

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination



SOCIOLOGY
Unit 6

SCY6

Thursday 12 June 2008 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is SCY6.
- This paper is divided into **two** Sections. Choose **one** Section and answer **all** parts of the question from that Section.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for questions (or part questions) are shown in brackets.
- Parts (b) and (c) of your chosen question should be answered in continuous prose. In these part questions you will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Choose **one** Section and answer **all** parts of the question from that Section.

SECTION A: CRIME AND DEVIANCE

Total for this section: 60 marks

1 Read **Item A** and answer parts (a) to (c) that follow.

Item A

Official statistics show social class differences in crime rates, with higher rates of offending being recorded for individuals from manual 'blue collar' backgrounds than those from 'white collar' backgrounds. There are also differences in the types of offence likely to be committed by individuals from different class backgrounds.

However, sociologists remain divided as to the reasons for these differences. For example, many see cultural factors as the root cause, while some blame the unequal structure of society. Others question whether such statistics reflect the real patterns of class differences in offending. 5

- (a) Identify and briefly explain **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using **overt** rather than covert participant observation to study crime and deviance. (8 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Crime and Deviance and sociological methods.

- (b) Examine the relationship between deviance and **two or more** of the following areas: families and households; health; mass media; education; wealth, poverty and welfare; work and leisure; power and politics; religion; world sociology. (12 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Crime and Deviance and other substantive topics you have studied.

- (c) Assess sociological explanations of social class differences in crime rates (**Item A**). (40 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Crime and Deviance and sociological theory.

SECTION B: STRATIFICATION AND DIFFERENTIATION

Total for this section: 60 marks

- 2 Read **Item B** and answer parts (a) to (c) that follow.

Item B

In some respects there has been a ‘gender revolution’ in the last thirty or forty years, with a movement towards greater gender equality in many areas of life. For example, in politics, Britain and several other countries have seen their first woman Prime Minister and more women sitting in Parliament. Similarly, in religion, some churches and denominations have now begun to ordain women as priests and in some cases even as bishops. 5

Such developments have not been confined to the western world; there has been a global trend towards greater equality between men and women, which can be seen in areas such as family life, educational opportunities and access to paid work in both ‘developed’ and ‘developing’ societies. 10

- (a) Identify and briefly explain **two** problems of defining and/or measuring ethnicity. (8 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Stratification and Differentiation and sociological methods.

- (b) Using material from **Item B** and elsewhere, examine the extent of and reasons for gender inequalities in **two or more** of the following areas: families and households; health; mass media; education; wealth, poverty and welfare; work and leisure; power and politics; religion; world sociology. (12 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Stratification and Differentiation and other substantive topics you have studied.

- (c) Outline the changes in the class structure since the 1950s and assess sociological explanations of them. (40 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Stratification and Differentiation and sociological theory.

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page