



**GCE AS/A level**

**1352/01**

**SOCIOLOGY – SY2**

**UNIT 2: Understanding Culture**

**A.M. THURSDAY, 21 May 2015**

**1 hour 30 minutes plus your additional time allowance**

## **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

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

## **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

**Use black ink, black ball-point pen or your usual method.**

**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.**

**Sociologists often face practical difficulties when conducting research. For example, some social groups may not have the opportunity to be included in research and so their voices are not heard.**

**In 2009, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation studied social problems experienced by some of those people who are difficult to access; people such as ex-offenders or the disabled.**

**SAMPLING involved approaching social organisations who support members of these groups. This sampling technique created practical problems because not all ex-offenders or disabled people belong to support groups. This meant that the research was not entirely representative of all hard to access groups.**

**Adapted from LIVING WITH SOCIAL EVILS**

**1(a) Using material from the item and elsewhere, explain the meaning of the term SAMPLING. [10]**

**(b) With reference to the item and sociological studies, explain some of the practical issues that researchers can face when conducting research. [20]**

Choose ONE question from the following options.

**EITHER,**

**2. EDUCATION**

- (a) Outline and explain what is meant by anti-school subcultures. [20]**
  
- (b) Discuss the view that social class is the most important factor affecting the educational attainment of children. [40]**

**OR,**

**3. RELIGION**

- (a) Outline and explain what is meant by the term spirituality. [20]**
  
- (b) Discuss the Marxist view of religion. [40]**

**OR,**

**4. MASS MEDIA**

- (a) Outline and explain what is meant by the term agenda setting. [20]**
  
- (b) Discuss the view that news is socially constructed. [40]**

**END OF PAPER**