

## **GCE**

# **Sociology**

Unit **G674**: Exploring Social Inequality and Difference

Advanced GCE

Mark Scheme for June 2015

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## G674 Mark Scheme June 2015

1. These are the annotations, (including abbreviations), including those used in scoris, which are used when marking

Annotation	Meaning of annotation
?	Unclear
S	Explicit application of source for questions 1 and 2
CON	Concept
DEV	Developed point
EG	Example
EVAL	Evaluation - both positive and negative
I	Interpretation and application
J	Juxtaposition of theories without direct evaluation
KU	Knowledge and understanding
}	Irrelevant or not answering question
REP	Repetition
5	Study
Т	Theory
۸	Unsubstantiated/undeveloped/implicit
BP	Blank Page
	Highlight

## MARK SCHEME:

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
1	QUESTION: Outline and explain why respondent validation is used in sociological research.	15	Content	Levels of Response
	Respondent validation usually occurs during the period of data collection when feedback is obtained from the participants about the accuracy of the data they have given, and also the researcher's interpretation of that data.  In addition, feedback after the completion of the research project on the interpretation of all the data that has been obtained and interpreted can provide another type of validation.  Interpretive, realist, feminist and other research perspectives use respondent validation to improve the validity of quantitative and qualitative data.  Respondent validation may involve activities/uses such as:  Checking the accuracy of the recording of data e.g. from interviews  Confirming that the data may be used in the research  Confirming that the description of		Candidates may give examples of research that has used respondent validation.  Candidates may refer to concepts such as:  • Collection and recording of data • data analysis • quantitative and qualitative approaches to evidence and data • validity • other relevant response  Data should be used from the source material for illustrative purposes and/or from other sociological sources, from material associated with this unit, as well as other units in the Specification.	Level 5  Candidates show an excellent knowledge and understanding. The response demonstrates detail, depth and accuracy of a wide range of sociological material with a strong focus on sociological concepts and methodology/theory. Candidates draw upon information from the source material and their wider knowledge. The quality of written communication will be excellent presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with very few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  There are likely to be 3 or more developed points.  Level 4  7-8 marks  Candidates show a very good knowledge and understanding. The response is wide ranging with some detail with some focus on sociological concepts and methodology/theory; the material is generally accurate although lacks the depth of the band above. Candidates draw upon information from the source material

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	attitudes, beliefs and values is an accurate representation  • Verifying that interpretations of information gathered by researchers matches that of the respondents and are fair and free from bias/distortion  • Reading drafts of research reports		and their wider knowledge. The quality of written communication will be very good presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  There are likely to be 2 or more developed points or a wide range of undeveloped points.
	Checking the validity of conclusions		
	Respondent validation can be particularly useful in:		Level 3 5-6 marks Candidates show a good knowledge and understanding. The response
	<ul> <li>Qualitative research about the experience, perspectives, understanding and meaning of people's lives and identity</li> </ul>		shows knowledge and understanding which is <i>either</i> ranging <i>or</i> detailed.  There will be some understanding of concepts and methodology but underdeveloped. Responses are generally
	<ul> <li>Sensitive areas of research where the intention is to capture the detail of people's lives that reflects their own situation and experience e.g. vulnerable or deviant groups</li> </ul>		clear and accurate, though may contain some errors. Candidates draw upon information from the source material and/or their wider knowledge. The quality of written communication will be good, presenting appropriate
	<ul> <li>Ethnography to ensure accuracy of understanding/interpretation of the group/culture being studied</li> </ul>		material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.
	<ul> <li>Giving status to and valuing the contribution of the respondents to the research process, as in feminist approaches</li> </ul>		There are likely to be 1 or more developed points or a range of undeveloped points.
	Where the outcomes of research		Level 2 3-4 marks Candidates show a basic knowledge

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
Question	Answer  AO2a: Interpretation and Application  Candidates are expected to interpret and apply their knowledge and understanding of respondent validation and methodology in general in their response to the question. This may also be related to the study of the context and aspect of social inequality under consideration; that of working class boys in education. A detailed understanding of this topic is not expected.	Marks 5	Candidates at the higher levels of response (L5 and L4) tend to refer back to the question/issue in a clear and explicit way.  Most candidates will achieve a L3 and above if the material is generally relevant.  Candidates who do not use the Source material	O marks  No relevant sociological knowledge or understanding of the nature, purpose and uses of respondent validation.  AO2a: Interpretation and Application  Level 5 5 marks  Candidates show an excellent ability to interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is clearly, explicitly and consistently related to the question and source.  Level 4 4 marks  Candidates show a very good ability
			cannot achieve above L2.  Candidates at L1 tend to talk about research methods in general with respondent validation being implicit.	to interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is clearly and explicitly related to the question and source.  Level 3 3 marks  Candidates show a good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is related to the question and source occasionally and the relevance may be implicit at times.

