



**Cambridge International Examinations**  
Cambridge Ordinary Level

**SOCIOLOGY**

**2251/12**

Paper 1

**May/June 2018**

**2 hours (including 15 minutes' reading time)**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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

\*4795007175\*

This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



**Section A: Theory and methods**

Answer Question 1.

**1 Source A**

Diane Reay and her colleagues wanted to study people going to university in the UK, who were not from traditional middle class backgrounds.

The researchers studied people from six different universities as their sample population. They gave out 502 questionnaires and followed this up with 53 interviews with students. The qualitative interviews were thought not to be representative of the whole sample population.

The students were given a free choice to define their own ethnicity. The result was not as the researchers expected. In the UK the majority of the people are 'White' but less than half of the sample defined their ethnicity this way. One interviewee defined himself by his nationality rather than by his ethnicity.

Adapted from Moore et. al. *Sociology*

- (a) Using Source A, identify the **two** research methods used by the researchers. [2]
- (b) Identify **two** methods that might be used to research who goes to university, apart from those in Source A. [2]
- (c) Using Source A, describe **two** problems with the researchers' methods. [4]
- (d) Describe **two** reasons why research may be conducted covertly. [4]
- (e) Describe **two** strengths and **two** limitations of using self-completion questionnaires in sociological research. [8]
- (f) Explain why sociologists may use triangulation in their research. [10]
- (g) To what extent is it possible to generalise from research? [15]

Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

**Section B: Culture, identity and socialisation**

- 2 Adolescents often feel peer pressure to fit in with their friends. This may lead to them changing their norms, values and identity in order to be accepted by their peer group.
- (a) What is meant by the term 'peer group'? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** examples of peer pressure. [4]
  - (c) Explain how children learn social conformity. [6]
  - (d) Explain why belonging to a youth sub-culture may have a negative impact on the individual. [8]
  - (e) To what extent is the peer group the most important agency of socialisation? [15]

**Section C: Social inequality**

- 3 Minority ethnic groups are at higher risk of poverty and often have to rely on the welfare state. Some sociologists claim that this is due to unemployment and low pay.
- (a) What is meant by the term 'welfare state'? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** ways governments can improve the life chances of the poor. [4]
  - (c) Explain how minority ethnic groups face inequality in modern industrial societies. [6]
  - (d) Explain why the welfare state may have failed to reduce poverty in modern industrial societies. [8]
  - (e) To what extent has discrimination been eliminated in modern industrial societies? [15]

**BLANK PAGE**

---

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge International Examinations Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk) after the live examination series.

Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.