

**GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
SOCIOLOGY**

1990/04

Paper 4 (Higher Tier)

FRIDAY 20 JUNE 2008

Morning
Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials (enclosed): Answer Booklet (8 page)

Additional materials (required):
None



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet.
- 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 for each question 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 document consists of **7** printed pages and **1** blank page.

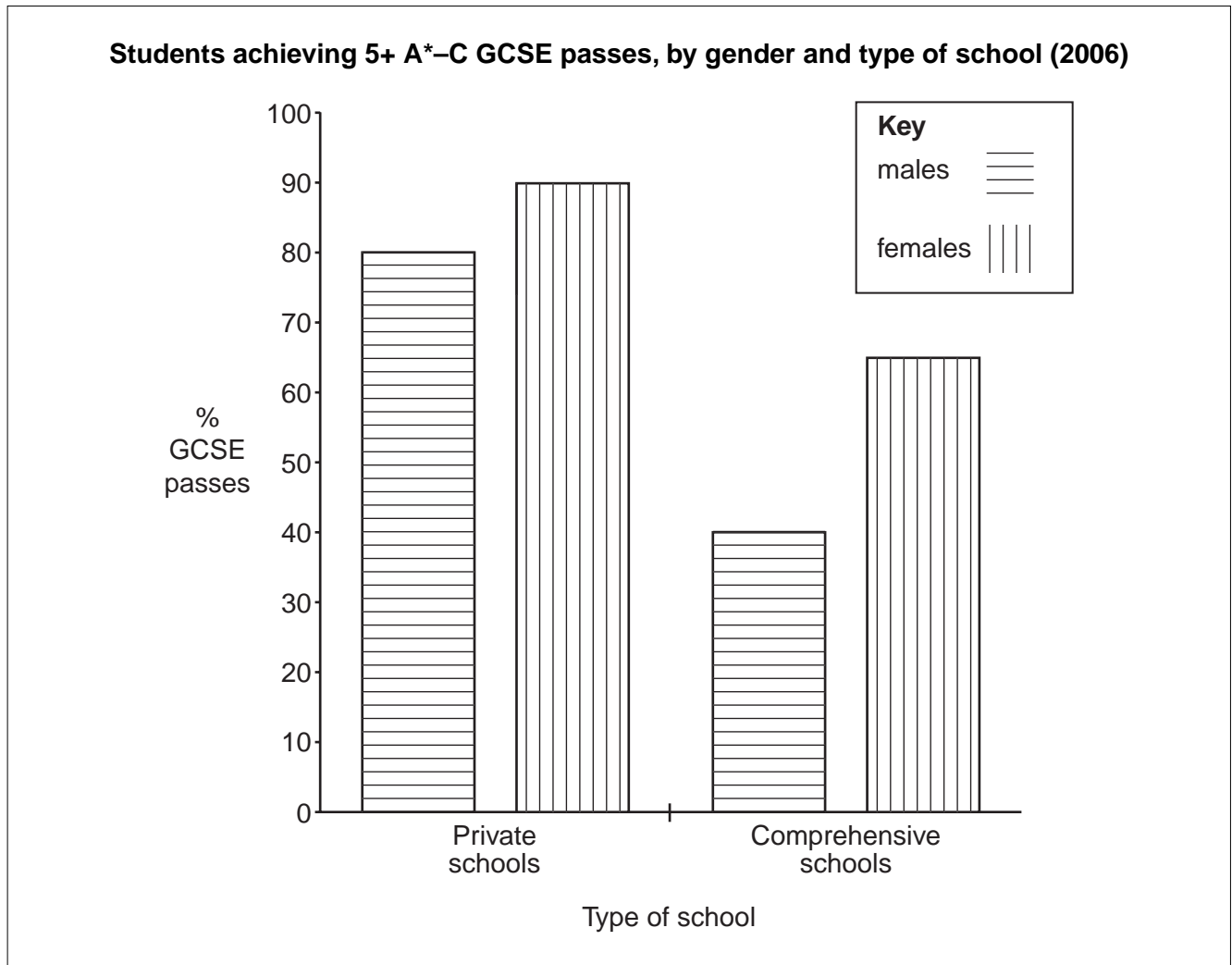
Answer ALL of Question 1 in Section A. Answer ALL of Question 2 in Section B.
Answer ONE question from Section C.

