



2011 Sociology

Intermediate 2

Finalised Marking Instructions

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General guidelines for markers

Sections A, B and C provide scope for candidates to demonstrate sociological knowledge, understanding and skills at different levels.

Where description is asked for:

- Detail is essential and points should be developed using appropriate sociological language
- List-type or bullet point answers should be awarded no more than one mark for each point to a total of no more than half the available marks
- Answers that are made up of disconnected words and/or phrases should be awarded no more than half the available marks.

Where explanation is asked for:

- Answers should include expanded points
- Descriptive only answers should be awarded up to half of the available marks.

Where similarities and/or differences are asked for, answers that rely solely on presenting the converse of the point made, should be awarded no more than half the available marks, eg 'sociological explanations would argue that women have been socialised into housework, nonsociological explanations do not'.

Some questions are more open in terms of the range of answers candidates can produce. This leaves scope for candidates to achieve strong responses to the questions. Advice on what constitutes strong responses to specific questions is given in the specific marking guidelines with suggestions for allocating marks. However, in general strong responses would also be characterised by:

- Consistent use of appropriate sociological terms and language
- Elaboration of responses that go beyond what is required in the question set. For example, by making more points and good exemplification
- Ideas expressed with a high degree of clarity
- Coherence demonstrated by linking relevant concepts/ideas appropriately.

For all sections ½ marks are not permitted.

The guidelines are not prescriptive, they illustrate the kinds of responses that are judged to be acceptable. However, given the range and scope of sociological enquiry the guidelines are not exhaustive and markers may accept alternative responses, which they judge to be acceptable.

Candidates are expected to refer to appropriate sociological theories and theorists but marks will not be allocated for merely mentioning the theorists without reference to features of the theories.

SECTION A

Question A1

*Describe **two** features of Marxism.*

A total of **4 marks** may be awarded for this question, up to **2 marks** for each feature which is described using the correct sociological terminology. For full marks, candidates should describe the features fully whilst using the correct sociological terminology.

Features of Marxism could include:

- is a conflict theory – the idea being that there is conflict between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat over the means of production
- the idea of false consciousness whereby the bourgeoisie try to convince the proletariat that they can achieve success through hard work and diligence.

Question A2

*Explain **two** advantages of using surveys as a primary research method.*

A total of **6 marks** may be awarded for this question, up to 3 marks for each advantage explained. For full marks, candidates should explain the advantages fully whilst using the correct sociological terminology.

Answers could include explanation of the following points:

- pre-set questions make responses easy to collate
- can be used to find out factual information and/or peoples' opinions
- generates quantitative data
- can reach a large sample.

Question A3

*Visual evidence such as film and video can be used by sociologists in their research. Describe **two** features of visual evidence.*

A total of **4 marks** may be awarded for this question, up to 2 marks for each feature described. For full marks candidates should describe the features fully whilst using the correct sociological terminology.

Answers could include description of the following points:

- paintings, magazine illustrations, video, photographs, etc can provide information not available in written form
- can illustrate a point literally
- can provide historical comparison
- can have powerful visual impact.

Question A4

Explain **one** difference between feminism and functionalism.

A total of **3 marks** may be awarded for this question. For full marks candidates should explain the difference fully whilst using the correct sociological terminology.

Answers could include explanation of the following points:

Differences between Feminism and Functionalism could include:

- Feminism is a conflict theory whereas functionalism is a consensus theory.
- Feminism considers the effects of values imposed by men whereas functionalism considers the effects of value consensus achieved through socialisation.
- Feminism considers the struggles between men and women which bring about social change whereas functionalism considers the apparent harmony and stability which has helped to foster consensual change.
- Feminism looks at the interaction between and the integration of different social institutions and the ways in which they impact on women whereas functionalism looks at the interaction between and integration of different social institutions on all members of society.

Question A5

Describe **two** differences between common sense and sociological explanations of human social behaviour.

A total of **4 marks** may be awarded for this question, up to **2 marks** for each difference described. For full marks candidates should describe the differences fully whilst using the correct sociological terminology.

