GCSE

217/02

SOCIOLOGY
HIGHER TIER

P.M. TUESDAY, 17 June 2008

$2\frac{1}{2}$ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Section A: Answer **question 1** and **one** other question.

Section B: Answer **question 5** and **one** other question.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

In your answers you should, wherever possible,

(i)   make comparisons/contrasts with other societies/cultures,

(ii)   refer to your own life situations or local social environment,

(iii) use examples to illustrate your answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You will be awarded marks for accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar.

SECTION A

Answer **Question 1** *and* **one** *other question from this section.*

1. Look at the sources below and answer the questions which follow.

Source A

Soap characters 'damage ambition'.

Giving teenage soap characters dead-end jobs and low ambitions risks shattering young viewers' career dreams, TV writers have been warned. Characters in soaps like EastEnders are **role models** and ought to be seen to better themselves.

An educational organisation known as The Learning and Skills Council has made a list of characters it thinks writers should make more ambitious and successful. Topping the list is EastEnders' market trader Stacey Slater. The council (LSC) says she has a multitude of "transferable skills", such as a strong work ethic, determination and good people skills.

The council says there are many characters who could be on the road to career success with a little good advice. Script writers need to take steps to ensure they are not setting a bad example to their show's fans.

LSC director of learning Julia Dowd said: "Young people in soap operas are **role models**, and if they remain in dead end jobs there is a danger that young people will accept this as the **norm**. Far too many soap characters have no career aspirations, and we need to at least show them moving towards a better life."

"Today we are suggesting to script writers the most appropriate careers for soap characters as a way to show young people the way out of dead-end jobs or unemployment."

"While most young people have ambitions, there are still thousands without a minimum set of qualifications which employers say they need applicants to have, and we need the role models on TV to set a good example."

Adapted from the BBC website

Source B

Many models and actresses who are popular in the **mass media** are often well below a healthy body weight because this is seen as attractive. Studies have suggested that there may be a link between very thin models and eating disorders such as anorexia where people control their eating to keep their weight very low indeed.

Doctors have hit out at the media and advertisers for encouraging anorexia by portraying skinny supermodels as the beauty ideal. The British Medical Association's annual conference in Cardiff voted overwhelmingly to condemn the media for their obsession with ultra thin supermodels.

Adapted from the BBC website

Look at **Source A**.

(a) What is a **role model**? [1]

(b) What is a **norm**? [1]

(c) Suggest **one** transferable skill that Stacey Slater from EastEnders has. [1]

(d) Explain why the Learning and Skills Council has criticised the writers of soap operas such as Eastenders. [3]

Look at **Source B**.

(e) Explain, with relevant examples, the meaning of the term **mass media**. [2]

(f) Explain why doctors have criticised the mass media. [2]

(g) Suggest **one** reason why the media are an important agency of socialisation for young people. [2]

Using **both sources** and **your own knowledge**, answer the following questions.

(h) What is the meaning of the term **socialisation**? [1]

(i) Using examples, explain the meaning of the term **agency of socialisation**. [3]

(j) Describe and fully explain the difference between Primary and Secondary socialisation. [4]

Turn over.

2. Family

As the old saying goes, you choose your friends, but you can't choose your **family**. We all have very different family arrangements. We also have very different relationships within our families. This is known as kinship.

This is great if everyone gets on but pretty miserable when things go wrong. There's no such thing as a perfect family (no matter what anyone tells you), so most of us have to face family conflict at least once or twice in our lives.

