

**This paper is not to be removed from the Examination Halls**

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

**279 0053 ZB**

**BSc degrees and Diplomas for Graduates in Economics, Management, Finance and the Social Sciences, the Diploma in Economics and Access Route for Students in the External Programme**

**Sociological Theory**

Thursday, 1 June 2006 : 10.00am to 1.00pm

Candidates should answer **FOUR** of the following **TWELVE** questions. All questions carry equal marks.

PLEASE TURN OVER

1. Critically assess Comte's contribution to the development of sociological positivism.
2. How successful was Marx in developing a sociological theory of social change?
3. How did Weber explain the rise of modern capitalism?
4. Discuss Durkheim's view that sociology studies social facts as things.
5. Give a critical account of **one** of the following:
  - i. alienation and anomie.
  - ii. the rationalisation of social life.
  - iii. the post-modern condition.
6. What does functionalism contribute to sociological theory?
7. Discuss the view that symbolic interactionism develops a theory of meaning at the expense of a theory of social structure.
8. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of Habermas's theory of communicative action.
9. What do ethnomethodologists mean by the concept of society?
10. Write a short essay on **one** of the following:
  - i. power/knowledge.
  - ii. structuration theory.
  - iii. cultural industry.
11. Critically examine Bourdieu's concepts of habitus and field.
12. What, in your view, can sociological theory contribute to the understanding of the contemporary world?

END OF PAPER