Differences between common sense explanations and sociological explanations of human social behaviour could include:

- common sense explanations are based on opinion whereas sociological explanations are based on theories which have been tested through research
- Common sense explanations are subjective whereas sociological explanations are objective
- Common sense explanations carry notions of being factual or hard headed whereas sociological explanations challenge taken for granted 'facts' and assumptions.

Question A6

Action Theory is one example of a sociological theory. Describe **two** features of this theory.

A total of **4 marks** may be awarded for this question, up to **2 marks** for each feature described. For full marks, candidates should describe the features fully whilst using the correct sociological terminology.

Features of action theory could include:

- Looks at the micro level of interaction.
- Interested in the effect individuals can have on society.
- Regards individuals as active social actors who play meaningful social roles
- Interested in the meanings behind actions and interpretation of these meanings
- Action theory uses qualitative data which goes beyond surface explanations.

SECTION B – Socialisation

Question B1

*What do sociologists mean by social norms?
Give **one** example of a social norm found in the UK.*

A total of **3 marks** may be awarded for this question. Up to **2 marks** for description of what sociologists mean by social norms. Award **1 mark** for suitable example.

Answers could include description of the following points:

- social norms is the term used by sociologists to describe forms of behaviour which are commonly found in a society or culture
- these behaviours can be actual or expected
- these actual or expected behaviours are learned through the socialisation process
- social norms in a society/culture may be formal and form part of legal system or informal
- that is they are accepted ways of thinking and behaving but may not be formally written down anywhere.

Examples of a social norm found in the UK could include:

- for children to go to school
- for a person who is ill to go to the doctor
- for doctors to work in hospitals
- to eat with a knife or fork
- to call our parents mother and father
- to pay for our food and clothing with money
- to go out to work to earn that money.

Question B2

*The nature versus nurture debate is important in sociology. Describe **two** features of the nurture side of debate.*

A total of **4 marks** may be awarded for this question, up to **2 marks** for description of each feature of the nurture side of the debate. For full marks candidates should describe the features fully whilst using the correct sociological terminology.

Answers could include description of the following points:

Nurture:

- social inheritance
- social behaviour is learned
- implies differences in behaviour arises due to different socialisation
- behaviour is learned through socialisation.

Question B3

Explain **two** ways in which peer groups can help to maintain social order.

A total of **6 marks** may be awarded for this question, up to **3 marks** can be awarded for each developed explanation based on accuracy, relevance and the use of correct sociological terminology.

Answers could include explanation of the following points:

Peer Group:

- involved in formal and informal socialisation.
- may be involved in the learning of deviant behaviour which can challenge norms and values and pre-empt social change.
- becomes increasingly important during adolescence paving the way to independence.
- involved in formal and informal rule making and monitoring.

Question B4

Choose **one** social value you have studied **and** explain the ways in which this social value is different in **two** contrasting cultures.

A total of **6 marks** may be awarded for this question, up to **3 marks** for developed explanation of the way in which the social value chosen is different in contrasting cultures. For full marks candidates should use the correct sociological terminology.

Social values:

- values are the general guidelines that underpin the social norms
- values are the things that people value and think are important in a society.

Contrasting cultures, and values, could include explanation of the following points:

Culture	Values
British	Freedom of speech Personal achievement
Chinese	Family ties Compliance and conformity
Ju/'hoansi	Sharing Equality
Trobriander	Reciprocity and mutual obligations Duty
American	Wealth and income Individualism and materialism

Question B5

*Describe the contribution to the socialisation process of any **three** agents of secondary socialisation.*

A total of **6 marks** may be awarded for this question, up to **2 marks** for describing the way each secondary agent of socialisation works in the socialisation process. For full marks candidates should use the correct sociological terminology.

Answers could include description of the following points:

Education:

- involved in all types of socialisation – primary, secondary, anticipatory, formal and informal
- often involves learning skills that are required to survive in a special culture or society
- in the UK this form of socialisation usually takes place in school but this differs from society to society.

Peer groups:

- involved in formal and informal socialisation
- may be involved in the learning of deviant behaviour
- becomes increasingly important during adolescence.

Work:

- can help in the transition from adolescence and adulthood
- seen as a 'rite of passage'
- helps develop independence and the taking of responsibilities and obligations
- ways of passing on skills and knowledge.

