Thursday 8 June 2017 Afternoon Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials
You will need no other materials.

Instructions
• Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
• Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
• Answer all questions.
• You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
• Do all rough work in this 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 80.
• 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.
Outline two cultural factors that may affect ethnic differences in educational achievement.

[4 marks]
Outline three ways in which factors within schools may shape gender differences in subject choice.

[6 marks]

Extra space

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Read Item A below and answer the question that follows.

Item A

Since the 1980s, a major aim of government policy has been to increase parental choice in education. There is now a wider range of school types, and league tables on school performance are also publicly available.

Increased parental choice has had many effects on pupils’ experience of education.

Applying material from Item A, analyse two effects of increased parental choice on pupils’ experience of education.

[10 marks]
Read Item B below and answer the question that follows.

**Item B**

Sociologists agree that education transmits ideas and values. However, they disagree about the nature of these ideas and values, and who benefits from this process. For example, feminists argue that education transmits patriarchal ideology, and that this benefits men.

Other sociologists argue that the education system has become fragmented and transmits a diverse range of ideas and values.

Applying material from Item B and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of the role of education in transmitting ideas and values.

[30 marks]
Methods in Context

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

**Item C**

**Investigating the effects of teachers’ labelling of pupils**

Labelling is the process of defining a group or person positively or negatively, based on perceived characteristics. For example, in the course of their classroom interactions, teachers make judgements based on stereotypical assumptions about pupils’ social class, gender or ethnicity. However, teachers may be unaware that they are doing so. Teachers label pupils in different ways, and this may lead to a variety of responses, such as misbehaviour or truancy.

One way of studying the effects of teachers’ labelling of pupils is to use field experiments. One advantage is that these can be conducted in a natural setting. However, field experiments tend to be small in scale. Furthermore, for a variety of reasons, some pupils, teachers and parents may refuse to participate in a field experiment.

Applying material from **Item C** and your knowledge of research methods, evaluate the strengths and limitations of using field experiments to investigate the effects of teachers’ labelling of pupils.

[20 marks]
Theory and Methods

Outline and explain two practical disadvantages of using documents in sociological research.

[10 marks]

Extra space
END OF QUESTIONS

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