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UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

International General Certificate of Secondary Education

MARK SCHEME for the May/June 2011 question paper

for the guidance of teachers

0495 SOCIOLOGY

0495/23 Paper 2, maximum raw mark 60

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes must be read in conjunction with the question papers and the report on the examination.

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Section A: The Family

1 In modern industrial societies roles within the family have changed considerably.

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

The socially accepted patterns of behaviour associated with a particular status.

A clear definition along these lines = 2 marks; an incomplete definition showing some understanding = 1 mark.

(b) Describe <u>two</u> examples of how the roles of men have changed in modern industrial societies. [4]

Examples include: 'new man', more involved in childrearing and household duties, sharing decisions with female partner; house husbands, staying at home to care for children whilst wife goes out to work.

A basic statement of one relevant change = 1 mark; a developed statement of just one example = 2 marks. A basic statement of two examples = 2 marks.

(c) Explain why sociologists think that families have become increasingly child-centred in modern industrial societies. [6]

Smaller families, more individual attention for each child. Shorter working week, parents have more leisure time. Increasing affluence means parents have more money to spend on children's activities. Welfare state has put pressure on parents to look after children properly.

Level 1: A few basic comments, with little linkage to the question. (0–3)
Level 2: Several relevant sociological comments will be discussed. (4–6)

(d) How far is there equality in the roles performed by men and women within the family in modern industrial societies? [8]

Level 1: A few commonsensical points, relying on assertion and over-generalisation. (0–3)
Level 2: Relevant sociological observations will appear, possibly offering a fixed answer rather than exploring different perspectives. (4–6)
Level 3: Candidates will provide a well-informed account of the relevant debates surrounding sexual equality and conjugal roles in modern society. To reach the top of the band a well-reasoned conclusion will appear. (7–8)

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2 The reconstituted family has become increasingly common in modern industrial societies.

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

A family where one or both partners have been previously married, and bring with them children from a previous relationship.

A clear definition along these lines = 2 marks. An incomplete definition showing some understanding = 1 mark.

(b) Describe <u>two</u> reasons why the number of reconstituted families has increased over the last fifty years. [4]

Reasons include: rising divorce rates, increasing number of remarriages and the growing acceptance of serial monogamy. (2 × 2)

(c) Explain the consequences for society of an increasingly high divorce rate. [6]

Consequences include: increasing number of single parents, increasing burden on welfare state and social services, psychological damage to children and possibly mental illness and crime.

Level 1: Answers at this level may be confined to a brief account of one or two relevant causes. (0–3)
Level 2: A wider range of factors will be covered at this level and, at the top of the band, the explanations will be sustained. (4–6)

(d) How far can the increase in the divorce rate in modern industrial societies be explained in terms of the growing independence of women? [8]

Level 1: A few commonsensical points, relying on assertion and over-generalisation. (0–3)
Level 2: A few relevant sociological points will appear at this level or one or two well-reasoned points. (4–6)
Level 3: Answers will demonstrate a good understanding of the issues raised by the question and there will be some attempt at assessment. (7–8)

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Section B: Education

3 Some sociologists claim that the main role of schools is to prepare young people to be hard-working and obedient members of society. This is achieved largely through processes outside the official curriculum.

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

The official curriculum may be defined as the 'stated agenda' of subjects taught within an educational establishment.

A clear and accurate definition along these lines = 2 marks. 1 mark for evidence of partial understanding.

(b) Describe <u>two</u> ways in which schools encourage pupils to be hard-working. [4]

Through rewards and punishments e.g. certificates, medals, gold stars, streaming and setting/detention, loss of privileges.

Through the hidden curriculum/concept of meritocracy. (2 × 2)

(c) Explain the role of informal education in traditional societies. [6]

Through primary socialisation skills and knowledge are passed from one generation to the next.

Without any formal education children learn from their elders and peers.

Level 1: Answers at this level may be confined to a brief account of one or two relevant factors. (0–3)
Level 2: A wider range of factors will be covered at this level and, at the top of the band, the explanations will be sustained. (4–6)

(d) Assess the view that the main role of schools is to prepare young people to be obedient members of society. [8]

Level 1: Answers may be based on assertion and common sense. (0–3)
Level 2: At this level the hidden curriculum and the correspondence principle should appear in an explicit or implicit way. (4–6)
Level 3: Answers will demonstrate a good understanding of the issues raised by the question, functionalist or Marxist views will appear and there will be some attempt at assessment. (7–8)

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4 Despite compensatory education and equality of opportunity, pupils from some social backgrounds still underachieve in schools today.

(a) What is meant by the term *equality of opportunity*? [2]

All pupils should have an equal chance to succeed regardless of gender, social class or ethnic background.

A clear definition along these lines = 2 marks. An incomplete definition showing some understanding = 1 mark.

(b) Describe <u>two</u> groups of people who are more likely to underachieve at school. [4]

Relevant groups include: certain ethnic minorities, working classes, children from poor families and girls. (2 × 2)

(c) Explain how schools use compensatory education in order to improve educational achievement. [6]

Relevant factors include: extra school classes including English for those for whom it is a second language, extra-curricular activities for disadvantaged groups, free school meals and transport for those from low-income families and the provision of free resources e.g. text books, computers etc.

Level 1: A few basic points with little linkage to the question. (0–3)
Level 2: Several relevant sociological points directly linked to compensatory education. (0–4)

(d) How far does equality of opportunity exist in the education systems of modern industrial societies? [8]

Obstacles such as, for example, social class, race and gender, along with cultural and material deprivation may appear. The existence of private fee-paying schools, the hidden curriculum, ethnocentric curriculum, teachers' and parental expectations, labelling, stereotyping and the anti-school subculture are also relevant here.

