



# Cambridge International AS & A Level

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## SOCIOLOGY

9699/12

Paper 1 The Family

February/March 2020

1 hour 30 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

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### INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:  
Section A: answer Question 1.  
Section B: answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- 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 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

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This document has 4 pages. Blank pages are indicated.

**Section A**

Answer Question 1.

- 1 Men and women often have different conjugal roles in the family. Functionalists believe women have an expressive role which is focused upon providing care and affection for other family members. Men have an instrumental role which is focused upon providing economic support for the family. Functionalists believe that by performing these different roles, family members support each other and contribute to harmonious family life.

Feminists believe that family relationships are based on *patriarchy* which often leads to inequality, conflict and power struggles between men and women. This conflict can have harmful consequences for some family members. However, other sociologists have noted that it is possible for men and women to carry out different conjugal roles without this implying inequality or conflict. This view is expressed through the notion of the symmetrical family.

- (a) Define the term *patriarchy*. [2]
- (b) Describe **two** characteristics of the symmetrical family. [4]
- (c) Explain why some sociologists believe that family life may be harmful for some family members. [8]
- (d) Assess the view that there is equality between men and women in families today. [11]

**Section B**

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

- 2 'The extent of family diversity has been exaggerated.' Explain and assess this view. [25]
- 3 'The family in modern industrial societies has lost its functions.' Explain and assess this view. [25]

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