UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

SOCIOLOGY   **0495/01**

Paper 1   **May/June 2009**

                                                                2 hours 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.
Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer Question 1 and **three** questions from Sections **B** to **D**.
At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

UNIVERSITY *of* CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

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Section A: Research Methods

Secondary data is often used in sociological research. It can be used in different types of sociological study. Sociologists often examine official statistics when they are seeking to gather statistical data about general changes in society. This way of gathering data is often used by sociologists who favour collecting quantitative data.

Other sociologists have a different view of how society should be studied. They seek to collect qualitative data and will often use personal records, such as letters, newspaper articles, television reports and historical documents. Such data helps to provide insights into how individuals make sense of the world in which they live.

Secondary data can support primary data, but there are a number of problems associated with its use. The validity of the data can be called into question and the data may not always provide the exact information required.

1 (a) What is meant by the following terms:

    (i) official statistics [2]

    (ii) qualitative data [2]

    (iii) validity. [2]

(b) Explain the difference between *primary* and *secondary* data. [4]

(c) Describe **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of the use of secondary data in sociological research. [4]

(d) Describe **two** advantages of using primary data in sociological research. [4]

(e) Describe **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using historical documents in sociological research. [4]

(f) Identify and explain **two** advantages and **two** disadvantages of using official statistics in sociological research. [8]

Section B: Culture and Socialisation

2   Sociologists argue that humans are shaped by various agencies of socialisation.

   (a) What is meant by the term *socialisation*? [2]

   (b) Briefly describe **two** *agencies of socialisation*. [4]

   (c) Explain how males and females may be socialised differently. [6]

   (d) How far is socialisation important in the social development of the individual? [8]

3   For social order to be established, people have to control their behaviour. This is achieved by various forms of social control.

   (a) What is meant by *social order*? [2]

   (b) Explain the terms *informal* and *formal* social control. [4]

   (c) Explain how social control is maintained in modern industrial societies. [6]

   (d) Assess the view that the laws of society benefit the powerful. [8]

Section C: Social Stratification and Inequality

4   Ethnic minorities tend to suffer discrimination in various areas of their lives and people from poor backgrounds are still likely to remain in poverty.

   (a) What is meant by *discrimination*? [2]

   (b) Describe **two** ways in which ethnic minorities may experience discrimination. [4]

   (c) Explain why ethnic minorities tend to earn less than other groups in modern industrial societies. [6]

   (d) How far does growing up in poverty affect an individual's opportunities in life? [8]

5   There is much inequality of wealth in industrial societies and the gap between the rich and the poor continues to grow wider.

   (a) What is meant by the term *inequality of wealth*? [2]

   (b) Describe **two** actions governments can take to reduce the gap between the poorest and wealthiest members of society. [4]

   (c) Explain why the poor are likely to remain in poverty throughout their lives. [6]

   (d) Assess the factors that enable the wealthiest members of society to maintain their priviliged position in society. [8]

Section D: Power and Authority

6 In democratic systems governments gain their authority from winning free elections.

   (a) What is meant by the term *free elections*? [2]

   (b) Explain the difference between *power* and *authority*. [4]

   (c) Explain how political parties attempt to win elections. [6]

   (d) How far do pressure groups influence government decision-making? [8]

7 The media often plays an important role in elections by having an influence on floating voters.

   (a) What is meant by the term *floating voters*? [2]

   (b) Describe **two** factors, other than the media, that may influence the way an individual votes. [4]

   (c) Explain how the media may influence the way individuals vote. [6]

   (d) "Social class is still the main influence on the way people vote in elections."
   Assess this claim. [8]