Religion:

- can be very influential in some cultures, social groups and families
- may have less effect in secular society
- some argue that the traditional role of religion as an agent of socialisation has been taken over by the media.

Media:

- involved in formal and informal socialisation
- mass media may have taken over other agents such as religion and education in some cases
- debates around the role of the media – education or propaganda
- celebrities as role models
- generates or reflects values and ideologies.

SECTION C – Social Stratification

Question C1

Social Class: Analyse the changing nature of social class and the way in which this affects social inequality in the UK.

In your answer you should:

- describe social stratification
- describe social class
- explain and evaluate the link between social class and social inequality in the UK.

A total of **12 marks** may be awarded for this part of the question. **6 marks** for the detailed description of social stratification and **6 marks** for the chosen category of social stratification chosen. For full marks candidates should use sociological terminology.

Candidates will be expected to:

- give an introduction which sets out how they will respond to the question
- describe the concept of the category of social stratification
- analyse the concept of social stratification
- state a conclusion which includes a summary of their discussions and offers evaluative comments.

Description of social stratification could include (**6 marks available**):

- structured inequality
- social hierarchy
- system where members of society are ranked in some order
- ranked inequality which persists over generations.

Description of the category of social class could include (**6 marks available**):

- no one definition or measurements of social class
- ascribed and achieved?
- based on income, wealth, status, power
- according to some views social class will affect person's life chances
- those who don't own anything, or have low income, can be excluded, eg in terms of credit, access to goods and services leading to low self-esteem and ill-health.

Links and evaluative points between social class and social mobility could include (**8 marks available**):

- based on income, wealth, status and power
- according to some views social class will affect person's life changes from the cradle to the grave
- those who don't own anything, or have low income, can be excluded, eg in terms of credit, access to goods and services
- can experience low self-esteem, poor job prospects, etc.

Question C2

Gender: Analyse the link between the biological notion of sex and the socially constructed notion of gender and how this may lead to social inequality.

In your answer you should:

- describe social stratification
- describe gender
- explain and evaluate the link between gender and social inequality.

A total of **12 marks** may be awarded for this part of the question. **6 marks** for the detailed description of social stratification and **6 marks** for the chosen category of social stratification chosen. For full marks candidates should use sociological terminology.

Descriptions of social stratification could include:

- structured inequality
- social hierarchy
- system where members of society are ranked in some order
- ranked inequality which persists over generations

Descriptions of gender could include:

- socially constructed rather than biological
- power of men who are in positions of authority eg work, law, politics based on physical differences
- may support institutions such as the economy, family etc but be detrimental to the individual.

A total of **8 marks** may be awarded for this part of the question, **2 marks** for the **explanation** of the link between the category of social stratification chosen and mobility or inequality and **6 marks** for the **evaluation** of the link between the category of social stratification chosen and social mobility or social inequality.

The evaluation of the link between the category of social stratification and inequality is the most difficult part of this answer. Candidates should discuss areas in which individuals experience inequality such as education, employment, health, housing, political, civil and legal rights and link these inequalities to the category of social stratification chosen. The following list is not prescriptive; marks should be awarded on the basis of the quality of the answer.

Link and evaluative points between gender and social inequality could include:

- violence and abuse against women can be detrimental to life chances
- may support institutions such as economy, family, etc, but be detrimental to the individual
- glass ceiling in job market
- individual can become isolated and stuck in poverty
- space may be divided eg women only allowed to mix with other women.

Question C3

Race and Ethnicity: Analyse the link between the role of the media in forming stereotypes of ethnic groups and the way this could affect social mobility.

In your answer you should:

- describe social stratification
- describe race and ethnicity
- explain and evaluate the link between race and ethnicity and social mobility.

A total of **12 marks** may be awarded for this part of the question, **6 marks** for the detailed description of social stratification and **6 marks** for the detailed description of the category of race and ethnicity. Marks can be allocated as three marks for each of two features described or two marks for each of three features described depending on exemplification of answer. For full marks, candidates should describe using the correct sociological terminology.