Qı	uestion	Answer	Marks		Guidance
					Candidates show a basic ability to interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is partially relevant, generalised and lacking focus; it may simply be recycled from the Source.  Level 1 1 1 mark Candidates show a limited ability to interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is only marginally related to the question.  O marks  No relevant sociological interpretation or application.
2		QUESTION: Outline and assess the view that focus group interviews are the best way to research working class boys and educational success.  AO1: Knowledge and Understanding  Candidates are expected to show knowledge and understanding of focus groups in research and related methodological issues.  Focus groups are a qualitative method within sociological research, which usually gathering data and evidence that is indepth, detailed and descriptive, rather than	25	Candidates are likely to refer to methodological issues and concepts such as:  interpretive positivist qualitative quantitative realist feminist action meanings and experiences empathy	AO1: Knowledge and Understanding  Level 5 5 marks Candidates show an excellent knowledge and understanding. The response demonstrates detail, depth and accuracy of a wide range of sociological material with a strong focus on sociological concepts and methodology/theory. Candidates draw upon information from the source material and their wider knowledge. The quality of written communication will be excellent presenting

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
	numerical or quantitative data in a statistical form. These methods usually involve gathering information about the experience of social life from the point of view of the subjects/actors in small groups. The first focus groups were created at the Bureau of Applied Social Research in the USA, by Merton.  Questions are asked in an interactive group setting where participants are free to talk with other group members. These settings are often seen as more natural than one-to-one interviews; increased openness and rapport can potentially be created  Focus groups are often used in small scale research within organisational settings, for example schools, the workplace and hospitals.  Qualitative methods tend to be high in validity and low in reliability. They are favoured by interpretive and action theorists rather than positivist and structuralist approaches to research. They are used to discover the meaning and subjective understanding of those being researched. The research is usually small scale and at a micro-level.		<ul> <li>rapport</li> <li>reflexivity</li> <li>subjectivity and objectivity</li> <li>validity –     accuracy/truthfulness/re ality of data gathered</li> <li>reliability – comparability of data gathered</li> <li>representative</li> <li>generalisable</li> <li>replicable</li> <li>ethical issues associated with focus groups/qualitative methods</li> <li>other relevant response</li> </ul>	appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with very few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  There are likely to be 3 or more developed points.  Level 4 4 marks  Candidates show a very good knowledge and understanding. The response is wide ranging with some detail with some focus on sociological concepts and methodology/theory; the material is generally accurate although lacks the depth of the band above. Candidates draw upon information from the source material and their wider knowledge. The quality of written communication will be very good presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  There are likely to be 2 or more developed points or a wide range of undeveloped points.
	Some of the uses are:  • Group discussion produces data and insights that would be less accessible without interaction found in a group setting, e.g. listening to others' experiences			Level 3 3 marks Candidates show a good knowledge and understanding. The response shows knowledge and understanding which is either ranging or detailed. There will be some understanding of

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	stimulates memories and ideas in participants  • Group members discover a common language to describe similar experiences  • Focus groups also provide an opportunity for disclosure among similar others in a setting where participants feel secure and validated e.g. in workplace bullying		concepts and methodology but under- developed. Responses are generally clear and accurate, though may contain some errors. Candidates draw upon information from the source material and/or their wider knowledge. The quality of written communication will be good, presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.
	Candidates should discuss the use of focus groups for this research problem – that of the experience of working class boys of educational success.		There are likely to be 1 or more developed points or a range of undeveloped points.  Level 2 2 2 marks  Candidates show a basic knowledge and understanding. The response lacks range and detail, and may occasionally be unclear or inaccurate, and contain errors. Knowledge and understanding may be partial.  Candidates may draw upon information from the source material and/or wider knowledge. The quality of written communication will be basic, presenting some sociological material and some errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.
			There are likely to be 1-2 relevant but undeveloped points.

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
				Level 1 1 mark Candidates show a limited knowledge and understanding. The response lacks width and detail, and shows considerable inaccuracy and lack of clarity; the candidate may simply describe an aspect of research methods in general. There is very little sociological content. Candidates may/may not draw upon information from the source material or wider knowledge. The quality of written communication will be limited, presenting some sociological material with limited coherence and frequent errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  O marks  No relevant sociological knowledge or understanding of the nature, purpose and uses of focus group interviews.
	AO2a: Interpretation and application  Candidates are expected to interpret and apply their knowledge and understanding of qualitative methods as a research method and methodology in general in their response to the question. Discussion of the concepts of validity, reliability, representativeness and generalisability in relation to qualitative methods for this research problem is also expected. This		In addition to those listed above for A01, candidates are likely to refer to methodological issues and concepts such as:  • access • target population • sampling	AO2a: Interpretation and Application  Level 5 5 marks  Candidates show an excellent ability to interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is clearly, explicitly and consistently related to the question and source.

