



**GCE AS/A level**

1352/01

**SOCIOLOGY - SY2**

**UNIT 2 – UNDERSTANDING CULTURE**

P.M. FRIDAY, 20 May 2011

1½ hours

#### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **question 1** and **one** other question.

You are advised to divide your time according to the mark allocation given.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

#### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You are reminded that assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

Credit will be given for reference to recent public debate and research publications.

**Compulsory**

1. Look at the item below and answer the following questions.

The annual Health Survey for England revealed that a lack of physical activity has become a serious health issue as obesity levels are rising quickly.

In 2008 a total of 15,102 adults and 7,521 children were given questionnaires.

The research gathered **quantitative data**, collecting information about physical activity. Because of the limitations of questionnaires, such as respondents having difficulty remembering their activities or just guessing, some respondents were asked to wear measuring devices so that the accuracy of answers could be checked against the actual amount of exercise taken.

*Adapted from the Health Survey for England*

- (a) Using material from the item and elsewhere, explain the full meaning of the term **quantitative data**. [10]
- (b) With reference to the item and sociological studies, explain the strengths and weaknesses of questionnaires. [20]

*Choose one question from the following options:*

**Either,**

**2.**

**Education**

- (a) Outline and briefly explain what is meant by equality of opportunity in education. [20]
- (b) Discuss the view that working class underachievement in education is caused by factors outside school. [40]

**Or,**

**3.**

**Religion**

- (a) Outline and briefly explain the meaning of the term New Age Movements. [20]
- (b) Discuss the view that religion is functional for society. [40]

**Or,**

**4.**

**Mass Media**

- (a) Outline and briefly explain the meaning of the term audience effects. [20]
- (b) Discuss the view that owners control the content of the media. [40]