

General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2007



SOCIOLOGY
Foundation Tier

3192/F

F

Wednesday 20 June 2007 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 2 hours

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/F.
- Answer **five** questions.
Answer **Question 1** from **Section A** and **four** questions from **Section B**.
- 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 84.
Four of these marks will be awarded for the 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 30 minutes on **Section A** and 20 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
MODERN WOMEN BEAT 1950s MUMS

A study of 2000 women has found that present-day mothers only spend an average of 48.9 hours a week on their domestic roles. This compares with 78.6 hours spent by those who were mothers in the 1950s.

Only 11 % of the 1500 present-day mothers said they were housewives. This compares with 59 % of the 500 mothers in the 1950s who said they were housewives.

Source: adapted from research by YouGov Plc, 2005

- (a) According to the information in **Item A**:
- (i) do present-day mothers spend more time or less time on their domestic roles than mothers in the 1950s? *(1 mark)*
 - (ii) is it possible to tell from the information how many mothers **in total** took part in the study? *(1 mark)*
 - (iii) what percentage of present-day mothers said they were housewives? *(1 mark)*
- (b) Explain, briefly, how a sociological description of a family might differ from a biological description of a family. *(2 marks)*
- (c) Explain, briefly, what sociologists mean by domestic roles. *(2 marks)*
- (d) Imagine that for your coursework you are going to try to find out how much time women and men spend on childcare. You are going to do this by sending out a questionnaire for them to fill in themselves. The questionnaire will be taken home and returned to you by your classmates.
- (i) Identify **one** problem you might face when carrying out this research. *(1 mark)*
 - (ii) Explain, briefly, **one** advantage of using closed questions for this piece of coursework. *(2 marks)*
 - (iii) Explain, briefly, **one** disadvantage of using closed questions for this piece of coursework. *(2 marks)*

- (e) How far would sociologists agree that recent social changes have made women and men equal in Britain?

In your answer you might like to consider:

- changes in employment patterns;
- changes in education;
- changes in social attitudes;
- the influences of the mass media;

or any other area of social life you consider relevant.

(8 marks)

Turn over for Section B

Turn over ►

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


Source: adapted from *Social Trends: Divorce*, ONS, © Crown copyright, 2005

- (a) (i) According to the information in **Item B**, was the number of divorces greater in 1976 or in 2004? (1 mark)
- (ii) Identify **one** possible consequence of divorce for a woman. (1 mark)
- (b) Explain **one** possible consequence for family members of living in a reconstituted or step family. (3 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** reason why more couples today choose to live together rather than marry. (3 marks)
- (d) How far would sociologists agree that changes in social attitudes have been responsible for the increase in the divorce rate since the 1960s?

In your answer you might like to consider:

- changes in the law;
- changes in gender roles;
- changes in employment;

or any other area of social life you consider relevant.

(7 marks)

Total for this question: 15 marks

EDUCATION

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

Item C

STUDENTS WITH JOBS LOSE OUT

According to research, university students tend to work in low-paid jobs. They say their studies suffer as a result. More than 80% of students say they spend less time studying because of their jobs. Nearly 75% spend less time on coursework. The research also shows that students who work more hours in paid jobs achieve lower average marks.

Source: Findings from 'Survey of Higher Education students' attitudes to debt and term-time working and their impact on attainment', reproduced with permission from Universities UK.

- (a) (i) According to the information in **Item C**, do a higher percentage of students say they spend less time studying or less time preparing coursework? (1 mark)
- (ii) Identify **one** reason why university students might have a job as well as studying full time. (1 mark)
- (b) Explain **one** way in which recent governments have tried to increase the number of people staying in education after the age of 16. (3 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** advantage of the regular publication of examination and SATs (Standard Attainment Tests) results. (3 marks)
- (d) How far would sociologists agree that differences in family income are responsible for differences in educational achievement between social groups?

In your answer you might like to consider:

- gender differences;
- ethnic differences;
- the effects of schooling;

or any other area of social life you consider relevant. (7 marks)

Turn over ►

Total for this question: 15 marks

SOCIAL DIFFERENTIATION

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

Item D

MOBILITY AND ETHNIC GROUPS

According to research based on data from the Office for National Statistics, 56% of people in the UK from Indian working class families took up professional or managerial roles in adult life. This compared with 43% of those from white, non-immigrant, families and 45% from Caribbean families.

