



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Level Examination
January 2011

Sociology

SCLY3

Unit 3

Friday 21 January 2011 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is SCLY3.
- This paper is divided into **four** sections.
- Choose **one** section.
- Do **not** answer questions from more than one section.
- 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 18 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.

Choose **one** section. Do **not** answer questions from more than one section.

Section A Beliefs in Society

If you choose this section, answer Questions

0	1
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 and

0	2
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and either Question

0	3
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 or

0	4
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Total for this section: 60 marks

Read **Item A** below and answer questions

0	1
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 and

0	2
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 that follow.

Item A

Currently around one million people attend a Church of England service on Sundays. However, a recent report for the Bible Society says that in just over a generation the number of people attending these services will fall to less than a tenth of what it is now. The report predicts that by 2050 only 87,800 will be attending. 5

This forecast has been seized upon by secular groups as proof that religious belief is in decline. However, the Church of England has rejected the figures, saying that they were incomplete, based only on a snapshot census of church attendances, and ignored new ways of worshipping outside the church network. Davie (2007) goes further and argues that religion is not declining but simply changing to a more privatised form. 10

Source: Copyright Guardian News and Media Ltd 2008

0	1
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 Identify and briefly explain **three** reasons, **apart from** lower church attendance, why the Church of England might be seen to be 'in decline', (**Item A**, line 7). (9 marks)

0	2
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 Using material from **Item A** and elsewhere, assess the view that, while the Church of England is declining, other religions and spiritual movements are flourishing. (18 marks)

EITHER

0	3
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 Assess the view that, for minority ethnic groups, the practice of religion and membership of religious groups is mainly a form of cultural defence. (33 marks)

OR

0	4
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 Assess the view that religion is a major source of instability and conflict in society today. (33 marks)

Section B Global Development

If you choose this section, answer Questions 05 and 06
and either Question 07 or 08.

Total for this section: 60 marks

Read **Item B** below and answer questions 05 and 06 that follow.

Item B

About 80 per cent of the world's population live in countries that are developing, often at a rapid rate. However, there is a group of countries at the bottom that is falling behind. Some sociologists argue that this is partly the fault of the rich countries who are deliberately keeping poor countries poor.

Those countries at the bottom are mostly in Africa and Central Asia. They have a reality that is nearer to the fourteenth century than the twenty-first. They face conflicts, disease and ignorance. In the 1990s, a decade of prosperity for many, incomes in these countries fell by five per cent. This changes our understanding of global development, for we must now see the world as five billion people who are already prosperous, or on track to be so, and one billion who are stuck at the bottom. 5

Source: adapted from: '*The Bottom Billion*', PAUL COLLIER, 2008.
By permission of Oxford University Press, Inc.

05 Identify and briefly explain **three** ways in which development might threaten or disrupt traditional cultures. (9 marks)

06 Using material from **Item B** and elsewhere, assess the view that the rich countries of the world 'are deliberately keeping poor countries poor', (**Item B**, lines 3 – 4). (18 marks)

EITHER

07 Assess the view that increasing trade is a more effective strategy for development than increasing aid. (33 marks)

OR

08 Evaluate the usefulness of Malthusian and neo-Malthusian theories for our understanding of population issues in the world today. (33 marks)

Turn over for Section C

Turn over ►

Section C Mass Media

If you choose this section, answer Questions **0 9** and **1 0**
and either Question **1 1** or **1 2**.

Total for this section: 60 marks

Read **Item C** below and answer questions **0 9** and **1 0** that follow.

Item C

Recent research has indicated that a 'digital divide' may be growing between children and their parents. The research, based on a survey of 800 children at 92 schools across the United Kingdom, stated that screen time had become so important in the daily lives of five- to sixteen-year-olds that they are now skilled managers of their free time. They juggle technology to fit in, on average, six hours per day of TV, playing games and surfing the net. From an early age, children are using multimedia hubs in their rooms, with games consoles, internet access and MP3 players. 5

The research also found that a quarter of five-year-olds have access to the internet in their room. One in three eight-year-olds has a mobile phone. Of those aged thirteen to sixteen, around half have internet access, spending over two hours a day on sites such as YouTube and MySpace, and almost all have their own phone. 10

It is clear that today's children use the media in new and very different ways from their parents. 15

0 9 Identify and briefly explain **three** ways in which media representations of sexuality and/or disability could be said to be stereotypical. (9 marks)

1 0 Using material from **Item C** and elsewhere, assess the view that 'today's children use the media in new and very different ways from their parents', (**Item C**, lines 14 – 15). (18 marks)

EITHER

1 1 Evaluate the pluralist view of the ownership and control of the mass media. (33 marks)

OR

1 2 Assess the impact of globalisation on the structure and role of the mass media in the world today. (33 marks)

Section D Power and Politics

If you choose this section, answer Questions **1 3** and **1 4**
and either Question **1 5** or **1 6**.

Total for this section: 60 marks

Read **Item D** below and answer questions **1 3** and **1 4** that follow.

Item D

Postmodernist theories of power and politics stress the fragmentation and widening of political debate. They relate this to the decline in the importance of conventional party politics and political institutions. For example, some sociologists claim that traditional political parties and organisations, such as trades unions, are not the political force they once were. They argue that a key aspect of the change in the nature of contemporary politics is the emergence of new social movements. 5

According to Hallsworth (1994), the term 'new social movements' is generally applied to political groups such as those focusing on anti-racism or anti-globalisation. Some of these movements emerged in the 1960s and 1970s and are seen as providing a new challenge to the established cultural, economic and political orders of the day. In particular, they challenge the power of the state in advanced capitalist societies. 10

1 3 Identify and briefly explain **three** reasons, **apart from** the growth of new social movements, why some sociologists argue that the state has lost power over the past fifty years or so. (9 marks)

1 4 Using material from **Item D** and elsewhere, assess the view that new social movements 'challenge the power of the state in advanced capitalist societies', (**Item D**, lines 12 – 13). (18 marks)

EITHER

1 5 Assess the view that social class is no longer an important factor in determining the outcome of elections in the United Kingdom. (33 marks)

OR

1 6 Evaluate pluralist theories of the nature and distribution of power in society today. (33 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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