



**AS**

**SOCIOLOGY**

**Paper 2 Research Methods and Topics in Sociology**

**7191/2**

**Tuesday 24 May 2016**

**Morning**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes**

**For this paper you must have:**

- **An AQA 12-page answer book.**

**[Turn over]**

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

- **Use black ink or black ball-point pen.**
- **Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The PAPER REFERENCE is 7191/2.**
- **Answer ALL questions in SECTION A and ALL questions from ONE topic in SECTION B.**
- **Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.**

## **INFORMATION**

- **The marks for questions are shown in brackets.**
- **The maximum mark for this paper is 60.**
- **Questions carrying 10 marks or more should be answered in continuous prose. In these questions you will be marked on your ability to:**
  - **use good English**
  - **organise information clearly**
  - **use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.**

**DO NOT TURN OVER UNTIL TOLD TO DO SO**

**SECTION A****RESEARCH METHODS**

**Answer ALL questions in this section.**

- 0 1** Outline **TWO** ethical issues that may influence a sociologist's choice of research method. [4 marks]
- 0 2** Evaluate the advantages of using official statistics in sociological research. [16 marks]

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**SECTION B**

Choose **ONE** topic from this section and answer **ALL** the questions on that topic.

**TOPIC B1 CULTURE AND IDENTITY**

- 0 3** Define the term 'agency of socialisation'.  
[2 marks]
- 0 4** Using **ONE** example, briefly explain how labelling can affect an individual's sense of self.  
[2 marks]
- 0 5** Outline **THREE** characteristics of mass culture.  
[6 marks]
- 0 6** Outline and explain **TWO** ways in which an individual's social experiences may be shaped by disability. [10 marks]

**07** Read ITEM A below and answer the question that follows.

### **ITEM A**

**For some sociologists, globalisation is having a significant impact on social identity in the United Kingdom today. Globalisation exposes people to a range of influences and experiences that may challenge local and national sources of identity.**

**One possible consequence of this is the emergence of new hybrid identities.**

**Applying material from ITEM A and your knowledge, evaluate the view that globalisation is having a significant impact on social identity in the United Kingdom today. [20 marks]**

**[Turn over]**

**TOPIC B2 FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS**

- 0 8** Define the term 'serial monogamy'. [2 marks]
- 0 9** Using **ONE** example, briefly explain how women may be exploited within the family. [2 marks]
- 1 0** Outline **THREE** reasons for women delaying childbirth. [6 marks]
- 1 1** Outline and explain **TWO** ways in which government policies may affect the experience of childhood today. [10 marks]

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Read ITEM B below and answer the question that follows.

### **ITEM B**

**Marxists see all social institutions as serving the interests of capitalism. They argue that institutions such as the family help to maintain the system of class inequality and exploitation.**

**Alternatively, functionalists argue that the family performs vital functions for the whole of society. For example, family members benefit from the support and emotional satisfaction that they give each other.**

**Applying material from ITEM B and your knowledge, evaluate the contribution of Marxist views to our understanding of the family. [20 marks]**

**[Turn over]**

**TOPIC B3 HEALTH**

- 1 3** Define the term 'health chances'. [2 marks]
- 1 4** Using **ONE** example, briefly explain how the movement of people between countries may affect the patterns of health and illness in the United Kingdom. [2 marks]
- 1 5** Outline **THREE** ways in which the medical profession may serve its own interests rather than the interests of society as a whole. [6 marks]
- 1 6** Outline and explain **TWO** reasons why members of some ethnic groups may be more likely to be diagnosed with mental illness than members of other ethnic groups. [10 marks]

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**Read ITEM C below and answer the question that follows.**

### **ITEM C**

**Traditionally, disability was seen as an imperfection that meant a person was unable to perform everyday tasks.**

**Alternatively, the idea of the social construction of disability is that a person may have an impairment of some kind. However, this impairment only becomes a disability as a result of the way in which society is organised and responds to the impairment.**

**Applying material from ITEM C and your knowledge, evaluate the view that disability is socially constructed.  
[20 marks]**

**[Turn over]**

**TOPIC B4 WORK, POVERTY AND WELFARE**

- 1 8** Define the term 'welfare state'. [2 marks]
- 1 9** Using **ONE** example, briefly explain how technological change may lead to reskilling. [2 marks]
- 2 0** Outline **THREE** reasons why families with young children may be likely to experience poverty. [6 marks]
- 2 1** Outline and explain **TWO** ways in which government policies may have affected the gap between rich and poor during the last 40 years. [10 marks]

**2 2** Read ITEM D below and answer the question that follows.

### **ITEM D**

**For some people, worklessness has a significant negative effect on their lives and life chances. The unemployed may struggle to make ends meet, and being out of work may also affect self-esteem.**

**However, there are some social groups that may choose not to work, or may not need to work. For these groups, worklessness can be a positive experience.**

**Applying material from Item D and your knowledge, evaluate sociological views on the significance of worklessness for people's lives and life chances.  
[20 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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