



GCE AS/A level

1352/01 – **LEGACY**



SOCIOLOGY – SY2
UNIT 2: Understanding Culture

A.M. TUESDAY, 24 May 2016

1 hour 30 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **question 1** and **one** other question.

You are advised to divide your time according to the mark allocation given.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

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

You are reminded that assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

Credit will be given for reference to recent public debate and research publications.

Compulsory

1. Look at the item below and answer the following questions.

Research finds that families need an income of £36,800 a year

In 2012, researchers at Loughborough University conducted their fifth annual minimum income study for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. They questioned a range of people in 21 different focus groups (group interviews). They wanted to learn how much money coming into the household people needed in order to live within the social norms for modern Britain. The groups were made up of people from working families, pensioners and people of working age on a range of income levels. It could be argued that this helped ensure **representativeness**.

Adapted from the BBC website

Source: www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk

- (a) Using material from the item and elsewhere, fully explain the meaning of the term **representativeness**. [10]
- (b) With reference to the item and sociological studies, explain the strengths and limitations of focus groups (group interviews). [20]

Choose **one** question from the following options.

Either,

Education

2. (a) Outline and explain what is meant by self-fulfilling prophecy in education. [20]
- (b) Outline and assess the reasons for inequality of opportunity in the British education system. [40]

Or,

Religion

3. (a) Outline and explain the meaning of the term fundamentalism. [20]
- (b) Outline and assess functionalist views of religion. [40]

Or,

Mass Media

4. (a) Outline and explain the term audience effects. [20]
- (b) Outline and assess the view that the owners of the media have a strong influence over media content. [40]

END OF PAPER