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
Question	May also relate to the study of the context and aspect of inequality and difference under consideration; that of working class boys in education. A detailed understanding of this topic is not expected. The response may also relate the selection or choice of qualitative methods to the research aim.	Marks	<ul> <li>gaining understanding of meaning and purpose</li> <li>developing rapport</li> <li>ethical issues</li> <li>fitness for purpose</li> <li>other relevant response</li> <li>Candidates at the higher levels of response (L5 and L4) tend to refer back to the question/issue in a clear and explicit way.</li> <li>Most candidates will achieve a L3 and above if the material is generally relevant.</li> </ul>	Candidates show a very good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is clearly and explicitly related to the question and source.  Level 3 3 marks  Candidates show a good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is related to the question and source occasionally and the relevance may be implicit at times.  Level 2 2 marks  Candidates show a basic ability to
			Candidates who do not use the Source material cannot achieve above L2.  Candidates at L1 tend to talk about research methods in general focus groups being implicit.	interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is partially relevant, generalised and lacking focus; it may simply be recycled from the Source.  Level 1 1 mark  Candidates show a limited ability to interpret sociological knowledge and apply it to uses in sociological research. The material is only marginally related to the question.  O marks  No relevant sociological interpretation or application.

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
	AO2b: Analysis and Evaluation  Candidates should discuss the advantages and disadvantages of focus groups, especially in relation to the concepts of validity, reliability, representativeness and generalisability, and relate this to the context of the question, that of understanding the experience of working class boys and educational success.		Candidates are likely to refer to methodological issues and concepts such as:  • the influence of researcher values on quality of data gathered and subsequent uses • objectivity • reflexivity • reflexivity • sample size effects • access to sample • representative • generalise • validity • reliability • respondent validation • desirable responses • researcher effects • researcher imposition • subject and researcher biases • fitness for purpose • other relevant response	Level 5  Candidates show an excellent ability to analyse and evaluate. Sustained evaluative skills are demonstrated throughout and the response has an analytical and reflective tone. There will be a clear discussion of the method for the purpose of the research, and a clear attempt to draw a conclusion about/assess the value of this method in this context. There will be a wide range of concepts and methodology. There will be a wide range of strengths and weaknesses.  There are likely to be 3 or more developed evaluative points with additional undeveloped points.  Level 4  10-12 marks  Candidates show a very good ability to analyse and evaluate. There will be a discussion of the method for the purpose of the research, and an attempt to draw a conclusion about/assess the value of this method in this context. There will be a range of concepts and methodology. There will be a range of strengths and weaknesses.

Ethical issues may be raised, for example of confidentiality, permission, access and the potential impact on the lives of those studied.  Level 3 7-9 marks Candidates show a good ability to analyse and evaluate. Responses will raise some points of evaluation but may leave these undeveloped. There will be some concepts and methodology. There will be some strengths and/or weaknesses. The discussion will be explicitly related to the research context occasionally.  There are likely to be 2 or more developed points or a wide range of undeveloped points or a range of undeveloped. There will be some concepts and methodology. There will be some strengths and/or weaknesses. The discussion will be explicitly related to the research context occasionally.  There are likely to be 2 or more developed or undeveloped will read to the research context or analyse and evaluate. Responses will be some strengths and/or weaknesses. The discussion will be explicitly related to the research context occasionally.  Level 2 4-6 marks Candidates show a basic ability to analyse and analyse. Responses are likely to offer a few generalised evaluative points with little supporting explanation i.e. asserted. If present, different methodological approaches are likely to be juxtaposed simply and implicitly. The discussion may not be related to the research context, or merely implied.

Q	uestic	on Answer	Marks		Guidance
					There may be some concepts and methodology but used partially or with some inaccuracy. There will be a few strengths and/or weaknesses. The discussion will be implicitly related to the research context occasionally.  There are likely to be 1-2 undeveloped evaluative points.  Level 1 1-3 marks Candidates show a limited ability to analyse and evaluate. Responses may include implied evaluation; however this is likely to be minimal, assertive or tangential to the main issue and context.  O marks No relevant sociological analysis or evaluation.
3	а	QUESTION: Outline the evidence that social class inequality still exists in the UK.  AO1: Knowledge and Understanding  Candidates should draw upon their knowledge and understanding of social class inequality in the contemporary UK. Aspects of society that are likely to be identified and discussed are:	20	Candidates may refer to sociological studies and writing by:  Saunders Polemus	AO1: Knowledge and Understanding  Level 5 13-15 marks Candidates show an excellent knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence. The response demonstrates considerable depth, detail, sophistication and accuracy of a wide range of sociological material.  The response is likely to include 3 or more areas of social life, 3 or more

