

General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2006



SOCIOLOGY
Higher Tier

3192/H
H

Wednesday 21 June 2006 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or 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 3192/H.
- Answer **five** questions.
Answer **Question 1** in **Section A** and **four** questions from **Section B**.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 84.
4 of these marks are for Quality of Written Communication.
- The marks for questions (or part questions) are shown in brackets.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

Advice

- You are advised to spend approximately 40 minutes on **Section A** and 25 minutes on each of the four questions you choose from **Section B**.

SECTION A

You must answer **Question 1**.

Total for this question: 20 marks

WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

1 Study **Item A**, then answer parts (a) to (e) which follow.

Item A
BOYS AND MASCULINITY (MALE IDENTITY)

This study interviewed 78 individual boys, 45 groups of boys, and some girls, from 12 London schools. The aim of the study was to find out what boys think about 'masculinity' (male identity).

According to the boys interviewed, 'masculinity' is to do with being 'hard'; with being good at sport (particularly football); wearing designer clothes; not being seen to get on with school work and not doing anything that could be seen as 'girlish'.

Source: adapted from *Children 5–16 Research Briefing Number 17*, ESRC, July 2000

- (a) According to the information in **Item A**:
- (i) were more interviews conducted with groups of boys or with individual boys? (1 mark)
 - (ii) is it possible to tell how many girls were interviewed? (1 mark)
- (b) Explain briefly how a sociological explanation of gender might differ from a biological explanation of gender. (2 marks)
- (c) Explain what sociologists mean by peer pressure. (2 marks)
- (d) Imagine that for your coursework you are going to use informal interviews (sometimes called unstructured interviews) to find out the opinions on masculinity (male identity) of boys aged 15 to 18 at a local school or college.
- (i) Identify and explain **one** difficulty you might face using informal interviews for this piece of coursework. (3 marks)
 - (ii) Identify and explain **one** advantage of using informal interviews to find out boys' opinions on masculinity (male identity). (3 marks)
- (e) **Item A** refers to boys' ideas on masculinity (male identity). To what extent would sociologists agree that the family is the most important agent of gender socialisation? (8 marks)

SECTION B

Answer **four** questions from this section.

Total for this question: 15 marks

FAMILY

2 Study **Item B**, then answer parts (a) to (d) which follow.

Item B

TYPES OF HOUSEHOLD				
	Percentages			
	1971	1981	1991	2001
Couple with no children	27	26	28	28
Couple with 1 – 2 dependent children	26	25	20	19
Couple with 3 or more dependent children	9	6	5	4
Lone parent	3	5	6	5

Source: adapted from *Social Trends 34*, ONS, © Crown copyright, 2004

- (a) According to the information in **Item B**, what was the trend in the percentage of households made up of couples with 1 – 2 dependent children between 1981 and 2001? (1 mark)
- (b) **Item B** shows an increase in the proportion of lone parent households over the period 1971 to 2001. Briefly outline **one** sociological explanation for this increase. (2 marks)
- (c) The number of people living on their own has increased over recent years. Identify and explain **one** reason for this change. (3 marks)
- (d) To what extent would sociologists agree that the married couple family is no longer the typical family? (9 marks)

Turn over ►

Total for this question: 15 marks

EDUCATION

3 Study **Item C**, then answer parts (a) to (d) which follow.

Item C

ETHNICITY AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN BRITAIN

Chinese pupils were the most likely to gain 5 grades A* to C, with 79 per cent of the girls and 71 per cent of the boys obtaining these grades. Among Indian pupils 70 per cent of girls and 60 per cent of boys achieved 5 A* to C grades. Bangladeshi pupils have shown the greatest improvement at GCSE. Overall, girls continue to outperform boys.

