



NOTICE TO CENTRES

FAO: The Head of Sociology

Date: January 2009

Subject: GCSE Sociology J696 (for first teaching in 2009)

Final QCA-accredited material for GCSE Sociology is now available to download from the OCR website. A copy of the specification should also be available in your centre.

You may have noticed that following feedback on the draft of unit B673, Applying Sociological Research Techniques, key changes were made during the accreditation process.

The final specification does not specifically require candidates to carry out practical research.

Table 1.

Key Changes: Unit B673 - Applying Sociological Research Techniques

Draft Specification	Final QCA-accredited Specification
Candidates are required to conduct a sociological enquiry into a topic area specified each year by OCR.	Candidates will be provided with pre released material that will take the form of two case studies, both focusing on the same topic (as specified in the specification).
Candidates are examined on the process of preparing the topic for study, applying different methods and evidence to investigate it and then drawing conclusions from the data	Candidates are examined on their understanding of the case studies. Candidates may be required to make comparisons between the two investigations provided. They are expected to understand and use sociological concepts and terminology that are relevant to sociological research.

Please refer to the final accredited specification for further information.

Any enquiry about this notice should be referred to the Customer Contact Centre,
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