and society as a whole.

**[20 marks]**

**Turn over for the next topic**

**Turn over ►**

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**Topic B4 Work, Poverty and Welfare**

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**1 8**

Define the term 'relative poverty'.

**[2 marks]**

**1 9**

Using **one** example, briefly explain an advantage of private provision of welfare services for individuals.

**[2 marks]**

**2 0**

Outline **three** reasons why women may be more likely than men to experience poverty.

**[6 marks]**

**2 1**

Outline and explain **two** reasons why people with disabilities may **not** be able to access work opportunities.

**[10 marks]**

**2 2**

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

**Item D**

Some sociologists argue that in industrial society technology is often used to control workers. Recently this has been extended by the use of surveillance technology in the workplace.

However, other sociologists argue that technology can liberate workers. Technology can bring flexibility to the workplace and give workers control over their own work.

Applying material from **Item D** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that technology is used to control workers.

**[20 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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