



General Certificate of Secondary Education  
January 2011

## Sociology

**41902**

### Unit 2

**Monday 31 January 2011 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm**

**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 41902.
- This paper is divided into **four** Topic Areas. Answer **three** Topics only.
  - Topic 1: Answer **all** questions in Section 1 **and one** question from Section 2.
  - Topic 2: Answer **all** questions in Section 3 **and one** question from Section 4.
  - Topic 3: Answer **all** questions in Section 5 **and one** question from Section 6.
  - Topic 4: Answer **all** questions in Section 7 **and one** question from Section 8.
- 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

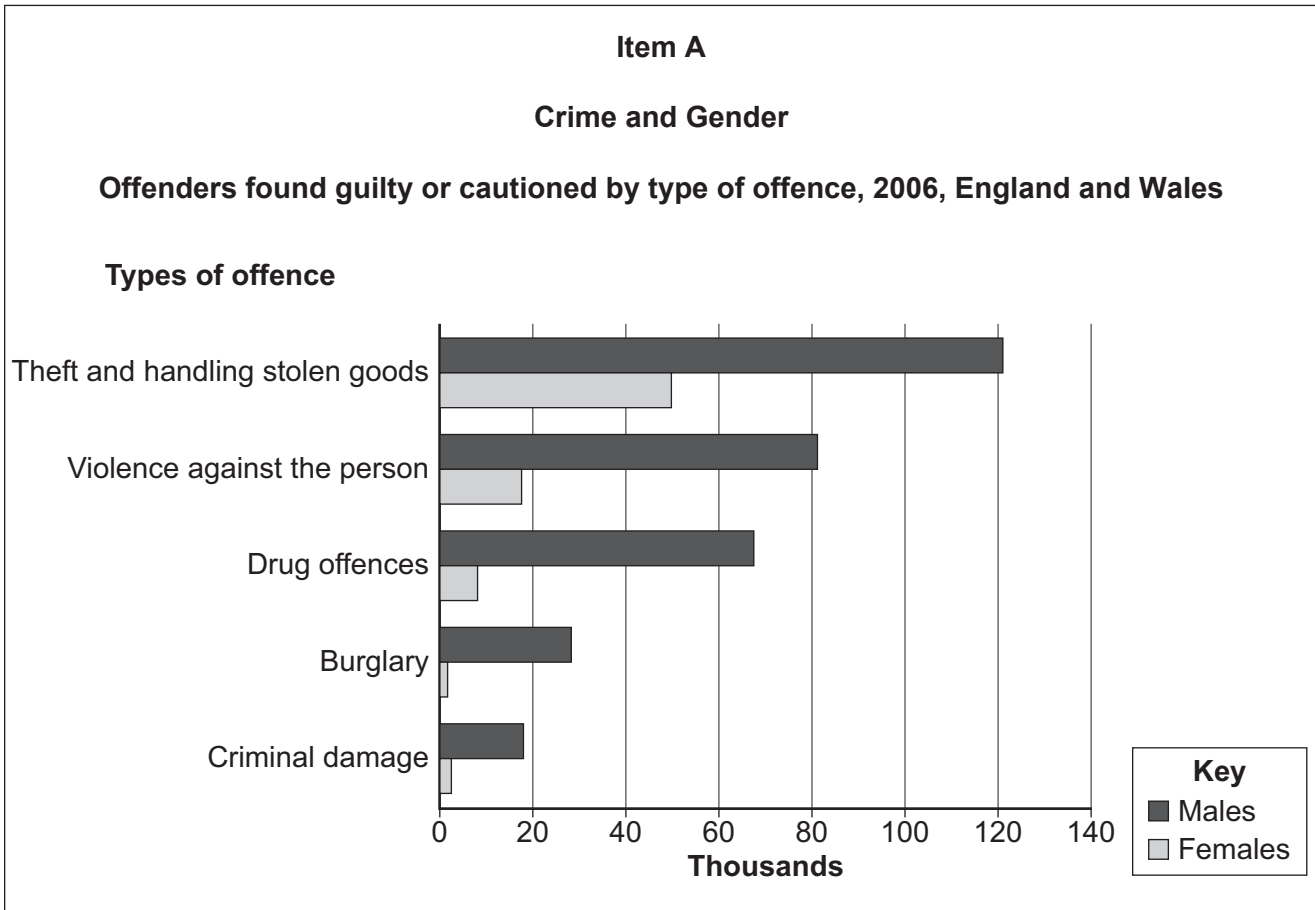
- You are advised to spend about 30 minutes answering each of the three topics.

