

429/01

SOCIOLOGY – SOC 6

UNIT 6 - SOCIETY TODAY

A.M. WEDNESDAY, 27 June 2007

(1½ hours)

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **all** the questions from one option only. You are advised to divide your time according to the mark allocations given. Write your answer in the separate answer book provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

Option 1: Wealth and Poverty

Item A

Composition of the poor by family type and percentage in poverty

By family type	1992/93 % in poverty	2002/03 % in poverty
Pensioner couple	10%	13%
Single pensioner	11%	7%
Couple with children	37%	30%
Couple without children	11%	9%
Lone parent	17%	20%
Single without children	14%	21%

Adapted from Department of Works and Pensions 2004

Item B

Employment status and percentage in poverty

Employment status	1992/3 % in poverty	2002/03 % in poverty
Self-employed	11%	8%
Single or couple, in full-time work	2%	5%
One in full-time work, one in part-time work	23%	13%
One in full-time work, one not working	9%	10%
One or more in part-time work	9%	13%
Head or spouse aged 60 or over	23%	26%
Head or spouse unemployed	22%	25%

Adapted from Department of Works and Pensions 2004

1. Answer **all** of the following questions.

- (a) Explain, using examples where appropriate, what is meant by **absolute** and **relative poverty**. [10]
- (b) (i) Using only **Item A** outline the trends in the relationship between family type and percentage in poverty between 1992/3 and 2002/03. [10]
- (ii) Using only **Item B** outline the trends in the relationship between employment status and percentage in poverty between 1992/3 and 2002/03. [10]
- (c) With reference to more than one area of sociology you have previously studied, outline and explain the evidence that suggests that some groups are more likely to experience poverty than others. [25]
- (d) Outline and evaluate the contribution of structural explanations to our understanding of poverty. [45]

Option 2: World Sociology**Item A****Population**

Region/ country	Population total (millions) 1980	Population total (millions) 1997	Population % average annual growth
Bangladesh	87	124	1.6
Brazil	121	164	1.4
China	981	1227	1.1
Ethiopia	38	60	2.3
India	687	961	1.8
Indonesia	148	200	1.7
Mozambique	12	19	3.8
Developed world	825	926	0.7

Adapted from Sociology A2: Moore, Aiken & Chapman 2006

Item B**Mortality Rates**

Region/ country	Under 5 mortality rate (per 1000) 1996	Maternal mortality rate (per 100 000 live births) 1990-96
Bangladesh	112	850
Brazil	42	160
China	39	115
Ethiopia	177	1400
India	85	437
Indonesia	60	390
Mozambique	214	1500
Developed world	7	–

Adapted from Sociology A2: Moore, Aiken & Chapman 2006

2. Answer **all** of the following questions.

- (a) Explain, using examples where appropriate, what is meant by the term **development**. [10]
- (b) (i) Using only **Item A**, outline the patterns and trends in the relationship between region/country and population change between 1980 and 1997. [10]
- (ii) Using only **Item B**, outline the relationship between region/country and under five and maternal mortality rates. [10]
- (c) With reference to more than one area of sociology you have previously studied, outline and explain the evidence that suggests that women in different societies continue to experience inequality. [25]
- (d) Outline and evaluate the contribution of modernisation theory to our understanding of Third World poverty. [45]

Option 3: Social Divisions

Item A

Employment 2005

Women aged 16-64	In employment	
	% full time	% part time
All mothers	45	55
Youngest child 0-4	31	69
5-10	45	55
11-15	54	46
16-18	60	40
No dependent children	67	33
All women	58	42

Source: ONS (2005) Labour Force Survey Spring 2005 dataset

Item B

Full-time and part-time earnings 2004

Earnings	Women	Men	Gender pay gap
Hourly earnings	(£ per hour)	(£ per hour)	
Full-time	11.21	13.73	18%
Part-time	8.19	9.36	14%
Weekly Earnings	(£ per week)	(£ per week)	
Full-time	420	557	25%
Annual Earnings	(£k per year)	(£k per year)	
Full-time	21.7	30.1	28%

Adapted from ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2004

3. Answer **all** of the following questions.

- (a) Explain, using examples where appropriate, what is meant by the term **social stratification**. [10]
- (b) (i) Using only **Item A**, outline the relationship between motherhood, age of children and employment for women. [10]
- (ii) Using only **Item B**, outline the relationship between gender and earnings. [10]
- (c) With reference to more than one area of sociology you have previously studied, outline and explain the evidence that suggests that women continue to experience inequality in contemporary society. [25]
- (d) Outline and evaluate the contribution of Feminist explanations to our understanding of gender inequalities. [45]