Description of social stratification could include:

- structures inequality
- social hierarchy
- system where members of society are ranked in some order
- ranked inequality which persists over generations.

Descriptions of race and ethnicity could include:

- differences based on where a person is born
- culturally relative
- usually thought of in terms of black and white.

A total of **8 marks** may be awarded for this part of the question, 2 marks for the **explanation** of the link between the category of social stratification chosen and mobility or inequality and 6 marks for the **evaluation** of the link between the category of race and gender and social mobility.

The evaluation of the link between the category of social stratification and inequality/mobility is the most difficult part of this answer. Candidates should discuss areas in which individuals experience inequality such as education, employment, health, housing, political, civil and legal rights and link these inequalities to the category of social stratification chosen. The following list is not prescriptive; marks should be awarded on the quality of the answer.

Relationship between race and ethnicity and social mobility could include:

- discrimination against people from a different racial or ethnic background moving into another area
- lack of job opportunities, promotion
- ghettoisation and so difficult to move out of that situation
- experience violence and abuse which can be detrimental to life changes which gives away to an unwillingness to move from "what is known"
- harassment from authorities such as police and immigration
- space may be divided, eg 'no go' areas for particular groups.

Question C4

Age: Analyse the link between age and poverty in the UK.

In your answer you should:

- describe social stratification
- describe age
- explain and evaluate the link between age and poverty in the UK.

A total of **12 marks** may be awarded for this part of the question, **6 marks** for the detailed description of social stratification and **6 marks** for the chosen category of social stratification chosen. For full marks candidates should use sociological terminology.

Description of social stratification could include:

- structures inequality
- social hierarchy
- system where members of society are ranked in some order
- ranked inequality which persists over generations.

Descriptions of social class could include:

- no one definition or measurement
- ascribed and achieved status
- based on income, wealth, status, power
- according to some views social class will affect a person's life changes
- those who don't own anything or have low incomes may be excluded eg some forms of credit, access to goods and services. This could lead to low self-esteem and/or poor health.

Descriptions of age could include:

- differences based on biological age
- can affect young and old
- culturally relative

A total of **8 marks** may be awarded for this part of the question, 2 marks for the **explanation** of the link between the category of social stratification chosen and mobility or inequality and 6 marks for the **evaluation** of the link between the category of social stratification chosen and social mobility or social inequality.

The evaluation of the link between the category of social stratification and inequality is the most difficult part of this answer. Candidates should discuss areas in which individuals experience inequality such as education, employment, health, housing, political, civil and legal rights and link these inequalities to the category of social stratification chosen. The following list is not prescriptive; marks should be awarded on the basis of quality of the answer.

Links and evaluative points between age and poverty could include:

- divided society
- discrimination
- poverty – older people and young people receive very low benefit (younger people often receive no state benefit)
- unemployment
- can lead to abuse and violence which can be detrimental to life chances
- lack of opportunities in job market
- may experience low self-esteem because not valued by society.

Question C5

Disability: Analyse the social construction of disability and the way this can contribute to social inequality for some individuals.

In your answer you should:

- describe social stratification
- describe disability
- explain and evaluate the link between disability and social inequality.

A total of **12 marks** may be awarded for this part of the question. **6 marks** for the detailed description of social stratification and **6 marks** for the chosen category of social stratification chosen. For full marks candidates should use sociological terminology.

Candidates will be expected to:

- give an introduction which sets out how they will respond to the question
- describe the concept of the category of social stratification
- analyse the concept of social stratification
- state the conclusion which includes a summary of their discussions and offers evaluative comments.

Description of social stratification could include (**6 marks available**):

- structured inequality
- social hierarchy
- system where members of society are ranked in some order
- ranked inequality which persists over generations.

Description of the category of disability could include (**6 marks available**):

- differences based on physical characteristics
- differences based on cerebral characteristics
- social construction of disability.

Linked and evaluate points between disability and social inequality could include (**8 marks available**):

- can experience low self-esteem, poor health, poor job prospects, etc
- discrimination
- unemployment
- can lead to abuse and violence which can be detrimental to life chances
- space may be divided eg 'no go' areas due to access problems.

20 Marks

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]