Adapted from the BBC website

(a) Using the source above, explain the meaning of the term **family**. [2]

(b) Explain the meaning of the term **lone-parent family**. [3]

(c) Using sociological knowledge, briefly explain the reasons for the increase in lone-parent families since the 1960s. [5]

(d) Using sociological knowledge, explain the functions of the family. [10]

3. **Education**

> A recent Government survey revealed that nearly 80% of **truants** stay off school with their parent's approval which, of course, is against the law.
>
> It's such a major cause of concern that the Government is considering plans to reduce or even stop the child benefit paid to parents of regular truants. Parents who allow their children to stay off school have already been sent to prison.
>
> What's more, it's estimated that 20% of criminal damage, 40% of street crime, 25% of burglaries and over 30% of car thefts are carried out by 10-16 year-olds during school hours. Children with poor qualifications find it difficult to gain jobs when they leave school.
>
> Adapted from the BBC website

(a)   Using the source above, explain the meaning of the term **truant**.   [2]

(b)   Explain the meaning of **compulsory education**.   [3]

(c)   Using sociological knowledge, briefly explain the difference between the **national curriculum** and the **hidden curriculum**.   [5]

(d)   Using sociological knowledge, explain why it is important in our society for all children to receive an education.   [10]

Turn over.

4.   Work and Unemployment

How is work changing?

- Fewer low skill jobs, especially in **manufacturing** industries and in factories.
- More jobs in '**customer service**' industries like call centres.
- More women are in the work force.
- More people able to work from home because of new office technology like computers and e-mail.
- More flexible, but less secure, ways of working – fixed-term contracts, temporary and part-time jobs and self-employment.
- More job changing – fewer people will stay in exactly the same job throughout their working life.

Adapted from the BBC Cymru website

(a)   Using the source above, explain the meaning of the term **manufacturing** industries.   [2]

(b)   Explain the meaning of the term **service sector**.   [3]

(c)   Using sociological knowledge, briefly explain the difference between **work** and **leisure**. [5]

(d)   Using sociological knowledge, explain why people work in our society.   [10]
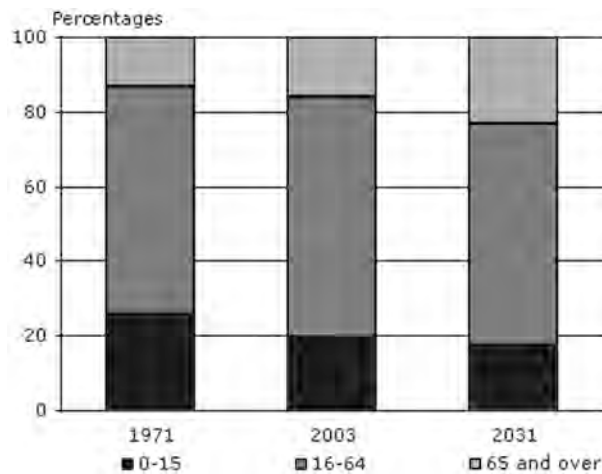
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Turn over.

SECTION B

Answer **Question 5** *and* **one** *other question in this section.*

5. Look at the following sources and answer the questions that follow.

Source C

Percentages of people in each age group in Britain.

Average age of population continues to rise

The percentage of older people in the UK population has risen in the last thirty years. The number of old people in the population will rise still further in the next thirty years.

The average age rose from 34 years in 1971 to 38 in 2003 and will probably rise to 43 in 2031.

The ageing of the population is the result of a decline both in the numbers of children born and **death rates**, as people live longer.

The percentage of older people (aged 65 and over) increased from 13 per cent in 1971 to 16 per cent in 2003 and is projected to rise to 23 per cent in 2031.

In 1971 there were 52 people aged 65 and over for every 100 children under 16. In 2003 there were 81 and in 2031 it is expected that there will be 136.

http://www.statistics.gov.uk

Source D

Make a donation to the 'Fight the Freeze' campaign.

1.8 million pensioners in the UK live in **poverty**; thousands could die this winter. Please help us Fight the Freeze!

How your gift today could help older people this winter ...

- £10 could go towards the cost of providing hot meals.
- £15 could go towards the cost of essential warm clothes during the cold winter months.
- £20 could go towards asking the Government to increase the basic state pension.
- £50 could go towards the setting up a home visiting service for older people in need of a friend.

