



General Certificate of Secondary Education
January 2011

Sociology

41901

Unit 1

Wednesday 26 January 2011 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 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 41901.
- This paper is divided into **three** Topic Areas.
Topic 1: Answer **all** questions.
Topic 2: Answer **all** questions from Section 1 **and one** question from Section 2.
Topic 3: Answer **all** questions from Section 3 **and one** question from Section 4.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- Questions carrying 12 marks should be answered in continuous prose. In these questions you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 30 minutes answering each of the three topics.

Topic 1: Studying Society

You must answer **all** questions on this topic.

Total for this topic: 30 marks

Study **Items A, B and C** and answer the questions that follow.

Item A

Attitudes to women's employment

	1989		2006	
	% agree		% agree	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
A man's job is to earn money; a woman's job is to look after the home and family.	32	26	17	15
Pre-school children are likely to suffer if their mothers work.	53	42	41	29

Item B

Who does the housework?

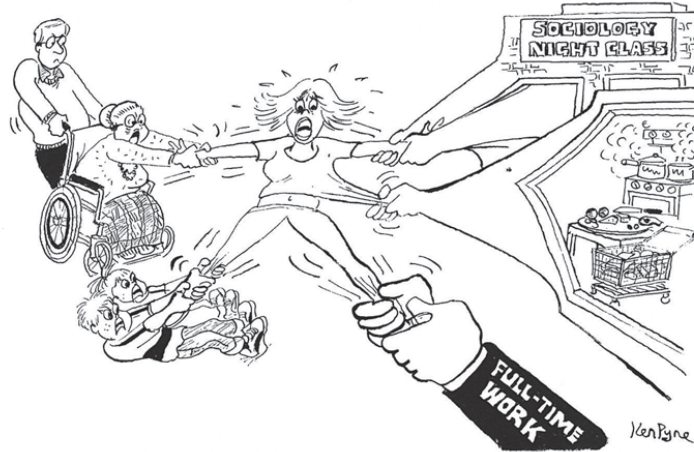
Research conducted by Ann Oakley in the early 1970s found that women did the vast majority of domestic tasks. Her research was based on a sample of 40 women, who were each interviewed in-depth.

More recent research has suggested that little has changed and significant gender differences remain. For example, a survey in 2005 found that men spent on average 101 minutes a day on housework, compared with women who spent 180 minutes.

Item C

Role conflict for working women

Text accompanying **Item C** is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.



- 0 1** From **Item A**, what percentage of men in 2006 said 'a man's job is to earn money; a woman's job is to look after the home and family'? (1 mark)
- 0 2** From **Item B**, identify the research method used by Ann Oakley. (1 mark)
- 0 3** Outline **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using the research method you have identified in **0 2** above. (2 marks)
- 0 4** Study **Item C**. Describe how sociologists investigate families and their lives compared with how journalists might investigate families and their lives. (4 marks)
- 0 5** Explain what sociologists mean by joint domestic roles. (4 marks)
- 0 6** Explain how the use of primary research might be useful for research into role conflict experienced by working women. (4 marks)

You have been asked as a sociologist to investigate the division of housework and childcare amongst married and cohabiting couples today.

- 0 7** Identify what sociologists mean by a pilot study **and** explain why you might undertake a pilot study in your investigation. (4 marks)
- 0 8** Identify **one** ethical issue you may need to consider **and** explain how you could deal with this ethical issue in your investigation. (4 marks)
- 0 9** Identify **one** secondary source of data that you could use **and** explain why it is better than another possible secondary source for obtaining the information you need. (6 marks)

Turn over ►

Topic 2: Education

Answer **all** questions from **Section 1** and **one** from **Section 2**.

Total for this topic: 30 marks

Study **Items D and E** and answer the questions that follow.

Item D

Streaming is a system used in schools to separate pupils into different groups by ability. Studies carried out by sociologists suggest that one of the effects of streaming is that it can lead to the development of an anti-school subculture in the lower streams.

**Item E**

Education has a role in teaching norms and values of British culture. The recent introduction of Citizenship as a subject in schools may help individuals to identify themselves as part of that wider culture. This is sometimes called developing a sense of 'Britishness'.

