

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Secondary Education

SOCIOLOGY
PAPER 4 (HIGHER TIER)

1990/4

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.

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 four sources present evidence about work and new technology.

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 computers at work help job satisfaction
.....more job satisfaction?'

Adapted from a newspaper article (2003)

SOURCE B

Gender And New Technology At Work

The research included content analysis of photographs and other images of work published in five newspapers during March 2003. I wanted to see if there were more photographs of men than women using computers and other types of new technology. These results were:

	Photographs Using Computers	Photographs Not Using Computers	All Photographs
Men	127	96	223
Women	48	103	151
All	175	199	374

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

SOURCE C

Women And Work

An extract has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

An extract from a radio programme broadcast in Australia about women using computers to improve their job satisfaction

Women use computers in just the same way as men.

An extract from a radio programme broadcast in Australia 2001

SOURCE D

Job Satisfaction And Computers in Office Work

The aim of the....

An extract has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

Details:

An extract from an experiment 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 examples, explain three reasons why the evidence in Source B may not be reliable or accurate. [6]
- (c) To what extent does the evidence in Source B support the evidence in Source C ? [6]
- (d) How useful is Source D 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 than working class children at school, for example in GCSE examination results.

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

(b) Using examples, explain 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 this claim. [10]

[Total : 25 marks]

SECTION C

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

THE MASS MEDIA

- 3 The mass media have changed in many ways in the last twenty years and appear to be having an even greater influence on people's lives.
- (a) Identify and describe **three** ways in which the mass media might influence people's lives. [6]
- (b) Using examples, explain how the mass media have changed in the last twenty years. [9]
- (c) 'The internet is improving people's lives.'
- Evaluate this claim. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]

- 4 Some sociologists say that the mass media are often selective or biased in their presentation of events and images.
- (a) Identify and describe **three** ways in which the mass media are selective. [6]
- (b) Using examples, explain how the mass media might present ethnic minorities in a biased way. [9]
- (c) 'The mass media are the most important influence on attitudes towards males and females.'
- Evaluate this claim. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]

POVERTY

- 5 Sociologists find poverty difficult to define.
- (a) Identify and describe **three** groups of people who are **more** likely to live in poverty than others. [6]
- (b) Using examples, explain the differences between absolute and relative poverty. [9]
- (c) 'The worst problem of living in poverty is poor education.'
- Evaluate this claim. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]

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

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL CHANGES

- 7 The population of many parts of the world is growing rapidly for many different reasons, including migration.
- (a) Identify and describe **three** effects of rapid population growth. [6]
 - (b) Using examples, explain why people migrate. [9]
 - (c) 'Migration is the main reason for changes in population.'
Evaluate this claim. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]
- 8 Many environmental problems are being caused by global changes.
- (a) Identify and describe **three** global changes that affect the environment. [6]
 - (b) Using examples, explain how the environment might be affected by global change. [9]
 - (c) 'Globalisation improves people's lives.'
Evaluate this claim. [10]
- [Total : 25 marks]

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