

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Secondary Education

SOCIOLOGY
PAPER 4 (HIGHER TIER)

1990/4

Monday **26 JUNE 2006** Morning 1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials:
8 page 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 that 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 – EDUCATION

Introduction

Schools have many functions. Two of these functions include helping employers get workers, and helping individuals learn what they need to know for later life.

SOURCE A

Functions Of A School: The Views Of Parents

A chart has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

Details:

A chart showing information collected from a survey of parents with year 7 students. The chart asked parents what they thought their children would get most out of school

Source: results from a questionnaire with parents of Year 7 students (2005)

SOURCE B

A table has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

Details:

A table showing the reasons for sixth form students to attend a private school in Kent

Source: results from a questionnaire with sixth formers at a private school in Kent (2005)

SOURCE C

An extract has been removed due to third part copyright restrictions.

Details:

Quoted from a structured interview with a local member of parliament for Birmingham, 'What makes students happy' published in an education magazine (2001)

SOURCE D

Alternative education

"School is there to educate students. Education is more than learning from books. To me climbing trees is as important as maths. A child must have choice in what they learn. Qualifications are not the only thing we care about. At our school the children are happy as they learn."

Source: extract from an interview with a headmaster in a school in Wales (2002)

Answer all of Question 1.

- 1 (a) From the evidence in Source A, give the two main functions parents believed schools fulfilled. [2]
- (b) Source B is based upon evidence gathered from a questionnaire. Using examples, explain three reasons why the evidence in Source B might not be accurate. [6]
- (c) To what extent does the evidence in Source C support the evidence in Source D? Explain your answer. [6]
- (d) How useful is Source D as evidence of the view of all teachers? [6]
- (e) "Schools are very successful in preparing students for employment." Describe and explain the methods and evidence sociologists could use to test this claim. [10]

[Total: 30 marks]

SECTION B – WORK AND EMPLOYMENT

Answer all of question 2.

- 2 The world of work is changing. Some people believe these changes have helped workers; others believe they have only helped the employers.
- (a) Identify and describe **three** changes to the way people work. [6]
- (b) Using examples, describe the different ways people gain satisfaction from their job. [9]
- (c) 'Technological changes in the workplace are good for everyone.'
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 Some sociologists believe that the mass media have an effect on their audience; others believe they do not.

(a) Identify and describe **three** types of mass media. [6]

(b) Using examples, describe the different ways audiences use the mass media. [9]

(c) 'The mass media has a powerful influence on people's behaviour.'

Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

4 The mass media have been blamed for creating stereotypes. Some people believe this has increased racism and sexism.

(a) Identify and describe **three** groups that might influence the content of the mass media. [6]

(b) Using examples, describe the different ways the mass media are dominated by men. [9]

(c) 'The mass media present ethnic minorities in a negative way.'

Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

POVERTY

5 Certain groups in society are more likely to be poor. Sociologists debate whether this is their own fault or due to disadvantages they face in society.

(a) Identify and describe **three** reasons why some people are poorer than others. [6]

(b) Using examples, describe the different ways of measuring poverty. [9]

(c) 'The main reason for being poor is the culture of poverty.'

Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

6 Many governments have tried to get rid of poverty, however poverty still exists.

(a) Identify and describe **three** explanations of poverty. [6]

(b) Using examples, describe the different ways of reducing poverty. [9]

(c) 'The worst effect of poverty is not having enough money.'

Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL CHANGES

7 Social changes occur at different rates. Some countries and areas remain poor, whilst others develop.

(a) Identify and describe **three** examples of the north/south divide. [6]

(b) Using examples, describe the different causes of world poverty. [9]

(c) 'Technological development is solving world poverty.'

Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

8 Rapid change in world population is causing many problems.

(a) Identify and describe **three** problems caused by population changes. [6]

(b) Using examples, describe different solutions to problems caused by population change. [9]

(c) 'Each country is responsible for its own environmental problems.'

Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

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