



A-level

SOCIOLOGY

Paper 2 Topics in Sociology

Friday 9 June 2023

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** ways that consumption may be related to sexuality.

[10 marks]

0 2

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

Item A

Wanting to be accepted by peer groups can be a socialising influence on individuals. The media contribute to the socialisation of individuals by being sources of information, norms and values.

Individuals may be socialised into identities based on age.

Applying material from **Item A**, analyse **two** ways that individuals may be socialised into identities based on age.

[10 marks]

0 3

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

Item B

Interactionists argue that an individual's sense of self develops through social interaction. The self is socially constructed through individuals actively interpreting the social world around them and seeing themselves from the point of view of others.

Other sociologists argue that agencies of socialisation provide individuals with an identity. For example, functionalists say that socialisation makes sure that people internalise shared cultural values, leading to consensus and conformity.

Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate the extent to which the self is socially constructed.

[20 marks]

Topic A2 Families and Households

0 4

Outline and explain **two** ways that social change may affect patterns of marriage.

[10 marks]

0 5

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

Item C

Globalisation has increased the movement of people around the world. It has also led to wider access in the UK to technological developments.

Globalisation may affect domestic labour in the UK.

Applying material from **Item C**, analyse **two** ways that globalisation may affect domestic labour in the UK.

[10 marks]

0 6

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

Item D

Recent demographic changes in the UK include a declining birth rate, increased immigration and an ageing population. Some sociologists, such as the New Right, argue that these changes may have a negative impact on families and households as they undermine the traditional nuclear family.

However, other sociologists, such as postmodernists, argue that these changes have had a range of different impacts on families and households in the UK.

Applying material from **Item D** and your knowledge, evaluate sociological views on the impact of demographic changes on families and households in the UK.

[20 marks]

Turn over ►

Topic A3 Health

0 7

Outline and explain **two** ways in which the globalised health industry may affect health chances in the UK.

[10 marks]

0 8

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

Item E

Regions are areas with their own characteristics. The UK consists of some regions that have high levels of prosperity, and other regions which are relatively deprived. There are also urban areas that are densely populated in comparison to rural areas.

Regional differences may affect health care provision.

Applying material from **Item E**, analyse **two** ways in which regional differences may affect health care provision.

[10 marks]

0 9

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

Item F

Interactionists argue that mental illness is socially constructed. They suggest that society applies a label of mental illness to people whose behaviours are seen as deviant. Certain groups, such as medical professionals, have the power to impose a label which may become the individual's master status.

However, other sociologists argue that mental illness is caused by various factors such as social deprivation and inequality.

Applying material from **Item F** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that mental illness is socially constructed.

[20 marks]

Topic A4 Work, Poverty and Welfare

1 0

Outline and explain **two** ways that changes in technology at work may affect people's life chances.

[10 marks]**1 1**

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

Item G

The state provides various educational opportunities. It also supports businesses to benefit the economy.

The state has responded to worklessness in the UK.

Applying material from **Item G**, analyse **two** ways that the state has responded to worklessness in the UK.

[10 marks]**1 2**

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

Item H

Some sociologists suggest that poverty is the outcome of structural inequalities in society. Certain social groups, such as women, are at greater risk of poverty than other social groups. Marxists argue that capitalism leads to working-class poverty.

However, New Right sociologists argue that attitudes and behavioural differences are the most important factors when explaining the distribution of poverty.

Applying material from **Item H** and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations for the distribution of poverty between different social groups.

[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 that globalisation may affect the functions of religion.

[10 marks]

1 4

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

Item I

Religion claims to provide answers to life's ultimate questions. Religion can also provide support in times of change.

Religion may have a greater influence than science on some people's lives.

Applying material from **Item I**, analyse **two** reasons why religion may have a greater influence than science on some people's lives.

[10 marks]

1 5

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

Item J

There are different sociological explanations of the relationship between ethnicity and religious beliefs and practices. Some sociologists argue that religion plays an important part in the lives of many minority ethnic groups, providing a mechanism for cultural defence and cultural transition.

However, other sociologists argue that there has been a decline in the importance of religion for most ethnic groups.

Applying material from **Item J** and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of the relationship between ethnicity and religious beliefs and practices.

[20 marks]

Topic B2 Global Development

1 6

Outline and explain **two** ways in which education may affect global inequalities.

[10 marks]

1 7

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

Item K

Globalisation leads to people in developing countries becoming increasingly aware of life in other countries. Sometimes globalisation may be seen as a threat so there is a reaction against it.

Globalisation may lead to political change in developing countries.

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

[10 marks]

1 8

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

Item L

Early theories of development and underdevelopment, such as modernisation theory and dependency theory, tended to see development as economic growth measured by, for example, Gross National Product and levels of poverty.

Others have argued that development should be seen as also involving a wider range of changes, for example in health, gender equality and sustainability.

Applying material from **Item L** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that economic measures alone do **not** give a satisfactory picture of development.

[20 marks]

Turn over ►

Topic B3 The Media

1 9Outline and explain **two** ways in which the new media may affect audiences.**[10 marks]****2 0**Read **Item M** below and answer the question that follows.**Item M**

Globalisation increases the speed of communication to audiences around the world. Globalisation involves new technology, such as smartphones, from which many people can upload content.

Globalisation affects the content of the news.

Applying material from **Item M**, analyse **two** ways in which globalisation affects the content of the news.

[10 marks]**2 1**Read **Item N** below and answer the question that follows.**Item N**

Many feminist sociologists argue that gender representations in the media are shaped by patriarchal ideology. This reflects the dominance of males in both the media and wider society. Representations of both men and women are often based on stereotypes which reinforce gender inequalities.

Other sociologists argue that gender stereotypes in the media help companies to make a profit. Another view is that stereotypes are being replaced by more fluid and flexible representations of gender, reflecting changes in society.

Applying material from **Item N** and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of the ways in which the media represent gender.

[20 marks]

Topic B4 Stratification and Differentiation

2	2
---	---

Outline and explain **two** ways in which an individual's disability may affect their chances of social mobility.

[10 marks]

2	3
---	---

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

Item O

The transnational capitalist class includes owners and controllers of transnational corporations, which move operations between countries in search of profit. London is a base for many of the super-rich from around the world.

The transnational capitalist class may have affected inequalities in the UK.

Applying material from **Item O**, analyse **two** ways in which the transnational capitalist class may have affected inequalities in the UK.

[10 marks]

2	4
---	---

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

Item P

Marxists argue that the basis of stratification in capitalist society is the division into two social classes: the bourgeoisie who own the means of production and the proletariat who have to sell their labour power. The difference in interests between these two classes leads to class conflict, which affects all areas of life.

However, functionalists argue that stratification is necessary and beneficial. Others argue that social class is less important, or that factors such as ethnicity or gender are more important than social class.

Applying material from **Item P** and your knowledge, evaluate Marxist theories of stratification.

[20 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

There are no questions printed on this page

There are no questions printed on this page

Copyright information

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from www.aqa.org.uk.

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2023 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

