



GCE AS

B200U20-1



S25-B200U20-1



TUESDAY, 20 MAY 2025 – MORNING

SOCIOLOGY – AS component 2
Methods of Sociological Enquiry

1 hour 15 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 50 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You are advised to divide your time accordingly.

Read the item and answer each part of the following question.

Understanding Society: The UK household longitudinal study

Understanding Society is a longitudinal study that began in 2009 and conducts interviews with approximately 40 000 households each year. The study collects quantitative data, tracks participants over an extended period, and offers a long-term perspective on people's lives. Every year, participants complete their questionnaire either via a face-to-face interview or by using an online questionnaire. Funding is an important **practical issue** in sociological research such as Understanding Society. Without funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), it would not have been possible to carry out this research.

Adapted from research published on <https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/>

Answer **each** part of the following question.

1. (a) Using material from the item and sociological knowledge, explain the meaning of the term **practical issues**. [5]
- (b) Using material from the item and sociological knowledge, explain **two** possible reasons why the researchers collected quantitative data. [10]
- (c) Explain **one** strength and **one** weakness of using face-to-face interviews in this research. [10]
- (d) With reference to sociological studies, discuss the strengths and weaknesses of using longitudinal studies in sociological research. [25]

END OF PAPER