



GCE AS/A level

1352/01

SOCIOLOGY – SY2

UNIT 2: Understanding Culture

P.M. WEDNESDAY, 21 May 2014

1 hour 30 minutes

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.

Findings from a **longitudinal study** of 40,000 UK households called ***Understanding Society*** were first published in 2012. The study began in 2009 and will continue over a number of years. Over 100,000 people are being studied to look at how a changing society is affecting the choices that people make about their lives.

A variety of methods is being used for data collection on health and well being. It has become apparent that the way in which information is gathered can affect the results produced.

*Adapted from **Understanding Society 2012***

- (a) Using material from the item and elsewhere, fully explain the meaning of the term **longitudinal study**. [10]
- (b) With reference to the item and sociological studies, explain why many researchers use more than one method. [20]

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

Either,

Education

2. (a) Outline and explain what is meant by the hidden curriculum in education. [20]
(b) Outline and assess the view that education in the UK is meritocratic. [40]

Or,

Religion

3. (a) Outline and explain the meaning of the term New Age Movements (NAMs). [20]
(b) Outline and assess the view that religion is an agent of social control. [40]

Or,

Mass Media

4. (a) Outline and explain the concept of news values. [20]
(b) Outline and assess the view that media representation of social groups is based on stereotypes. [40]

END OF PAPER