Section 1

- 1 | 0** From **Item D**, identify **one** possible effect of streaming in schools. *(1 mark)*
- 1 | 1** From **Item E**, which subject was recently introduced in schools? *(1 mark)*
- 1 | 2** Identify **two** ways in which peer group pressure may affect a pupil's performance. *(2 marks)*
- 1 | 3** Explain what sociologists mean by labelling in schools. *(4 marks)*
- 1 | 4** Describe **one** way in which a school can try to raise pupil performance **and** explain how this may lead to an improvement in educational achievement. *(5 marks)*
- 1 | 5** Describe **one** government educational reform of the last 25 years **and** explain how this may have increased or decreased educational opportunities. *(5 marks)*

Section 2**EITHER**

- 1 | 6** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that the way in which pupils are grouped within a school has a significant effect on their educational performance. *(12 marks)*

OR

- 1 | 7** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that the main function of schools is to teach children to become part of society. *(12 marks)*

Turn over for the next topic

Turn over ►

Topic 3: Families

Answer **all** questions from **Section 3** and **one** from **Section 4**.

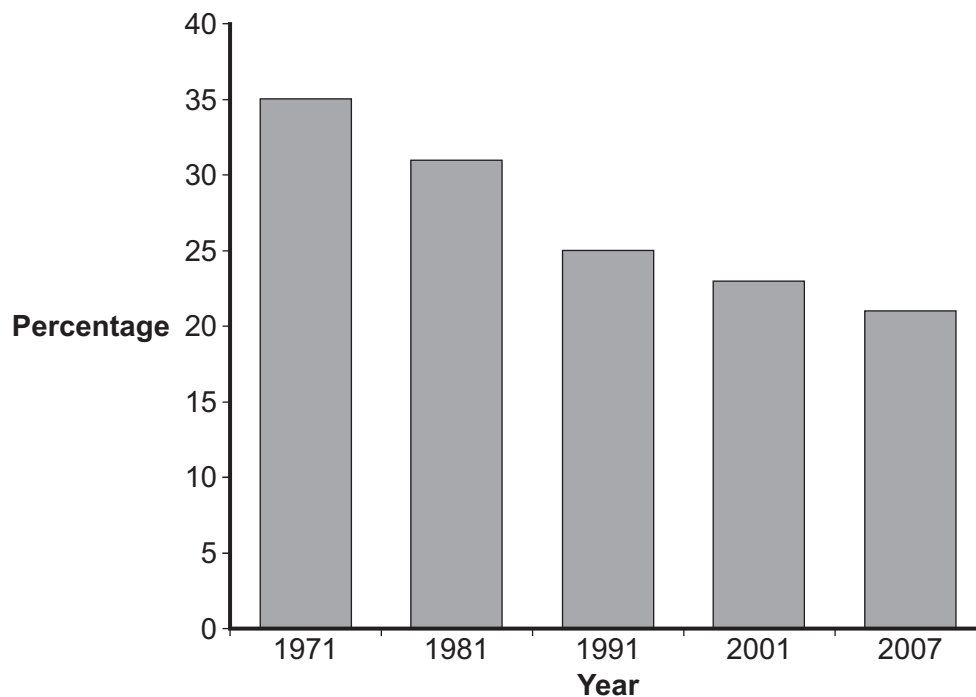
Total for this topic: 30 marks

Study **Items F and G** and answer the questions that follow.

Item F**Changing patterns of marriage**

Official statistics show that 480 000 people in the UK got married in 1972. Since then, the overall number of people getting married has decreased, and in 2005 there were just 284 000 marriages.

In comparison, the percentage of people cohabiting doubled between 1986 and 2006 from 12% to 24%.

Item G**Percentage (%) of all households in Britain which are traditional nuclear families 1971-2007**

Section 3

- 1 8** From **Item F**, were more people getting married in 1972 or in 2005? *(1 mark)*
- 1 9** From **Item G**, what is the trend, between 1971 and 2007, in the percentage of households which are traditional nuclear families? *(1 mark)*
- 2 0** Identify **two** reasons why the average age at which people get married has increased in the last 30 years. *(2 marks)*
- 2 1** Explain what sociologists mean by a traditional nuclear family. *(4 marks)*
- 2 2** Describe **one** possible consequence of divorce for husbands **and** explain how this may have an effect on them. *(5 marks)*
- 2 3** Describe **one** change in family size in Britain **and** explain why this change has occurred. *(5 marks)*

Section 4**EITHER**

- 2 4** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that marriage is still considered important in modern British society. *(12 marks)*

OR

- 2 5** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that the traditional nuclear family is the most appropriate family type in which to raise children in modern Britain. *(12 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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