



A-level

SOCIOLOGY

Paper 2 Topics in Sociology

Wednesday 4 June 2025

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7192/2.
- Answer **all** questions from **one** topic 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 80.
- Questions should be answered in continuous prose.

You will be marked on your ability to:

- use good English
- organise information clearly
- use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Section A

Choose **one** topic from this section and answer **all** the questions on that topic.

Topic A1 Culture and Identity

0**1**

Outline and explain **two** ways that consumption may be related to ethnicity.

[10 marks]**0****2**

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

Item A

Globalisation makes international travel cheaper and easier. As a result of globalisation, the same consumer products are now being sold around the world.

Globalisation may have affected popular culture in the UK.

Applying material from **Item A**, analyse **two** ways that globalisation may have affected popular culture in the UK.

[10 marks]**0****3**

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

Item B

Many sociologists see socialisation as a one-way process in which agencies of socialisation make sure that individuals share the same values. According to functionalists, this leads to social stability based on value consensus. Marxists see socialisation as a form of social control in which people are led to accept capitalist ideology.

Other sociologists see socialisation as a two-way process in which individuals play an active part in shaping society.

Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that socialisation is a one-way process.

[20 marks]

Topic A2 Families and Households

0	4
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Outline and explain **two** ways in which social change may affect patterns of divorce.

[10 marks]

0	5
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Read **Item C** below and answer the question that follows.

Item C

One aspect of family diversity is that there are now more single-parent families. Family diversity also means that there has been an increase in the number of same-sex families.

Family diversity may affect the functions of the family.

Applying material from **Item C**, analyse **two** ways that family diversity may affect the functions of the family.

[10 marks]

0	6
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Read **Item D** below and answer the question that follows.

Item D

March of progress sociologists argue that childhood has improved over time. Children today are protected by a wide range of laws and children's views are more valued than they were in the past. Society has now also become increasingly child-centred.

However, other sociologists disagree. They argue that inequalities in society today mean that, for some children, childhood is still a negative experience.

Applying material from **Item D** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that childhood has improved over time.

[20 marks]

Turn over ►

Topic A3 Health

0	7
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Outline and explain **two** ways in which the role of medicine affects the social distribution of health chances.

[10 marks]

0	8
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Read **Item E** below and answer the question that follows.

Item E

Working class people are more likely to experience poverty than other social classes. Members of other social classes are more able to access private health services than working class people.

There are social class differences in rates of mental illness.

Applying material from **Item E**, analyse **two** reasons for social class differences in rates of mental illness.

[10 marks]

0	9
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Read **Item F** below and answer the question that follows.

Item F

Some sociologists argue that health and illness can be considered as socially constructed. This means that health and illness are the result of individual, social and cultural interpretations and actions. It also means that health and illness can have different meanings in different situations and may also depend on individual and group perceptions.

Others define health as the absence of disease. Disease is a problem that can be diagnosed, treated and cured by professionals such as doctors.

Applying material from **Item F** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that social construction provides the best explanation of health and illness.

[20 marks]

Topic A4 Work, Poverty and Welfare

1	0
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Outline and explain **two** reasons why women are less likely to be in full-time employment than men.

[10 marks]

1	1
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Read **Item G** below and answer the question that follows.

Item G

The state can take an active role in reducing potential problems faced by citizens. At other times, the state encourages people to take responsibility for any situation they find themselves in.

The state has responded to the persistence of poverty.

Applying material from **Item G**, analyse **two** ways in which the state has responded to the persistence of poverty.

[10 marks]

1	2
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Read **Item H** below and answer the question that follows.

Item H

There have been changes in the organisation and control of the labour process, such as greater flexibility and specialisation, and new technology. Some sociologists argue that changes such as these mean that workers now have increased responsibility and autonomy. More occupations require a range of skills, training and qualifications.

Other sociologists, such as Marxists, point out that much work has been de-skilled. There is also more surveillance and many workers still experience alienation.

