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UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

CANDIDATE NAME	

CENTRE NUMBER						CANDIDATE NUMBER				

7467206941

SOCIOLOGY **0495/11**

Paper 1 **October/November 2011**

2 hours 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No additional materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black ink.
You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.
DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer Question 1 and **three** questions from Sections **B** to **D**.
You may not need all the answer lines for your answer.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **22** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

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Sociology

For Examiner's Use

Section A: Research Methods

1 Questionnaires and structured interviews are quantitative research methods. They are normally used by positivist sociologists who favour using scientific methods to collect data. Questionnaires can be conducted on a face-to-face basis, or can be sent by post. Researchers who use questionnaires often conduct a pilot study before they begin in order to identify any difficulties. They also need to select a suitable sampling frame in order for the results to be representative.

Closed questions are often used with questionnaires. They help to improve the reliability of the study. Sociologists who prefer to collect qualitative data say that questionnaires lack validity. They favour less formal research methods, such as unstructured interviews and participant observation.

(a) In sociological research, what is meant by the following terms:

(i) structured interviews

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(ii) pilot study

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(iii) closed questions

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(b) Describe **two** methods of selecting a sample when carrying out a postal questionnaire.

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(c) Describe **two** suitable sampling frames when using a questionnaire.

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(d) Describe **two** problems of using a *postal* questionnaire.

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(e) Describe **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using open-ended questions in a questionnaire.

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(f) Describe **two** advantages and **two** disadvantages of using structured interviews in sociological research.

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Section B: Culture and Socialisation

For Examiner's Use

2 Cultural differences between societies are reproduced through the process of socialisation. It is also through socialisation that children learn their social roles.

(a) What is meant by the term *cultural differences*?

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(b) Describe **two** social roles an individual performs.

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(c) Explain how children learn their social roles.

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(d) To what extent is social order based on shared values in modern industrial societies?

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3 Various forms of social control are important in creating stability in society. Both formal and informal social controls play an important role in all societies.

(a) What is meant by the term *formal social control*?

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(b) Describe **two** examples of informal social control.

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(c) Explain the role of government in maintaining social control.

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(d) How far does social control benefit the wealthy and powerful members of society more than other members?

For Examiner's Use

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Section C: Social Stratification and Inequality

For Examiner's Use

4 In most societies people who are wealthy have a high status.

(a) What is meant by the term *high status*?

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(b) Describe **one** example of ascribed status and **one** example of achieved status.

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(c) Explain why wealthy families often remain wealthy over many generations.

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(d) How far does coming from a wealthy background affect a person's life chances?

For Examiner's Use

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For Examiner's Use

5 Ethnic minorities are often still discriminated against, even though governments have introduced policies to reduce social inequality.

(a) What is meant by the term *social inequality*?

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(b) Describe **two** forms of discrimination ethnic minorities may face.

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(c) Explain why ethnic minorities are likely to face discrimination.

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(d) How far have life chances improved for ethnic minorities in modern industrial societies?

For Examiner's Use

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Section D: Power and Authority

For Examiner's Use

6 In democratic systems, there are many ways in which people can participate in the political process. The opposite is true in authoritarian regimes.

(a) What is meant by the term *political participation*?

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(b) Describe **two** ways an individual can participate in the political system.

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(c) Explain the differences between democratic and authoritarian forms of political systems.

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(d) How far are the powers of government limited in a democracy?

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7 Political socialisation takes place in a number of ways in democracies.

(a) What is meant by the term *political socialisation*?

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(b) Describe **two** ways in which people develop their political views.

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(c) Explain why people may change their political views as they become older.

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(d) How far do the mass media influence the way people vote in elections?

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