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
	education		<ul> <li>Pakulski and Walters</li> </ul>	clear points per area and a range of different types of evidence in the
	• family			response as a whole.
	employment     income and wealth		<ul><li>Payne</li><li>Surridge</li></ul>	response as a whole.
	income and wealth		Surriage     Theil	The quality of written communication
	health and welfare		Bourdieu	will be excellent presenting
	housing     selfition records			appropriate material in a logical,
	political power     patterns of crims and deviance		<ul> <li>Westergaard and Resler</li> </ul>	accurate and coherent manner, with
	patterns of crime and deviance		Gramsci	very few errors of grammar,
	other relevant response		Dahrendorf	punctuation and spelling.
	Sociological evidence may include		Roberts	
	empirical studies, data, contemporary		Savage	Level 4 10-12 marks
	examples, concepts, and theoretical		<ul><li>Other relevant</li></ul>	Candidates show a very good
	material if relevant.		response drawn	knowledge and understanding of
			from other units of	relevant evidence. The response is
	The following concepts may be identified		study	wide ranging with some detail; the
	and discussed:			material is generally accurate although lacks depth.
			Contemporary examples	aithough lacks depth.
	<ul> <li>different social classes – ruling,</li> </ul>		might include:	The response is likely to include 3
	upper, middle, working, lower,			areas of social life, 3 clear points per
	underclass		<ul> <li>increasing gap</li> </ul>	area and some different types of
	<ul> <li>changes in class structure</li> </ul>		between rich and	evidence in the response as a whole.
	<ul> <li>increasing inequality in the</li> </ul>		poor and the	·
	distribution of wealth		distribution of	The quality of written communication
	growth of the underclass		wealth	will be very good presenting
	unemployment		<ul> <li>recent patterns in educational</li> </ul>	appropriate material in a logical,
	income and wealth		achievement	accurate and coherent manner, with
	social exclusion			few errors of grammar, punctuation
	marginalization		<ul> <li>unemployment and work experience in</li> </ul>	and spelling.
	fragmentation		the economic	Level 3 7-9 marks
	proletarianisation		recession/crisis	Candidates show a good knowledge
	embourgeoisement     assist makility		patterns of child	and understanding of relevant
	social mobility		poverty	evidence which is either ranging or
	class identity and culture		growing size of	detailed. There will be some

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
	other relevant response		underclass  impact of increased taxation and withdrawal of benefits  place of ethnic minorities/youth/wo men i.e. intersection issues  other relevant response	sociological evidence and concepts but undeveloped. Responses are mostly clear and accurate.  The response is likely to include 3 areas of social life, with 2-3 undeveloped points per area or 2 areas of social life more fully developed.  The quality of written communication will be good, presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  Level 2 4-6 marks  Candidates show a basic knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence. The response lacks width and detail, and may occasionally be unclear or inaccurate, and contain errors. Knowledge and understanding of evidence and concepts may be partial, inaccurate and undeveloped.  The response is likely to include 1-2 areas of social life, with 1-2 points per area; or 1 area more fully.  The quality of written communication will be basic, presenting some sociological material and some errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.

Que	estion	Answer	Marks		Guidance
					Level 1 Candidates show a limited knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence. The response contains very little sociological material and shows considerable inaccuracy and lack of clarity/relevance.  The response may simply describe an aspect of inequality in general.  The quality of written communication will be limited, presenting some sociological material with limited coherence and frequent errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  O marks  No relevant sociological knowledge or understanding.
		AO2a: Interpretation and Application  Candidates are expected to interpret and apply their knowledge and understanding of evidence about social class inequality n their response to the question.		Candidates at the higher levels of response (L5 and L4) tend to refer back to the question/issue in a clear and explicit way.  Most candidates will achieve a L3 and above if the material is generally relevant.	AO2a: Interpretation and Application  Level 5 5 marks Candidates show an excellent ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is clearly, explicitly and consistently related to the question.  Level 4 4 marks Candidates show a very good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is clearly

Qı	uesti	on	Answer	Marks		Guidance
					Candidates at L1 tend to talk about inequality in general with social class inequality being implicit.	and explicitly related to the question.  Level 3 3 marks Candidates show a good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is related to the question occasionally and the relevance may be implicit at times.  Level 2 2 marks Candidates show a basic ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is partially relevant, generalised and lacking focus.  Level 1 1 mark Candidates show a limited ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is only marginally related to the question.  O marks No relevant sociological interpretation
						or application.
3	b		QUESTION: Outline and assess the view that class inequality is functional for society.	40		
			AO1: Knowledge and Understanding			AO1: Knowledge and Understanding
			Functionalist approaches to social class inequalities should be presented and described. The following concepts may be		Social class inequalities in different aspects of social life may be used to	Level 5 13-15 marks Candidates show an excellent knowledge and understanding.The