Applying material from **Item H** and your knowledge, evaluate the extent to which changes in the organisation and control of the labour process have led to workers needing more skills and qualifications.

[20 marks]

Turn over ►

Section B

Choose **one** topic from this section and answer **all** the questions on that topic.

Topic B1 Beliefs in Society

1 3

Outline and explain **two** ways in which social groups may influence the process of secularisation in today's society.

[10 marks]**1 4**

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

Item I

Denominations are based on traditional religious beliefs. They are formal organisations with a hierarchy of power.

The characteristics of denominations are different from those of New Age movements.

Applying material from **Item I**, analyse **two** differences between the characteristics of denominations and those of New Age movements.

[10 marks]**1 5**

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

Item J

Some sociologists, such as Marxists and feminists, argue that religion serves the interests of powerful groups. For example, religion transmits ideology that reinforces the position of powerful groups, such as the ruling class, and excludes other groups, such as women, through its beliefs and practices.

However, other sociologists disagree and argue that religion instead serves the needs of society as a whole.

Applying material from **Item J** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that religion serves the interests of powerful groups.

[20 marks]

Topic B2 Global Development

1	6
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Outline and explain **two** ways in which globalisation may affect education in developing countries.

[10 marks]

1	7
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Read **Item K** below and answer the question that follows.

Item K

Many developing countries have growing populations that are relatively young. More people now emigrate from developing countries for employment opportunities.

Demographic changes may affect global inequality.

Applying material from **Item K**, analyse **two** ways that demographic changes may affect global inequality.

[10 marks]

1	8
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Read **Item L** below and answer the question that follows.

Item L

Some sociologists, such as modernisation theorists, see industrialisation as essential for development. Industrialisation involves economic, social and cultural changes which transform societies and make them modern. Many developing countries have tried to develop through industrialisation.

However, others have pointed out that industrialisation has negative aspects, including environmental damage. They argue that development in areas such as health, education and gender equality, can be achieved without industrialisation.

Applying material from **Item L** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that industrialisation is essential for development.

[20 marks]

Turn over ►

Topic B3 The Media

1	9
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Outline and explain **two** ways that the ownership and control of the media may affect media representations of social class.

[10 marks]

2	0
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Read **Item M** below and answer the question that follows.

Item M

People's views of social groups may be reinforced by representations in the media. Alternatively representations may challenge those views.

The content of the media may affect people's views of sexuality.

Applying material from **Item M**, analyse **two** ways in which the content of the media may affect people's views of sexuality.

[10 marks]

2	1
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Read **Item N** below and answer the question that follows.

Item N

Postmodernists see the globalised media, including social media, as giving people greater choices, opportunities and access to a diversity of cultures. They argue that the new media allow people to create media content and to construct their own realities.

Other sociologists argue that the extent of change has been exaggerated. Many people do not have access to the new media, so cannot make choices. Marxists claim that media conglomerates still control the media.

Applying material from **Item N** and your knowledge, evaluate postmodernist explanations of the media.

[20 marks]

Topic B4 Stratification and Differentiation

2	2
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Outline and explain **two** reasons why working class people may not be able to achieve upward social mobility.

[10 marks]

2	3
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Read **Item O** below and answer the question that follows.

Item O

The distinctions between different types of work have become less clear in recent years. Some people are more affluent and are enjoying higher living standards.

Changes in structures of inequality may lead to problems in measuring social class in today's society.

Applying material from **Item O**, analyse **two** ways that changes in structures of inequality may lead to problems in measuring social class in today's society.

[10 marks]

2	4
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Read **Item P** below and answer the question that follows.

Item P

Ethnicity is one factor that may affect life chances. For example, members of some ethnic groups underachieve in education and are more likely to be in low paid work. There are also differences between ethnic groups in rates of social mobility.

However, some sociologists argue that there are factors that affect life chances more than ethnicity. For example, Marxists argue that social class is the most important factor affecting a person's life chances.

Applying material from **Item P** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that a person's ethnicity is the most important factor affecting their life chances.

[20 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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