SECTION A – EDUCATION

Introduction

The following **four** sources present evidence about education and the inequality between the different types of school.

SOURCE A



Source: Government national statistics for UK (2006)

SOURCE B

An inspector's view

"Students in comprehensive schools do less well than those in private schools. Whilst I do not inspect private schools, my findings are that poor student behaviour is the main cause of the low GCSE and A Level grades in comprehensive schools. I think the teachers need to have better discipline in the classroom."

Source: A school inspector's findings from observations in schools (2005)

SOURCE C

Questionnaire results from Year 11 students in 10 private schools across the UK**A Comparison of Private and Comprehensive Schools**

These results were taken from a questionnaire given to year 11 students in 10 private schools across the UK.

20% felt that private schools offered better equipment.

30% felt that they mixed with 'better' people in private schools.

80% felt that the parents pushed their children more and this was the main reason for success.

90% felt that students in private schools wanted to succeed more.

Source: Adapted from research by a UK university (2005)

SOURCE D

A teacher's view

"I have worked in this London comprehensive ever since I started teaching 10 years ago. I really enjoy it. The children appreciate your help and they want to succeed. I think that in private schools the children have a better start in life and their parents show more interest. I have never worked in a private school, but that's just how I feel it would be."

Source: Interview for A Level coursework with a 35 year old female teacher in a comprehensive school, in London (2001)

Answer **all** of Question 1.

- 1 (a)** From the evidence in **Source A**, what percentage:
- (i)** of females in private schools achieved 5+ **A*–C GCSE** passes? [1]
 - (ii)** of males in comprehensive schools achieved 5+ **A*–C GCSE** passes? [1]
- (b)** **Source B** is based upon evidence gathered from *observation*.
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 B** support the evidence in **Source C**? Explain your answer. [6]
- (d)** How useful is **Source D** as evidence of the experience of **all** teachers? [6]
- (e)** 'Schools treat students in higher and lower sets exactly the same.'
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 UK has many policies to increase equality in the workplace.

(a) Identify and describe **three** causes of unemployment. [6]

(b) Using examples, explain the possible effects of unemployment. [9]

(c) 'All people in paid work are treated equally in the UK.'
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** There is much debate about control of the mass media.
- (a)** Identify and describe **three** ways the mass media are controlled. [6]
 - (b)** Using examples, explain how the content of newspapers is selected. [9]
 - (c)** 'There should be no control over the content of mass media.'
Evaluate this claim. [10]
- [Total: 25 marks]
-
- 4** Sociologists have different opinions on how the mass media affects its' audience.
- (a)** Identify and describe **three** ways the mass media can socialise people. [6]
 - (b)** Using examples, explain how the mass media creates deviance. [9]
 - (c)** 'The media is stereotypical in the way it portrays people.'
Evaluate this claim. [10]
- [Total: 25 marks]

POVERTY

5 Being poor depends on several factors such as gender, ethnicity and class.

(a) Identify and describe **three** ways poverty is measured. [6]

(b) Using examples, explain how poverty can lead to social exclusion. [9]

(c) 'Being from an ethnic minority has the greatest effect on a person's chances of being poor.'
Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

6 Sociologists and politicians debate how to end poverty.

(a) Identify and describe **three** ways poverty might affect a child's education. [6]

(b) Using examples, explain how people might be prevented from rising out of poverty. [9]

(c) 'Higher state benefits will end poverty.'
Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL CHANGES

7 Sociologists study population changes and how these affect society.

(a) Identify and describe **three** ways in which the UK's population structure has changed. [6]

(b) Using examples, explain the effects of an ageing population. [9]

(c) 'Countries benefit from immigration.'
Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

8 The UK public debate whether they should help end world poverty and how this should be done.

(a) Identify and describe **three** possible solutions to world poverty. [6]

(b) Using examples, explain why aid may not help end world poverty. [9]

(c) 'Industrial development is always good.'
Evaluate this claim. [10]

[Total: 25 marks]

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