Source: adapted from *Migration and Social Mobility: Life chances of Britain's minority ethnic communities* by LUCINDA PLATT, published in 2005 by The Policy Press

- (a) (i) According to the information in **Item D**, which ethnic group was least likely to take up professional or managerial roles? (1 mark)
- (ii) Identify **one** possible barrier to upward social mobility for members of minority ethnic groups. (1 mark)
- (b) Explain **one** form of social stratification **other than** social class. (3 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** way in which sociologists might allocate an individual to a social class. (3 marks)
- (d) How far would sociologists agree that ethnic divisions are more important than class divisions in Britain today?

In your answer you might like to consider:

- the extent of discrimination;
- employment patterns;
- the distribution of life chances;

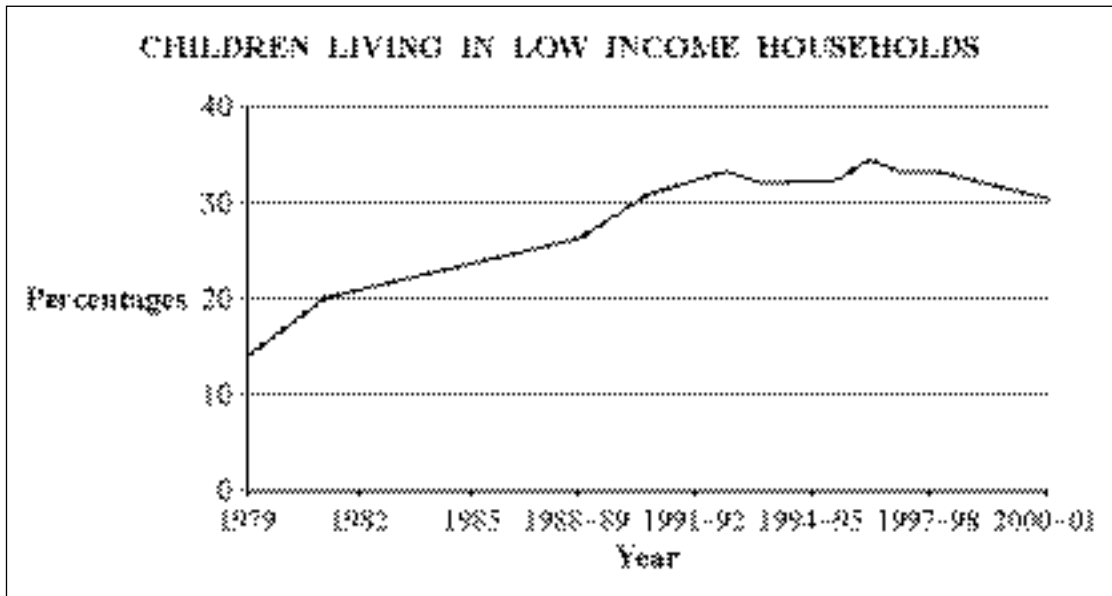
or any other area of social life you consider relevant. (7 marks)

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



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

- (a) (i) According to the information in **Item E**, was the percentage of children living in low income households greater in 1982 or in 2000–01? (1 mark)
- (ii) Identify **one** way in which growing up in poverty might affect a child's education. (1 mark)
- (b) Explain why an individual might **not** claim welfare benefits to which they may be entitled. (3 marks)
- (c) According to some sociologists, women are more likely to experience poverty during their lives than men. Identify and explain **one** reason why this might be so. (3 marks)
- (d) How far would sociologists agree that children born into poverty will grow up to be poor throughout their lives?

In your answer you might like to consider:

- the culture of poverty;
- the cycle of poverty;
- the effects of educational qualifications;

or any other area of social life you consider relevant.

(7 marks)

Turn over ►

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

Item F, adapted from Did the opinion polls get it right?
by David Cowling, 9 May 2005, www.bbc.co.uk, cannot
be reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) (i) According to the information in **Item F**, which opinion poll accurately predicted the 2005 election result? *(1 mark)*
- (ii) State **one** reason why an individual might **not** vote in a general election. *(1 mark)*
- (b) Explain how an opinion poll might be able to predict accurately the result of a general election. *(3 marks)*
- (c) Identify and explain **one** way in which an individual might try to influence government policy **other than by voting** in a general election. *(3 marks)*
- (d) 'There is no longer a link between social class and voting behaviour.' How far would sociologists agree with this statement?

In your answer you might like to consider:

- influence of the mass media;
- changes in party loyalty;
- changes in class structure;

or any other area of social life you consider relevant.

