

**ADVANCED GCE
SOCIOLOGY**

Applied Sociological Research Skills

THURSDAY 12 JUNE 2008

2537

Afternoon

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials (enclosed): Answer Booklet (16 page)

Additional materials (required):
None



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the separate Answer Booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Answer **all** parts of the question.
- Write your answers on the separate Answer Booklet provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks for each question is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **60**.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of written communication where an answer requires a piece of extended writing.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

Answer **all** parts (a) to (e). You are advised to spend **approximately 30 minutes** on parts (a)–(c), and **one hour** on parts (d) and (e).

Study **Item A** carefully, then answer parts (a), (b) and (c).

ITEM A

Dale et al carried out research in Oldham on Pakistani and Bangladeshi women. They used unstructured interviews in the women's homes to explore details of their lives and work experiences. Using unstructured interviews meant that they obtained in-depth understanding of changes in the labour market position of women across generations. They built up a rapport with the women and discovered older women who were not born in the UK, and who also had limited English, found it difficult to obtain paid employment. Younger women who had been educated in the UK and whose English was good had less difficulty. There was evidence that those with the same level of qualifications as their white counterparts had greater difficulty than those counterparts in finding employment. There was some evidence the reason for this was due to differential treatment because of their ethnic background. The researchers also found many of the women had family responsibilities and those with dependent children were likely to be economically inactive.

Adapted from A Dale et al, *The Labour Market Prospects for Pakistani and Bangladeshi Women*, 2002, Sage Publications.

The following table from the Labour Force Survey of 2004 shows the:

Percentage of women aged 19-59 by economic activity and ethnic group, 2000-2002

| | Economically inactive | | Employed | | | Unemployed | Total in % |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|------------|------------|
| | Not in labour force | Full-time student | Full-time | Part-time | Self employed | | |
| White | 24 | 2 | 38 | 28 | 5 | 3 | 100 |
| Black Caribbean | 22 | 5 | 45 | 17 | 3 | 8 | 100 |
| Indian | 30 | 5 | 37 | 17 | 3 | 8 | 100 |
| Bangladeshi | 77 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 100 |
| Pakistani | 65 | 3 | 14 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 100 |
| Chinese | 29 | 16 | 27 | 15 | 11 | 2 | 100 |

Data source: The Labour Force Survey

- (a) Using **only Item A** identify **two** advantages of using unstructured interviews to research the labour market prospects of Pakistani and Bangladeshi women. [6]
- (b) Identify and explain **one** strength and **one** weakness of using official statistics to investigate the extent of poverty amongst minority ethnic women. [8]
- (c) Summarise the findings of the research in **Item A**. [10]

Study **Item B** carefully and then answer parts (d) and (e).

ITEM B

The careers service in an ethnically diverse town would like to know whether year eleven (Y11) students in the local schools feel they are receiving good advice on the options open to them after their GCSEs. They would like you to design a research proposal that will target a representative sample of Y11 students in the town. The aim is to find out whether the students feel they are receiving good advice about their options after GCSEs.

You have been asked, as a sociological researcher, to design a research proposal that will target a representative sample of year eleven students in schools in the town. You are required to collect **qualitative** data.

- (d) Outline and explain the research process that you would adopt in collecting **qualitative** data to find out whether year eleven students in the schools in this ethnically diverse town feel they are receiving good advice on the options open to them after their GCSEs. **[14]**
- (e) Assess the potential weaknesses of your research proposal, briefly explaining how you intend to overcome them. **[22]**

TOTAL [60]

Copyright Acknowledgements:

Item A text Adapted from A Dale et al, *The Labour Market Prospects for Pakistani and Bangladeshi Women*, 2002, Sage Publications.
Item A data Source: The Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics, www.statistics.gov.uk.
Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO and the Queen's Printer for Scotland.

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (OCR) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

OCR is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.