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
	norms and values     socialisation     consensus     structure     meritocracy     role allocation     functions     status     power     class     exploitation     other relevant response		illustrate answers, such as education, employment, income and wealth, health and welfare, housing, political power, and patterns of crime and deviance. Alternative theoretical explanations of inequality and difference may be explored and/or juxtaposed, for example Marxist, neo-Marxist, Weberian, feminist and post modern. The impact on social class of ethnicity, gender and age may be compared or contrasted, as well as the intersection/interrelationshi p of these dimensions.  Candidates may refer to functionalist writers such as:  Parsons Merton Durkheim Davis and Moore Tumin other relevant response	response demonstrates considerable depth, detail, sophistication and accuracy of a wide range of sociological material, especially theoretical and conceptual.  The response is likely to describe 4 or more aspects of the target theory and refer to a wide range of concepts and studies.  The quality of written communication will be excellent presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with very few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  Level 4 10-12 marks  Candidates show a very good knowledge and understanding. The response is wide ranging with some detail; the material is generally accurate although lacks depth.  The response is likely to describe 3 or more aspects of the target theory and refer to a range of concepts and studies.  The quality of written communication will be very good presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
Question	Answer	Marks	Candidates show a good knowledge and understanding which is either ranging or detailed. There will be some sociological evidence and concepts but undeveloped. Responses are mostly clear and accurate.  The response is likely to describe 2 or more aspects of the target theory and refer to some concepts and studies.  The quality of written communication will be good, presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  Level 2 4-6 marks Candidates show a basic knowledge and understanding. The response lacks width and detail, and may occasionally be unclear or inaccurate, and contain errors. Knowledge and
			understanding of evidence and concepts may be partial, inaccurate and undeveloped.
			The response is likely to describe 1 or more aspects of the target theory and refer to a few concepts and/or studies.
			The quality of written communication will be basic, presenting some

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
Question	Answer	Marks		sociological material and some errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  Level 1 1-3 marks Candidates show a limited knowledge and understanding. The response contains very little sociological material and shows considerable inaccuracy and lack of clarity/relevance.  The response may simply describe an aspect of inequality in general.
				The quality of written communication will be limited, presenting some sociological material with limited coherence and frequent errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.
				O marks No relevant sociological knowledge or understanding.
	AO2a: Interpretation and Application			AO2a: Interpretation and Application
	Candidates are expected to interpret and apply their knowledge and understanding of functionalist approaches to social class inequalities in their response to the question.		Candidates at the higher levels of response (L5 and L4) tend to refer back to the question/issue in a clear and explicit way.  Most candidates will achieve a L3 and above if	Level 5 5 marks Candidates show an excellent ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is clearly, explicitly and consistently related to the question.

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
QUESTION	Allowel	Walks	the material is generally relevant.  Candidates at L1 tend to talk about inequality in general with functionalist explanations of social class being implicit.	Level 4 Candidates show a very good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is clearly and explicitly related to the question.  Level 3 Candidates show a good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is related to the question occasionally and the relevance may be implicit at times.  Level 2 2 marks Candidates show a basic ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is partially relevant, generalised and lacking focus.
				Level 1 1 mark Candidates show a limited ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is only marginally related to the question.  O marks No relevant sociological interpretation or application.
	AO2b: Analysis and Evaluation  Candidates are expected to evaluate functionalist explanations of social class inequalities, presenting a range of strengths			AO2b: Analysis and Evaluation  Level 5 17-20 marks Candidates show an excellent ability to analyse and evaluate. Sustained evaluative skills are demonstrated

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
<b>QUESTION</b>	and/or weaknesses of this view and different theoretical interpretations of social class in society. Likely arguments might include:  • emphasises social structure based on common norms and values • sees social change as a process of development • theory may be applied to many societies • emphasizes importance of stability and harmony in patterns of inequality • underemphasises social action in society • underemphasises conflict, class and wealth in inequality, in comparison to Marxist approaches • doesn't acknowledge the way other aspects of inequality may reinforce each other, e.g. age, ethnicity and gender • neglects changing nature, fluidity and eclectic nature of culture and inequality in post modern society • other relevant response  Comparison of alternative theoretical explanations is expected, for example Marxist, neo-Marxist, feminist, Weberian and post modern.	Marks	throughout and the response has an analytical and reflective tone. Responses should offer a critical review of the target theoretical perspective or view drawing upon 2 or more alternative theoretical perspectives.  There will be a clear attempt to draw a conclusion about/assess the value of the theoretical perspective or view that is the focus of the question. There will be a wide range of strengths and weaknesses.  There are likely to be 4 or more developed evaluative points with additional undeveloped points.  Level 4 13-16 marks  Candidates show a very good ability to analyse and evaluate. Responses should offer a critical review of the target theoretical perspective or view drawing upon 2 or more alternative theoretical perspectives.  There will be an attempt to draw a conclusion about/assess the value of the theoretical perspective or view that is the focus of the question. There will be a range of strengths and weaknesses.
			There are likely to be 3 or more

