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Cambridge International A Level

Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International Advanced Level

SOCIOLOGY **9699/31**

Paper 3 Social Inequality and Opportunity **October/November 2015**

3 hours

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 **three** questions, **each from a different section**.
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: Education

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

1 **(a)** Explain how the educational achievement of middle class pupils may be influenced by cultural capital. [9]

(b) 'Education systems are part of the ideological state apparatus'. Assess this view. [16]

2 **(a)** Explain how educational outcomes can be shaped by the pupil-teacher relationship. [9]

(b) 'The gendered curriculum is the main obstacle to females achieving educational success.' Assess this view. [16]

Section B: Global Development

Answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

3 **(a)** Explain the difficulties in defining the term development. [9]

(b) 'Aid programmes may help the poor, but they will never succeed in abolishing poverty.' Assess this view. [16]

4 **(a)** Explain the importance of education programmes in supporting development. [9]

(b) 'Some countries benefit more than others from globalisation'. Assess this view. [16]

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Section C: Media

Answer **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

5 **(a)** Explain why news reports may contain bias. [9]

(b) 'Government censorship is the main factor shaping the content of the media.' Assess this view. [16]

6 **(a)** Explain the cultural effects theory of how human behaviour may be influenced by the media. [9]

(b) 'The media are effective in representing the interests of all groups in society.' Assess this view. [16]

Section D: Religion

Answer **either** Question 7 **or** Question 8.

7 **(a)** Explain the attractions of new religious movements for disadvantaged groups. [9]

(b) 'The decline in religious belief in modern industrial societies is due primarily to the growth in a scientific way of thinking'. Assess this view. [16]

8 **(a)** Explain the difficulties in researching the extent to which people hold religious beliefs. [9]

(b) 'Religion is a form of ideology that supports the interests of the ruling class'. Assess this view. [16]

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