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Cambridge
O Level

Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Ordinary Level

SOCIOLOGY **2251/13**

Paper 1 **October/November 2015**

2 hours (including 15 minutes' reading time)

No Additional Materials are required.

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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 **one** question from Sections **B** or **C**.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

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

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Section A: Theory and methods

Answer Question 1.

1 Source A, 'Violence against Wives'

Can you remember what actually led up to the first time he hit you?

It's only now that I remember. It's just that we used to sit and quarrel and he'd end up attacking me. I used to feel that he was very jealous and I couldn't wear make-up or anything. That's how the arguments used to start. I hadn't even gone out, but I'd maybe feel like dressing up in my best clothes. Then he'd start hitting me.

And can you remember what happened the first time he hit you? Was it just a punch?

He just punched me under the chin. I was almost unconscious.

Adapted from: Dobash and Dobash 'Violence Against Wives' (1980)

(a) From the evidence in Source A, identify the research method being used. [2]

(b) Identify **two** problems a researcher may face in collecting qualitative data. [2]

(c) Using information from Source A, describe **two** reasons why the evidence shown may be high in validity. [4]

(d) Describe **two** strengths of using closed questions in sociological research. [4]

(e) Describe **two** strengths and **two** limitations of group interviews in sociological research. [8]

(f) Explain why positivists would not use qualitative methods. [10]

(g) To what extent may the presence of the researcher affect the people being studied? [15]

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

Section B: Culture, identity and socialisation

2 Adolescence is a life stage which has become increasingly important in modern industrial society. Adolescents often have their own youth sub-cultures which appear not to conform to the norms and values of the rest of society.

(a) What is meant by the term 'adolescence'? [2]

(b) Describe **two** examples of a sub-culture. [4]

(c) Explain how western culture has influenced the lives of non-western youth. [6]

(d) Explain why youth sub-cultures may reject the norms and values of the wider society. [8]

(e) To what extent is the peer group the most important agency of secondary socialisation? [15]

Section C: Social inequality

3 All societies have systems of social stratification. Social stratification can be based on age. In modern industrial society young people and the elderly can experience discrimination as a result of age. Often they have to rely on government welfare payments and they may find themselves in a poverty trap.

(a) What is meant by the term 'social stratification'? [2]

(b) Describe **two** examples of social stratification apart from age. [4]

(c) Explain how government welfare payments may create a poverty trap. [6]

(d) Explain why young people may have lower status than other social groups. [8]

(e) To what extent do the elderly suffer discrimination due to their age? [15]

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