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
			developed evaluative points with some additional undeveloped points.
			Level 3 9-12 marks Candidates show a good ability to analyse and evaluate. Responses should offer a critical review of the target theoretical perspective or view drawing upon 1 or more alternative theoretical perspectives.
			There may be a weak attempt to draw a conclusion about/assess the value of the theoretical perspective or view that is the focus of the question. There will be some strengths and/or weaknesses.
			There are likely to be 2 or more developed evaluative points or a range of undeveloped points.
			Level 2 5-8 marks Candidates show a basic ability to analyse and evaluate. Responses are likely to offer a few generalised, asserted evaluative points with little supporting evidence or argument. If present, different theoretical approaches are likely to be juxtaposed simply and implicitly. Material may be partial and inaccurate.
			There are likely to be some undeveloped points.

Q	uesti	on Answer	Marks	Guidance
4		QUESTION: 4a. Outline the evidence that	20	Level 1 Candidates show a limited ability to analyse and evaluate. Evaluation is only implicit, minimal, assertive and tangential to the main issue.  O marks No relevant sociological evaluation or analysis.
4	a	males and females continue to be unequal in the contemporary UK.  AO1: Knowledge and Understanding  Candidates should draw upon their knowledge and understanding of gender inequality from different units within the specification, exploring differences between both males and females. Aspects of gender inequality that are likely to be identified and discussed are:  • education • family • employment • income and wealth • health and welfare • housing • poverty • political power • patterns of crime and deviance • other relevant response	20	AO1: Knowledge and Understanding  Level 5 13-15 marks Candidates show an excellent knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence. The response demonstrates considerable depth, detail, sophistication and accuracy of a wide range of sociological material.  Heasley Groth Farrell Oakley Greer Walby Pollert Abbott et al Hakim Barron and Norris McDowell Adkins Gilmore Seidler

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
	Candidates should discuss patterns of inequality between males and females to highlight the position of both. Sociological evidence may include empirical studies, data, contemporary examples, concepts, and theoretical material if relevant.  The following concepts may be identified and discussed:   patriarchy status power social mobility stereotypical gender roles conjugal roles dual role socialisation glass ceiling dual labour market class and occupational structure reserve army human capital theory segregation of jobs marginalization social exclusion masculinities access to power and political representation other relevant response		<ul> <li>Connell</li> <li>Other relevant response drawn from other units of study</li> <li>The impact on gender inequality of ethnicity, age and class may be compared or contrasted, as well as the intersection/interrelationship of these dimensions.</li> <li>Contemporary examples might include:</li> <li>Recent patterns of educational achievement</li> <li>Changes in the occupational structure</li> <li>Differential impact of recession</li> <li>Larger numbers of males in higher level occupational/political posts</li> <li>Access to male dominated employment opportunities restricted for females and vice versa</li> <li>Higher levels of male deviance and</li> </ul>	Candidates show a very good knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence. The response is wide ranging with some detail; the material is generally accurate although lacks depth.  The response is likely to include 3 areas of social life, 3 clear points per area and some different types of evidence in the response as a whole.  The quality of written communication will be very good presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  Level 3 7-9 marks  Candidates show a good knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence which is either ranging or detailed. There will be some sociological evidence and concepts but undeveloped. Responses are mostly clear and accurate.  The response is likely to include 3 areas of social life, with 2-3 undeveloped points per area or 2 areas of social life more fully developed; with some different types of evidence in the response as a whole.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
			criminality in statistics Patterns of health e.g. males life expectancy/health worse generally Portrayal of gender in media becoming more diverse but still male dominated Roles in the family Incidence of poverty other relevant response  The quality of written communication will be good, presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  Level 2 4-6 marks Candidates show a basic knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence. The response lacks width and detail, and may occasionally be unclear or inaccurate, and contain errors. Knowledge and understanding of evidence and concepts may be partial, inaccurate and undeveloped.  The response is likely to include 1-2 areas of social life, with 1-2 points per area; or 1 area more fully. The evidence is likely to be narrow in scope and with few types across the response as a whole.  The quality of written communication will be basic, presenting some sociological material and some errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  Level 1 1-3 marks Candidates show a limited knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence. The response contains very little sociological material and shows considerable inaccuracy and lack of clarity/relevance.

