



**GCE A LEVEL**

A200U20-1



**TUESDAY, 4 JUNE 2019 – AFTERNOON**

**SOCIOLOGY – A level component 2**  
**Methods of Sociological Enquiry**

1 hour 45 minutes

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

A WJEC 16-page pink answer booklet.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided.

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The total mark for this paper is 60 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.

Answer **all** questions.

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

### **Policing gypsies and travellers**

Zoe James wanted to study groups who have difficult relationships with the police. One part of James' study was on New Travellers, sometimes known as New Age Travellers. The study was particularly difficult to do, as New Travellers are suspicious of outsiders and particularly researchers. Her study consisted of 17 unstructured interviews and one focus group with travellers living on unauthorized sites throughout the south-west of England in 2005. Interviewees were gained through the use of snowball sampling via initial contacts made by a 'gatekeeper'. The interviews were not taped as the New Travellers were very wary of having their views directly recorded.

*Adapted from A2 Sociology, Moore, S. Aiken, D. and Chapman, S. (2009)*

1. (a) Using material from the item and sociological knowledge, explain the meaning of the term focus group. [5]
  - (b) Using material from the item and sociological knowledge, explain **one** possible reason why the researcher decided to use snowball sampling in this research. [5]
  - (c) With reference to the item and sociological studies, discuss the strengths and weaknesses of using unstructured interviews in sociological research. [20]
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2. As an A level Sociology student you have been asked to design a research project to collect data on attitudes towards education amongst a sample of young boys in your area.
    - Describe each stage of your research design, justifying the reasons for your choices at each stage.
    - Discuss problems that may occur and the impact of these problems on the quality of the data collected. [30]

**END OF PAPER**