



GCE A level

1354/01

SOCIOLOGY – SY4

UNIT 4 – Understanding Social Divisions

A.M. THURSDAY, 13 June 2013

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 one** 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.

Women and Work

This study aimed to understand the everyday experiences of women with dependent children who were entering training or paid work. This was a small scale project focusing on 12 women. The research aimed to collect detailed information about the everyday lived experiences of the women and how they balanced the demands of motherhood and work. The researchers used semi-structured interviews, in-depth interviews and focus groups. The women also kept **diaries** for three weeks.

Source: www.socresonline.org.uk/Women, Care and Transitions. Sociological Research Online, vol.8(3)

- (a) Identify and explain **two** reasons why the researchers decided to ask the women to keep **diaries**. [10]
- (b) As an A Level Sociology student you have been asked to design a research project to collect **quantitative** data on gender roles in families. Your sample should be representative of families 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 may 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 class inequality. Illustrate your answer with reference to evidence from each **area** identified. [20]
- (b) Evaluate the usefulness of dependency theory as an explanation of inequalities faced by 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 ethnic inequality. Illustrate your answer with reference to evidence from **each** area identified. [20]
- (b) Evaluate the usefulness of sociological explanations of 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 inequality. Illustrate your answer with reference to evidence for **each** area identified. [20]
- (b) Evaluate the view that all inequality is class 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 inequality. [30]