			The response may simply describe an
Car app gen	D2a: Interpretation and Application andidates are expected to interpret and ply their knowledge and understanding of nder inequality in their response to the estion.	Candidates at the higher levels of response (L5 and L4) tend to refer back to the question/issue in a clear and explicit way.  Most candidates will achieve a L3 and above if the material is generally relevant.  Candidates at L1 tend to talk about inequality in general with gender disadvantage being	aspect of inequality in general.  The quality of written communication will be limited, presenting some sociological material with limited coherence and frequent errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  O marks  No relevant sociological knowledge or understanding.  AO2a: Interpretation and Application  Level 5 5 marks  Candidates show an excellent ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is clearly, explicitly and consistently related to the question.  Level 4 4 marks  Candidates show a very good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is clearly and explicitly related to the question.  Level 3 3 marks  Candidates show a good ability to

Q	uesti	on	Answer	Marks		Guidance
						Level 2 2 marks Candidates show a basic ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is partially relevant, generalised and lacking focus.
						Level 1 1 mark Candidates show a limited ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is only marginally related to the question.  O marks No relevant sociological interpretation or application.
4	b		QUESTION: 4b. Outline and assess the view that gender is the most important form of social inequality.  AO1: Knowledge and Understanding	40		AO1: Knowledge and Understanding
			A number of feminist and other approaches to gender and inequality may be presented and described. Some candidates may only discuss feminist theories without directly addressing the idea of gender being the most important form of inequality – this acceptable.		Gender inequalities in different aspects of social life may be used to illustrate answers, such as education, employment, income and wealth, health and welfare, housing, political power, and	Level 5 Candidates show an excellent knowledge and understanding. The response demonstrates considerable depth, detail, sophistication and accuracy of a wide range of sociological material, especially theoretical and conceptual.
			Candidates may also focus on feminist explanations or a range of different sociological explanations.		patterns of crime and deviance. Alternative theoretical explanations of gender inequality and	The response is likely to describe 4 or more aspects of the target theory and refer to a wide range of concepts and studies.

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
	The following concepts may be identified and discussed:      gender     sexual division of labour     sexism     glass ceiling     patriarchy     vertical and horizontal segregation     dual career     triple systems     human capital     socialisation     capitalism and social class     status     power     ethnicity and race     fragmentation     cultural differences     individualisation     identity     other relevant response  Candidates may refer to sociological writers such as:  Walby     Firestone     Millet     Hartmann     Oakley     Abbott     Collins		difference may be explored and/or juxtaposed, for example Marxist, neo-Marxist, functionalist, feminist, post modern and Weberian. Structural, action and cultural approaches to explaining gender inequality may be explored. The impact on gender inequality of age, ethnicity and class may be compared or contrasted, as well as the intersection/interrelationshi p of these dimensions.	The quality of written communication will be excellent presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with very few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  Level 4 10-12 marks Candidates show a very good knowledge and understanding. The response is wide ranging with some detail; the material is generally accurate although lacks depth.  The response is likely to describe 3 or more aspects of the target theory and refer to a range of concepts and studies.  The quality of written communication will be very good presenting appropriate material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  Level 3 7-9 marks Candidates show a good knowledge and understanding which is either ranging or detailed. There will be some sociological evidence and concepts but undeveloped. Responses are mostly clear and accurate.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	Mirza		The response is likely to describe 2 or
	<ul> <li>Hakim</li> </ul>		more aspects of the target theory and
	<ul> <li>Derrida</li> </ul>		refer to some concepts and studies.
	<ul> <li>Haste</li> </ul>		T1 19 6 19
	<ul> <li>Marx</li> </ul>		The quality of written communication
	<ul> <li>Weber</li> </ul>		will be good, presenting appropriate
	<ul> <li>other relevant response</li> </ul>		material in a logical, accurate and coherent manner, with few errors of
			grammar, punctuation and spelling.
			grammar, punctuation and spening.
			Level 2 4-6 marks
			Candidates show a basic knowledge
			and understanding. The response
			lacks width and detail, and may
			occasionally be unclear or inaccurate,
			and contain errors. Knowledge and
			understanding of evidence and
			concepts may be partial, inaccurate
			and undeveloped.
			The response is likely to describe 1 or
			more aspects of the target theory and
			refer to a few concepts and/or studies.
			'
			The quality of written communication
			will be basic, presenting some
			sociological material and some errors
			of grammar, punctuation and spelling.
			Level 1 1-3 marks
			Candidates show a limited knowledge
			and understanding. The response
			contains very little sociological
			material and shows considerable
			inaccuracy and lack of
			clarity/relevance.