## Topic 1: Crime and Deviance

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

Total for this topic: 30 marks

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



### Item B

#### White Collar Crime

Traditionally, white collar crime has not been seen as something as serious as other types of crime, but it always has victims. The Serious Fraud Office has set up a helpline to make it easier for City of London workers to report financial crime. This is in response to rising levels of fraud. Hundreds of instances of fraud are now being reported by phone and email. The helpline has been set up as the Serious Fraud Office is under pressure to be tough on fraud and other white collar crime.

**Section 1**

- 0 1** From **Item A**, what is the most common type of crime for which females are found guilty or cautioned? *(1 mark)*
- 0 2** From **Item B**, what has the Serious Fraud Office done to make it easier to report financial crime? *(1 mark)*
- 0 3** Identify **two** reasons why people in society might label the behaviour of sub-cultural groups as deviant. *(2 marks)*
- 0 4** Explain what sociologists mean by conformity when studying deviance. *(4 marks)*
- 0 5** Describe **one** way in which the government collects statistics about the level of crime in society **and** explain why this might not be an accurate picture of the number of crimes committed. *(5 marks)*
- 0 6** Describe **one** way in which recent governments have tried to reduce anti-social behaviour **and** explain how successful this approach has been. *(5 marks)*

**Section 2****EITHER**

- 0 7** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that women are less likely to commit crime than men. *(12 marks)*

**OR**

- 0 8** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that in Britain today working-class criminals are more likely to be convicted than middle-class and upper-class 'white collar' criminals. *(12 marks)*

**Turn over for the next topic**

**Turn over ►**

## Topic 2: Mass Media

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

**Total for this topic: 30 marks**

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

### Item C

#### Muslims and the Media

A report from the Greater London Authority in 2007 found that newspapers in the United Kingdom are almost always negative about Muslims. One week in May 2006 was looked at in detail and, out of 352 articles referring to Muslims, only four per cent were positive. Further research in 2007 looked at how the British media reported a major debate in which a Danish newspaper published cartoons of Mohammed. Many Muslims found this insulting.

### Item D

#### Internet and other digital use, Britain 2008

Digital natives	Mostly young adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At home with the technology, and see it as an essential part of life.</li> <li>Spend lots of time networking, and find old-fashioned media boring.</li> </ul>
Digital shoppers	Mostly middle-aged adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Usually the parents of 'digital natives'.</li> <li>Use internet to get good deals on what they buy.</li> <li>Still use old-fashioned media like newspapers.</li> </ul>
Refuseniks	Mostly older people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't trust the technology.</li> <li>Often can't afford the equipment.</li> <li>Prefer the old ways of doing things (like going to the shops).</li> </ul>

**Section 3**

- 0 9** From **Item C**, what percentage of articles referring to Muslims in May 2006 were positive? (1 mark)
- 1 0** From **Item D**, to which category do parents of digital natives often belong? (1 mark)
- 1 1** Identify **two** ways in which the mass media can influence public opinion. (2 marks)
- 1 2** Explain what sociologists mean by deviancy amplification. (4 marks)
- 1 3** Describe **one** way in which politicians use the mass media to get their message across **and** explain why this media coverage might lead people to lose faith in the main political parties. (5 marks)
- 1 4** Describe **one** way in which the portrayal of violence in the mass media is claimed to lead to an increased level of violence in society **and** explain why sociologists might find problems researching such a claim. (5 marks)

**Section 4****EITHER**

- 1 5** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that the mass media present a negative image of ethnic minorities. (12 marks)

**OR**

- 1 6** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that the internet and other digital media are now the main influences shaping how young people see themselves and others. (12 marks)

**Turn over for the next topic**

**Turn over ►**

**Topic 3: Power**

Answer **all** questions in **Section 5** and **one** from **Section 6**.