Source: adapted from *Focus on Social Inequalities*, ONS, © Crown copyright, 2004

- (a) According to the information in **Item C**, did a higher proportion of Chinese boys or Indian girls obtain 5 GCSEs at grades A* to C? (1 mark)
- (b) Explain briefly **one** way that recent governments have tried to help schools to improve the level of their pupils' achievement. (2 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** reason why girls outperform boys in examinations. (3 marks)
- (d) To what extent would sociologists agree that differences in home background are the most important cause of differences in educational achievement between ethnic groups? (9 marks)

Total for this question: 15 marks

SOCIAL DIFFERENTIATION

4 Study **Item D**, then answer parts (a) to (d) which follow.

Item D

AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES BY ETHNIC ORIGIN: UNITED KINGDOM – 2000		
Ethnic Origin	Women £	Men £
White	8.21	10.08
Black	8.88	9.62
Indian	6.93	9.45
Pakistani/Bangladeshi	6.56	8.63

Source: adapted from Labour Force Survey, *www.statistics.gov.uk*, Spring 2000

- (a) According to the information in **Item D**, in which ethnic group was the **difference** between the average hourly earnings of women and men the greatest? (1 mark)
- (b) Explain briefly **one** reason why women's average earnings are lower than men's average earnings. (2 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** reason why sociologists often use an individual's occupation to allocate them to a social class. (3 marks)
- (d) To what extent would sociologists agree that there is an underclass in Britain today? (9 marks)

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►

Total for this question: 15 marks

POVERTY AND THE WELFARE STATE

5 Study **Item E**, then answer parts (a) to (d) which follow.

Item E

WORK AS A LADDER OUT OF POVERTY

Paid work is the most common route out of poverty, but it is not a guaranteed one. Just over half of adults of working age who live in poverty – 2.6 million people – live in households where at least one person is working. Work is not always a route out of poverty because some jobs are low paid. Low paid workers tend to remain low paid. Women and young people are the most likely to be low paid.

Source: adapted from the *Findings Routes out of poverty*, published in 2004 by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
Reproduced by permission of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

- (a) According to the information in **Item E**, does paid work guarantee an escape from poverty? (1 mark)
- (b) Explain briefly why young people are among the most likely to be low paid. (2 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** way in which governments have tried to reduce poverty among the working population over recent years. (3 marks)
- (d) To what extent would sociologists agree that unemployment is the main cause of poverty? (9 marks)

Total for this question: 15 marks

THE SOCIOLOGY OF POWER AND POLITICS

6 Study **Item F**, then answer parts (a) to (d) which follow.

Item F

Text and photo from *The Big Issue in the North*, 24-30 May 2004.
Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) According to the information in **Item F**, why might pensioners be angry? (1 mark)
- (b) Explain briefly why the organisers of a protest or demonstration might want coverage in the media. (2 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** reason why an individual might join a pressure group rather than a political party. (3 marks)
- (d) To what extent would sociologists agree that it is possible for individuals to influence the government by joining a pressure group? (9 marks)

Turn over ►

Total for this question: 15 marks

THE SOCIOLOGY OF WORK

7 Study **Item G**, then answer parts (a) to (d) which follow.

Item G

PATTERNS OF EMPLOYMENT

Over the last fifty years there has been a decline in manufacturing industries and an increase in the service industries. In 1983, 29 per cent of male employee jobs were in manufacturing, but by 2003 this had fallen to 20 per cent. The percentage of female employee jobs in manufacturing also fell from 16 per cent to 7 per cent over the same period.

