



**GCE A level**

1354/01

**SOCIOLOGY – SY4  
UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL DIVISIONS**

A.M. TUESDAY, 25 January 2011

2 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.

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.

## 1. (Compulsory)

**Black masculinities and schooling**

In 1996 Tony Sewell conducted a major piece of research in what he called “Township School”. This school was an 11-16 boys’ comprehensive school with pupils coming from a range of ethnic backgrounds. Sewell adopted an **ethnographic approach**. He used semi-structured interviews and classroom observation to collect his data. He wanted to discover more about the experiences of Black boys in school and immersed himself in their everyday school life to gather rich data. At the time, Sewell who was in his early 30s, described himself as Black and said that he was able to mix with the boys and make good relationships with them. Sewell found that Black pupils were disciplined excessively and they received little positive recognition for their culture.

*Adapted from Blundell, J. and Griffiths, J. (2002) Sociology since 1995, Lewes: Connect Publications*

- (a) Identify and explain two reasons why the researcher decided to use an **ethnographic approach** in his research. [10]
- (b) As an A Level Sociology student you have been asked to design a research project to collect **qualitative** data on attitudes to education amongst a sample of young boys in your area.
- Outline each stage of your research design explaining the reasons for your choices at each stage.
  - Identify some of the problems that might occur and their impact on the quality of the data collected. [30]

Choose **one** question from the following options.

### Understanding World Sociology

**Either,**

2. (a) Identify two areas of life, one from the developing world and one from the developed world where there is gender inequality. Illustrate your answer with reference to evidence from each area identified. [20]
- (b) Evaluate sociological explanations of gender inequalities in the developing world. [30]

**Or,**

3. (a) Identify two areas of life, one from the developing world and one from the developed world, where there is class inequality. Illustrate your answer with reference to evidence from each area identified. [20]
- (b) Evaluate the usefulness of Modernisation theory as an explanation for inequality in the developing world. [30]

### Understanding Social Inequality

**Either,**

4. (a) Identify two areas of life in the contemporary UK where there is evidence of ethnic inequality. Illustrate your answer with reference to evidence for each area identified. [20]
- (b) Evaluate sociological explanations of ethnic inequality. [30]

**Or,**

5. (a) Identify two areas of life in the contemporary UK where there is evidence of gender inequality. Illustrate your answer with reference to evidence for each area identified. [20]
- (b) Evaluate the usefulness of Feminist explanations of gender inequality. [30]