Question	Answer	Marks		Guidance
Question	AO2a: Interpretation and Application  Candidates are expected to interpret and apply their knowledge and understanding of feminist and other explanations of inequality in their response to the question.	Marks	Candidates at the higher levels of response (L5 and L4) tend to refer back to the question/issue in a clear and explicit way.  Most candidates will achieve a L3 and above if the material is generally relevant.  Candidates at L1 tend to talk about inequality in general with gender inequality being implicit.	The response may simply describe an aspect of inequality in general.  The quality of written communication will be limited, presenting some sociological material with limited coherence and frequent errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.  O marks  No relevant sociological knowledge or understanding.  AO2a: Interpretation and Application  Level 5 5 marks  Candidates show an excellent ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is clearly, explicitly and consistently related to the question.  Level 4 4 marks  Candidates show a very good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is clearly and explicitly related to the question.  Level 3 3 marks  Candidates show a good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and explicitly related to the question.  Level 3 3 marks  Candidates show a good ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is related to the question occasionally and the

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
			relevance may be implicit at times.  Level 2 2 marks  Candidates show a basic ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is partially relevant, generalised and lacking
			Level 1 1 mark Candidates show a limited ability to interpret sociological knowledge and evidence. The material is only marginally related to the question.  O marks No relevant sociological interpretation or application.
	AO2b: Analysis and Evaluation  Candidates are expected to evaluate and assess sociological explanations of gender inequality, presenting a range of strengths and/or weaknesses of these approaches to understanding gender inequality. Likely arguments might include:  • recognizes the role of male power and dominance in creating gender inequality in the workplace		AO2b: Analysis and Evaluation  Level 5 17-20 marks Candidates show an excellent ability to analyse and evaluate. Sustained evaluative skills are demonstrated throughout and the response has an analytical and reflective tone. Responses should offer a critical review of the target theoretical perspective or view drawing upon 2 or more alternative theoretical perspectives.
	<ul> <li>values female contributions to societies, celebrates female cultures</li> </ul>		There will be a clear attempt to draw a conclusion about/assess the value of

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	<ul> <li>and recognises the role of women in the workplace</li> <li>provides a theoretical basis for addressing gender inequalities in the workplace</li> </ul>		the theoretical perspective or view that is the focus of the question. There will be a wide range of strengths and weaknesses.
	<ul> <li>helps to understand the linking of gender inequality across different aspects of social life – family, education, media, crime, etc.</li> </ul>		There are likely to be 4 or more developed evaluative points with additional undeveloped points.
	<ul> <li>doesn't provide an explanation of the origins of patriarchy historically or socially</li> </ul>		Level 4 13-16 marks Candidates show a very good ability
	<ul> <li>the role of socialization and biological influences not highlighted sufficiently</li> </ul>		to analyse and evaluate. Responses should offer a critical review of the target theoretical perspective or view
	<ul> <li>underestimates the importance of class, race, ethnicity and age in inequality</li> </ul>		drawing upon 2 or more alternative theoretical perspectives.
	<ul> <li>tends to underestimate the importance of concepts like status and power in understanding inequalities</li> </ul>		There will be an attempt to draw a conclusion about/assess the value of the theoretical perspective or view that is the focus of the question. There
	<ul> <li>underestimates the changing and fragmented nature of social and gender inequality, diversity and</li> </ul>		will be a range of strengths and weaknesses.
	<ul><li>culture</li><li>doesn't acknowledge the way class and other aspects of inequality may</li></ul>		There are likely to be 3 or more developed evaluative points with some additional undeveloped points.
	reinforce each other, e.g. race and gender  other relevant response		Level 3 9-12 marks Candidates show a good ability to analyse and evaluate. Responses should offer a critical review of the
	Comparison of alternative theoretical explanations is expected, for example		target theoretical perspective or view drawing upon 1 or more alternative theoretical perspectives.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	Marxist, neo-Marxist, feminist, functionalist, post modern and Weberian.		There may be a weak attempt to draw a conclusion about/assess the value of the theoretical perspective or view that is the focus of the question. There will be some strengths and/or weaknesses.
			There are likely to be 2 or more developed evaluative points or a range of undeveloped points.
			Level 2 5-8 marks Candidates show a basic ability to analyse and evaluate. Responses are likely to offer a few generalised, asserted evaluative points with little supporting evidence or argument. If present, different theoretical approaches are likely to be juxtaposed simply and implicitly. Material may be partial and inaccurate.  There are likely to be some
			undeveloped points.
			Level 1 1-4 marks Candidates show a limited ability to analyse and evaluate. Evaluation is only implicit, minimal, assertive and tangential to the main issue.
			<b>0 marks</b> No relevant sociological analysis or evaluation.

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