



GCE AS – **NEW AS**

B200U20-1



SOCIOLOGY – Component 2
Methods of Sociological Enquiry



A.M. TUESDAY, 24 May 2016

1 hour 15 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **all** parts of question one.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

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 following item and answer each part of the following question.

The London riots 2011

The researchers wanted to understand the motivations, attitudes and experiences of people who took part in the riots of August 2011. **Unstructured interviews** were conducted with 270 people. They were held in people's homes, fast food restaurants, cafes and youth clubs. The researchers had local contacts and knowledge of the communities. They used a form of snowball sampling to identify potential interviewees.

A third of the sample was aged between 10 and 17 years old and almost half were between 18 and 25. Four-fifths were male and one-fifth female. The researchers thought the ratio of males to females was probably not a true reflection of those who took part in the riots. In addition to the interviews, 2.5 million riot related tweets were analysed and a quantitative analysis of 1000 court records was carried out.

Adapted from The Guardian/The London School of Economics and Political Science. Reading the Riots: Investigating England's Summer of Disorder 2011.

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

1. (a) Using material from the item and sociological knowledge, explain the meaning of the term **unstructured interviews**. [5]
- (b) Using material from the item and sociological knowledge, explain **two** problems that may have arisen when interviewing young people. [10]
- (c) With reference to the item and sociological knowledge, identify **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using snowball sampling. [10]
- (d) With reference to sociological studies, discuss the strengths and weaknesses of using more than one method in sociological research. [25]

END OF PAPER