Level 1: A few basic points about inequality in general with little linkage to the question. (0–3)
Level 2: Two or more relevant points should appear at this level with linkage to the question. (4–6)
Level 3: Several well-reasoned points will appear at this level with explicit links to the question. (7–8)

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Section C: Crime, Deviance and Social Control

5 Social conformity refers to a situation where people accept the dominant values of society. Sanctions and rewards are used to encourage social conformity.

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

Rewards and punishments used to persuade people to conform.

A clear definition along these lines = 2 marks. An incomplete definition showing some understanding = 1 mark.

(b) Describe <u>two</u> examples of rewards that may be used to encourage social conformity. [4]

Examples are many and varied and may include: verbal praise, awards and certificates, medals, promotion or special privileges. (2 × 2)

(c) Explain how sanctions help to ensure social conformity. [6]

Types of punishment both formal (fines, prison) and informal (ridicule, ostracisation) will appear here.

Level 1: Answers may be commonsensical or list-like. (0–3)
Level 2: Several relevant sociological factors will appear with appropriate explanations. (4–6)

(d) How far is non-conformity a threat to the dominant values of society? [8]

Level 1: A few generalised points based on common sense rather than sociological insight can be expected at this level. (0–3)
Level 2: A few relevant sociological observations are made, possibly relying on a fairly descriptive account of crime or youth subcultures and their effect on society. (4–6)
Level 3: Answers will demonstrate a good understanding of theories of crime and deviance and how far they represent a threat to the dominant values of society. (7–8)

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6 The idea that there is a 'typical criminal' is a stereotype. Crimes are committed by people from a wide range of social backgrounds, though this fact might not be reflected in the official crime statistics.

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

A generalised, over-simplified view of a social group.

A clear definition along these lines = 2 marks. An incomplete definition showing some understanding = 1 mark.

(b) Describe <u>two</u> groups who are likely to fit the stereotype of a criminal. [4]

Examples include ethnic minorities, young males, working classes and those living in poor urban areas. (2 × 2)

(c) Explain why female crime is under-represented in the official crime statistics. [6]

Explanations include: gender role socialisation; police attitudes to female crime; girls tend to be more closely supervised by parents and the demands and constraints of the housewife/ mother role.

Level 1: A few basic points relying on assertion or common sense. (0–3)
Level 2: Several relevant sociological points will appear with appropriate explanations. (4–6)

(d) To what extent do self-report studies and victim surveys reflect the amount of crime in society more accurately than the official crime statistics? [8]

Level 1: A few general points about crime statistics with little linkage to the question. (0–3)
Level 2: Two or more relevant points relating to anonymous questionnaires and surveys and their accuracy will appear at this level. (4–6)
Level 3: Several relevant points will be discussed examining the usefulness of these studies compared with that of the official crime statistics. For example: people are more likely to be honest in anonymous surveys, may include types of crime that are not accounted for in official statistics, conducted by non-biased researchers etc. (7–8)

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Section D: Mass Media

7 Although the mass media in democratic societies is largely free from censorship, there are still some limits to what can be written and broadcast by the mass media.

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

The suppression of published or broadcast material.

A clear definition along these lines = 2 marks. An incomplete definition showing some understanding = 1 mark.

(b) Describe <u>two</u> limits to the freedom of the mass media in modern industrial societies. [4]

Examples include: Defence or 'D' notices, libel laws and legal acts such as the Race Relations Act, the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the Obscene Publications Act. (2 × 2)

(c) Explain the dangers for democratic societies of the mass media being owned by a few powerful individuals. [6]

Good answers will highlight the importance of television as an influence on political debate and decision-making in democratic societies. The potential for bias and manipulation by powerful media moguls will be considered. Links between owners and political parties may also be explored.

Level 1: A few basic observations, possibly relying mainly on assertion and with some over-generalisation. (0–3)
Level 2: A clear accurate explanation is offered. At the top of the band, the candidate will reach appropriate and well-reasoned conclusions. (4–6)

(d) How far can the mass media be used as an agent of social control? [8]

Level 1: A few generalised points about the mass media with few or no links to the question. (0–3)
Level 2: Two or more relevant points directly linked to the question. (4–6)
Level 3: Several relevant sociological points will appear at this level. To reach the top of the band the 'how far' part of the question should be addressed. (7–8)

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8 By dramatising and exaggerating certain behaviours, the mass media can cause what sociologists refer to as 'moral panic'.

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

Public concern about an exaggerated or imaginary threat to society.

A clear definition along these lines = 2 marks. An incomplete definition showing some understanding = 1 mark.

(b) Describe <u>two</u> ways in which the mass media may exaggerate certain behaviours. [4]

Use of sensationalised headlines, news stories or inappropriate use of photographs. Sensationalising behaviours which may then lead to moral panics. E.g. drug and alcohol use by teenagers, hoodies as criminals etc. (2 × 2)

(c) Explain how the mass media use scapegoats and stereotypes to create moral panics. [6]

Level 1: A few basic points about the media with little linkage to the question. (0–3)
Level 2: Several relevant points will appear at this level, such as the way in which the media portrays women as sex objects, teenagers as trouble makers and people on benefits as scroungers. (4–6)

(d) To what extent can moral panics lead to an increase in deviancy? [8]

Level 1: A few commonsensical points not directly linked to the question. (0–3)
Level 2: Two or more relevant sociological points will appear about the links between the media, moral panics and deviancy amplification. (4–6)
Level 3: Several relevant points will be discussed. Answers at the top of the band will address the 'how far' part of the question. (7–8)

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