



# Cambridge O Level

---

## SOCIOLOGY

2251/22

Paper 2

October/November 2023

1 hour 45 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

---

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

### INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 70.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

---

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



Answer **two** questions

**Section A: Family**

- 1 Functionalists claim that the nuclear family is the norm and that it is the best type of family for individuals to live in. Other sociologists disagree and claim that family diversity is now more typical and that some individuals have negative experiences of family life. Experiences of family life may depend on many factors such as an individual's gender, social class and their expected family roles.
- (a) What is meant by the term 'family diversity'? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** positive functions of the family. [4]
- (c) Explain how family roles are changing. [6]
- (d) Explain why some individuals may have negative experiences of family life. [8]
- (e) To what extent is the nuclear family the norm? [15]

**Section B: Education**

- 2 Some sociologists claim that discrimination has been reduced in schools. They argue that education is a fair and equal system that rewards intelligence and effort. Other sociologists disagree as some social groups achieve better than others in education. This may be due to the type of school attended. For example, experiences in single-sex schools will be different to other schools.
- (a) What is meant by the term 'single-sex school'? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** functions of education. [4]
- (c) Explain how gender discrimination has been reduced in schools. [6]
- (d) Explain why some sociologists are critical of private schools. [8]
- (e) To what extent is educational achievement determined by a student's intelligence and effort? [15]

**Section C: Crime, deviance and social control**

- 3** Official crime statistics reveal a clear trend that most crimes are committed by males. Some sociologists claim it may be due to different gender socialisation. Other sociologists blame factors such as material deprivation and involvement in criminal sub-cultures. However, a criticism of the official crime statistics is that they do not show the true extent of all crimes committed. For example, white-collar crime often goes unreported.
- (a) What is meant by the term 'material deprivation'? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** criminal sub-cultures. [4]
  - (c) Explain how formal agencies of social control deal with crime. [6]
  - (d) Explain why white-collar crime often goes unreported. [8]
  - (e) To what extent does gender socialisation explain why females commit less crime than males? [15]

**Section D: Media**

- 4** Contemporary media includes both new and traditional media and is an agent of socialisation. The media affects values, behaviour and political beliefs. Both new and traditional media have been criticised by sociologists for biased content and inaccurate and distorted representations of some social groups. New media has also been criticised for creating a digital divide.
- (a) What is meant by the term 'traditional media'? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** examples of media folk devils. [4]
  - (c) Explain how males are represented in contemporary media. [6]
  - (d) Explain why political beliefs might be influenced by the media. [8]
  - (e) To what extent has new media created a digital divide? [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 Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at [www.cambridgeinternational.org](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org) after the live examination series.

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