

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**  
**General Certificate of Secondary Education**

**SOCIOLOGY**  
**PAPER 2 (FOUNDATION TIER)**

**1990/2**

Monday                    **27 JUNE 2005**                    Morning                    1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials:  
Answer booklet

**TIME**    1 hour 30 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number on the answer booklet.
- Write your answers in the answer booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write the question number against each answer you write.
- Answer the question in **Section A**.
- Answer the question in **Section B**.
- Answer **one** question from **Section C**.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **80**.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of written communication where an answer requires a piece of extended writing.

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**This question paper consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.**

Answer ALL of Question One in Section A. Answer ALL of Question Two in Section B.  
Answer ONE question from Section C.

### SECTION A – WORK AND EMPLOYMENT

#### Introduction

New technology continues to affect our working lives. The introduction of computers has made some people's working lives easier by taking away boring tasks. However some people have lost jobs because computers now do their work.

The following three sources present evidence about employment.

#### SOURCE A

Who Needs The Computer At work  
'Secretaries have got used. ....

**An extract has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions**

An extract from a newspaper article asking whether a computer makes working life easier

.....or enjoy it more?'

Adapted from a newspaper article (2003)

#### SOURCE B

Gender And New Technology At Work

The research included content analysis of photographs of work published each day in five local newspapers during March 2003. I wanted to see if there were more photographs of men than women using computers. These results were:

	Photographs Using Computers	Photographs Not Using Computers
Men	127	96
Women	48	103

Evidence from an A level sociology research project (2003).

## SOURCE C

Job Satisfaction And Computers In Office Work

The aim of the.....

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Details:

An extract from a report into job satisfaction conducted in 1986

.....were happier at work.

A report of an experiment into job satisfaction conducted in 1986

Answer all of question 1.

- 1 (a) From the evidence in Source A , give two examples of new technologies. [2]
- (b) Source B is based upon evidence gathered by content analysis.  
Using two examples, describe what is meant by content analysis. [6]
- (c) Source B is an example of evidence gathered from content analysis.  
Describe two reasons why the evidence in Source B might not be reliable or accurate. [6]
- (d) How useful is Source C as evidence of the experience of all people at work? [6]
- (e) 'Computers improve job satisfaction.'  
Describe and explain the methods and evidence sociologists could use to test this claim. [10]

[Total : 30 marks]

**SECTION B – EDUCATION**

Answer all of question 2.

**2** Middle class children often do better at school than working class children, for example in GCSE examination results.

**(a)** Identify and describe **two** reasons why middle class children often get better GCSE exam results than working class children. [6]

**(b)** Using examples, describe how schools might treat middle class and working class children differently. [9]

**(c)** 'The peer group is the most important influence on educational achievement.'

Evaluate the arguments **for** and **against** this statement. [10]

[Total : 25 marks]

## SECTION C

Altogether there are SIX questions in this section. Answer ONE question only.

## THE MASS MEDIA

- 3 In the last twenty years the mass media have changed in many ways.
- (a) Identify and describe **two** ways in which the mass media have changed in the last twenty years. [6]
- (b) Using examples, describe how the mass media may affect behaviour. [9]
- (c) 'The internet is improving people's lives.'
- Evaluate the arguments **for** and **against** this statement. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]

- 4 Some sociologists say that the mass media are often selective or biased.
- (a) Identify and describe **two** ways in which the mass media are selective. [6]
- (b) Using examples, describe how the mass media might present ethnic minorities in a biased way. [9]
- (c) 'The mass media have little influence on attitudes towards males and females.'
- Evaluate the arguments **for** and **against** this statement. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]

## POVERTY

- 5 Sociologists find poverty difficult to define.
- (a) Identify and describe **two** groups of people who are **more** likely to live in poverty than others. [6]
- (b) Using examples, describe relative poverty. [9]
- (c) 'The worse effect of poverty is poor education.'
- Evaluate the arguments **for** and **against** this statement. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]

- 6 People may become poor for many different reasons.
- (a) Identify and describe **two** ways governments help people in poverty. [6]
- (b) Using examples, describe how the poverty trap might keep people poor. [9]
- (c) 'Unemployment is the main cause of poverty.'
- Evaluate the arguments **for** and **against** this statement. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]

### CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL CHANGES

- 7 The population of many parts of the world is changing.
- (a) Identify and describe **two** changes in world population. [6]
- (b) Using examples, describe the main effects of rapid population growth. [9]
- (c) 'Migration is the main reason for changes in population.'
- Evaluate the arguments **for** and **against** this statement. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]
- 8 Environmental problems are being caused by global changes.
- (a) Identify and describe **two** global changes that cause environmental problems. [6]
- (b) Using examples, describe how people's lives might be affected by global change. [9]
- (c) 'Globalisation improves people's lives.'
- Evaluate the arguments **for** and **against** this statement. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]



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