(7 marks)

Total for this question: 15 marks

THE SOCIOLOGY OF WORK

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

Item G

WORKING AND WORKLESS HOUSEHOLDS BY ETHNIC GROUP SPRING 2005			
Ethnic Group	Working Households	Workless Households	Total
	%	%	%
White	89	11	100
Indian	92	8	100
Pakistani/Bangladeshi	73	27	100
Black Caribbean	81	19	100

Source: adapted from *Working-age people by ethnic origin and combined economic activity status of household*, ONS Labour Force Survey, 2005

- (a) (i) According to the information in **Item G**, which ethnic group had the lowest proportion of working households? *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Identify **one** reason why an individual might **not** be able to find paid employment. *(1 mark)*
- (b) Explain how recent governments have tried to reduce unemployment. *(3 marks)*
- (c) Identify and explain **one** effect that unemployment might have on an individual. *(3 marks)*
- (d) How far would sociologists agree that working life has changed considerably for those in paid employment over the last 50 years?

In your answer you might like to consider:

- changes in technology;
- changes in the occupational structure;
- inequalities at work;

or any other area of social life you consider relevant.

(7 marks)

Turn over ►

Total for this question: 15 marks

MIGRATION AND MOVEMENT

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

Item H

Item H, adapted from an article by Martin Wainwright, The Guardian, 22 August 2005, cannot be reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) (i) According to the information in **Item H**, is the proportion of wage earners who work from home larger in the countryside or in the workforce as a whole? *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Identify **one** advantage for an individual of working from home. *(1 mark)*
- (b) Explain what sociologists mean by community. *(3 marks)*
- (c) Identify and explain **one** effect on a **rural** area of working people moving away. *(3 marks)*
- (d) How far would sociologists agree that individuals who move from cities to rural areas will have to adjust to a completely different way of life?

In your answer you might like to consider:

- the role of the mass media and new technology;
- the role of the education system;
- differences in social networks;

or any other area of social life you consider relevant.

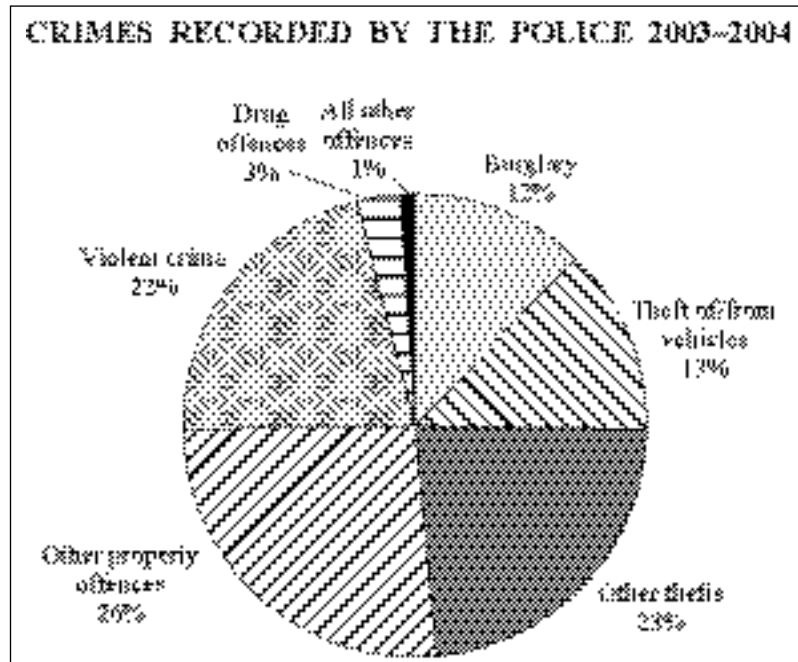
(7 marks)

Total for this question: 15 marks

SOCIAL CONTROL AND DEVIANCE

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

Item I



Source: adapted from *Crime in England and Wales 2003/2004*, Home Office Statistical Bulletin, www.homeoffice.gov.uk

- (a) (i) According to the information in **Item I**, was violent crime or burglary a higher proportion of crimes recorded by the police? (1 mark)
- (ii) Identify **one** reason why the police might not record an incident reported to them as crime. (1 mark)
- (b) Explain **one** way in which individuals try to persuade others to conform to their norms. (3 marks)
- (c) Identify and explain **one** way in which governments have tried to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour among young people over recent years. (3 marks)
- (d) How far would sociologists find official crime figures helpful in providing an accurate picture of how much crime there is?

In your answer you might like to consider:

- victim studies;
- self-report surveys;
- variations in reporting different crimes;

or any other area of social life you consider relevant.

(7 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 2 Item B
Question 5 Item E
Question 7 Item G
Question 9 Item I

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