Source: adapted from *Social Trends 34*, ONS, © Crown copyright, 2004

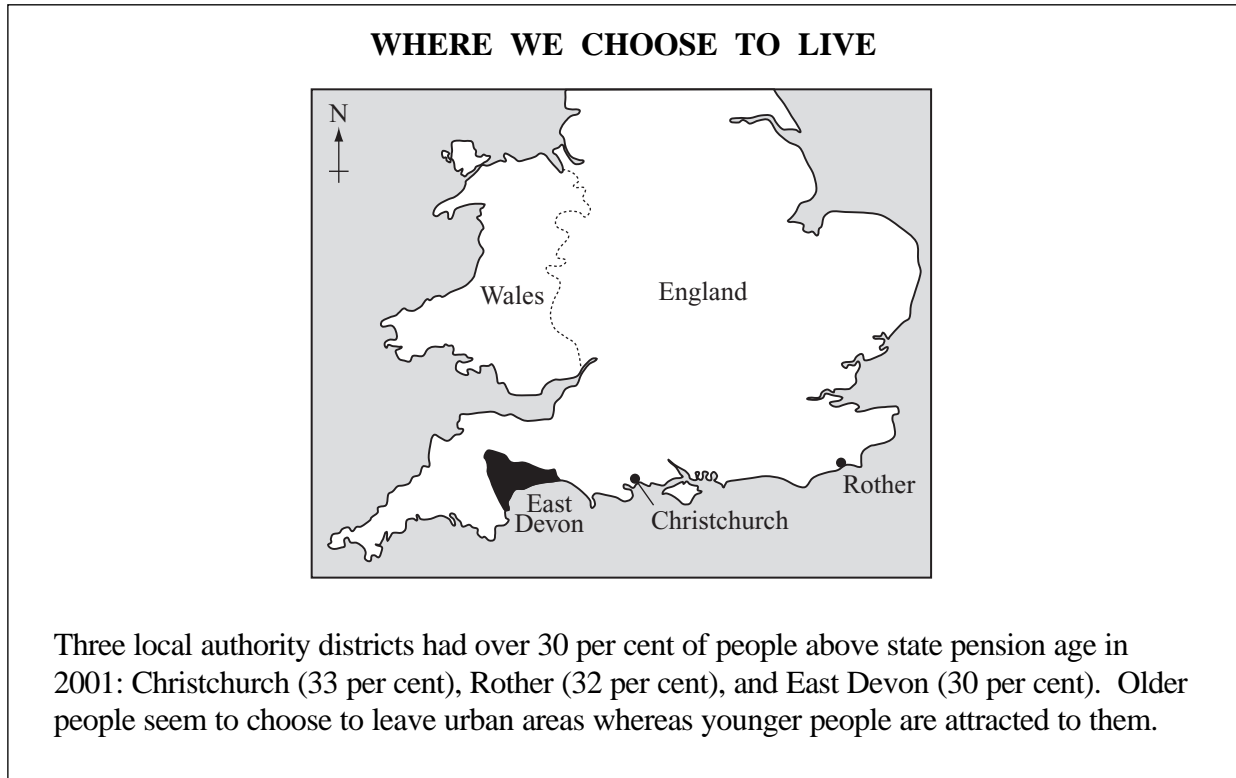
- (a) According to the information in **Item G**, what was the trend in the percentages of male and female jobs in manufacturing between 1983 and 2003? (1 mark)
- (b) Explain briefly what is meant by the service industries. (2 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** reason why employees might experience more insecurity at work today than in the past. (3 marks)
- (d) To what extent would sociologists agree that recent changes in the workplace mean that workers are **less** likely to experience job satisfaction today than they were in the past? (9 marks)

Total for this question: 15 marks

MIGRATION AND MOVEMENT

8 Study **Item H**, then answer parts (a) to (d) which follow.

Item H



Source: adapted from *Focus on Older People*, ONS, © Crown copyright, 2004

- (a) According to the information in **Item H**, which local authority district had the highest proportion of people above state pension age in 2001? (1 mark)
- (b) Explain briefly why younger people might choose to move to urban areas. (2 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** aspect of urban life that might cause a person above pension age to move away. (3 marks)
- (d) To what extent would sociologists agree that the ageing of the population of Britain is a problem for society? (9 marks)

Turn over ►

Total for this question: 15 marks

SOCIAL CONTROL AND DEVIANCE

9 Study **Item I**, then answer parts (a) to (d) which follow.

Item I

EXPERIENCE OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN ENGLAND AND WALES: BY TYPE OF AREA – 2002/03			
	Percentage saying this is a big problem in their area		
	Inner City %	Suburban %	Rural %
Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property	54	37	20
Teenagers hanging around on streets	48	36	19
Rubbish or litter lying around	52	36	19
People using or dealing drugs	50	34	17

Source: adapted from *Focus on Social Inequalities*, ONS, © Crown copyright, 2004

- (a) According to the information in **Item I**, did a larger proportion of people in rural or suburban areas say that people using or dealing drugs was a big problem in their area? (1 mark)
- (b) The British Crime Survey is a victim survey. Explain briefly what is meant by a victim survey. (2 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** reason why individuals living in rural areas might experience more pressure to conform than individuals living in urban areas. (3 marks)
- (d) To what extent would sociologists agree that the level of youth crime in an area depends on how well parents control their children? (9 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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Question 2 Item B
Question 3 Item C
Question 4 Item D
Question 7 Item G
Question 8 Item H
Question 9 Item I

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