**Total for this topic: 30 marks**

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

**Item E****Students demonstrating in London****Item F****The educational background of people in Britain's top jobs**

A recent report by an educational charity looked at the schools attended by some of Britain's most powerful leaders. It found that 70% of judges, 55% of top industrialists, 54% of leading journalists and 32% of Members of Parliament (MPs) went to private school.

The authors of the report claim that this survey is yet more evidence of what it calls 'the uneven life chances in Britain', and said access to the most powerful roles in society was biased in favour of the better-off.

**Section 5**

- 1 7** From **Item E**, what are the demonstrators demanding? *(1 mark)*
- 1 8** From **Item F**, what type of school was attended by many of Britain's most powerful leaders? *(1 mark)*
- 1 9** Identify **two** ways in which pressure groups can attempt to influence public opinion. *(2 marks)*
- 2 0** Explain what sociologists mean by discrimination. *(4 marks)*
- 2 1** Describe **one** way in which recent governments have changed how they provide benefits for people who are unemployed **and** explain why this might lead to political arguments and debate. *(5 marks)*
- 2 2** Describe **one** way in which police powers have increased in Britain in the last 30 years **and** explain why some groups would consider this to be a problem. *(5 marks)*

**Section 6****EITHER**

- 2 3** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that young people are not interested in politics. *(12 marks)*

**OR**

- 2 4** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that power is shared equally between different social classes in Britain today. *(12 marks)*

**Turn over for the next topic**

**Turn over ►**

### Topic 4: Social Inequality

Answer **all** questions in **Section 7** and **one** from **Section 8**.

**Total for this topic: 30 marks**

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

#### Item G

**Do people think there is more social mobility now than in the past?**

**Response by social class (percentages %) in 2009**

<b>Social Class</b>	<b>More (%)</b>	<b>The same (%)</b>	<b>Less (%)</b>	<b>Don't know (%)</b>
Higher professionals	43	27	24	6
Lower professionals, skilled working class	28	31	30	11
Manual workers, housewives, unemployed people	22	30	29	19

#### Item H

##### **MP attacks teenage mothers**

A Scottish Member of Parliament (MP) has launched a fierce attack on teenage mothers, accusing them of raising a new underclass (a socially-isolated group below the working class). He said that some children today were growing up thinking a lifetime on state benefits was acceptable.

However, the MP has been criticised by other writers who say he is being unfair in picking on single parents. The writers say that when the children of teenage mothers grow up, the mothers go back into education and eventually into employment.



**Section 7**

- 2 5** From **Item G**, what percentage of higher professionals believe that there is less social mobility than in the past? *(1 mark)*
- 2 6** From **Item H**, who is criticised for raising a new underclass? *(1 mark)*
- 2 7** Identify **two** ways in which the poor experience a lower level of life chances than the rest of society. *(2 marks)*
- 2 8** Explain what sociologists mean by institutional racism. *(4 marks)*
- 2 9** Describe **one** way in which governments have attempted to end gender discrimination in the workplace **and** explain why this policy might not have been successful. *(5 marks)*
- 3 0** Describe **one** reason why people find themselves in poverty **and** explain why it might be difficult for them to get out of this situation. *(5 marks)*

**Section 8****EITHER**

- 3 1** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that improving access to high-quality education is the most effective way to increase upward social mobility. *(12 marks)*

**OR**

- 3 2** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that the growth of an underclass has led to an increasing number of social problems in Britain today. *(12 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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