Donations from this appeal will help to fund all the work which Age Concern carries out on behalf of older people. Whatever you donate could help save a life this winter.

Adapted from the Age Concern website

Using **Source C**, answer the following questions.

(a) What percentage of the UK population was 65 and over in 2003? [1]

(b) What percentage of the UK population will be 15 and under in 2031? [1]

(c) What was the average age of the UK population in 2003? [1]

(d) Give **two** reasons why the average age of the UK population is expected to rise over the next 30 years. [2]

(e) Explain the meaning of the term **death rate**. [1]

Using **Source D**, answer the following questions.

(f) Explain the meaning of the term **poverty**. [2]

(g) How many pensioners in Britain face poverty? [1]

(h) Explain why some pensioners are likely to experience poverty. [2]

(i) Give **three** reasons why old people who face poverty could die in the winter. [3]

Using **both sources** and **your own knowledge**, answer the following question.

(j) What problems and benefits could an ageing population cause for society? [6]

6. Social Class

> **Class affects life chances**
>
> While the face of poverty in the UK is different from the face of poverty in developing countries, the underlying causes, and the impact that poverty has on some working-class people, can be very similar.
>
> Being poor isn't just about a lack of money or possessions – the effects run much deeper. There are many studies to show that the education, health, life-expectancy, and employment prospects of the children of families with a low **income** are much worse than they are for children born to richer parents.
>
> Poverty also means being powerless – having no say in the decisions that affect your life. And it can also mean being treated as a second-class citizen by the rest of society. This is the same for most poor people, whether they live in a poor and deprived housing estate in Wales, or a village in Ghana.
>
> Adapted from the Oxfam website

(a) Using the source above, explain the meaning of the term **income**. [2]

(b) Explain the meaning of the term **social mobility**. [3]

(c) Using sociological knowledge, briefly explain the relationship between social class and educational achievement. [5]

(d) Using sociological knowledge, explain why some working-class people may experience poor life chances. [10]

7. Participation and Protest

Making Laws

A Bill is a proposal for a new law. Normally it cannot become law as an **Act of Parliament** until it has been agreed by both Houses of Parliament and has been signed by the Queen.

Most Bills are introduced into parliament by the Government; some will be policies that were promised during the election. Other Bills will be responses to social issues, such as terrorism or crime, as they develop. Some, but not all, government Bills are preceded by a consultation paper (often called a 'green paper') and/or a policy statement (often called a 'white paper').

It is also possible for individual Members, both MPs and Peers, to introduce Bills into Parliament although, because of the limited amount of time available for their consideration, only a small proportion of these 'Private Members' Bills' become Acts of Parliament.

Adapted from the Parliament website

(a) Using the source above, explain the meaning of the term **Act of Parliament**. [2]

(b) Explain the meaning of the term **government**. [3]

(c) Using sociological knowledge, briefly explain the difference between **totalitarianism** and **democracy**. [5]

(d) Using sociological knowledge and examples, explain how people may try to influence the government. [10]

Turn over.

8. **Crime and Deviance**

> **Beat the bogus callers**
>
> Burglary is a term that covers a variety of crimes and methods of committing **crime**. It involves breaking into property such as houses, shops, warehouses and hotels. Burglars may then remove items or damage them. Older people experience less burglary than younger people such as students in rented accommodation.
>
> 'Distraction burglars', or bogus callers, will distract your attention to try and trick their way into your home to steal your money or belongings. If anyone you don't know turns up at your door, you should always ask to see their identification before letting them in.
>
> Adapted from the Home Office website

(a) Using the source above, what is the meaning of the term **crime**. [2]

(b) Explain the meaning of the term **deviance**. [3]

(c) Using sociological knowledge, briefly explain the difference between a victim study and a self-report study of crime. [5]

(d) Using sociological knowledge, explain why some people are more likely to be the victims of crime than others. [10]