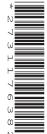


UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

CANDIDATE NAME					
CENTRE NUMBER			CANDIDATE NUMBER		



SOCIOLOGY 2251/11

Paper 1 May/June 2011

2 hours 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer Question 1 and three questions from Sections B to D.

You may not need all the answer lines for your answer.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of 22 printed pages and 2 blank pages.



Section A: Research Methods

For Examiner's Use

1 Participant observation is a research strategy that aims to gain a close and detailed understanding of a particular area of study. This method usually involves the study of a small group where the researcher becomes involved with the people in their natural environment. This research may be covert or overt. Covert participant observation is regarded as less ethically acceptable than overt observation.

With both types of participant observation, there is a risk that the researcher may identify too closely with the group they are studying and stop viewing their behaviour with objectivity. Because this research approach produces qualitative data, it is difficult to compare one piece of research with another. The researcher may also experience difficulties in recording accurately what they observe when studying the group.

Non-Participant observation is another method used to study group activities. It is seen as more ethically acceptable than covert participant observation. However, this method has a number of limitations which may damage the validity of the study. Sociologists also use various forms of interviews to gain detailed information, but these may lack the detail that can be achieved using participant observation.

(a)	In s	ociological research, what is meant by the following terms:
	(i)	covert observation
		[2]
	(ii)	objectivity
		[2]
	(iii)	qualitative data
		[2]

(b)	Describe one strength and one limitation of <i>non-participant</i> observation.	For
		Examiner's
		Use
	[4]	
	• •	
(c)	Describe two reasons why a researcher carrying out participant observation may find it	
(-)	difficult to be accepted by the study group.	
	amount to be accepted by the study group.	
	[4]	
	[1	
(d)	Describe two difficulties in carrying out <i>covert</i> participant observation.	
(-)	2000/100 till announce in oarrying out obvort paraoipant oboor rationi	
	ra.	

bservations accurately	, ,	, .		
			[[4]
				_
escribe two strengths	and two limitations (of using interviews i	n sociological researc	n.

Section B: Culture and Socialisation

Sociologists claim that it is through the process of socialisation that people come to learn the

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nor	ms and values of society.
(a)	What is meant by the term <i>values</i> ?
	[2]
(b)	Distinguish between <i>primary</i> and <i>secondary</i> socialisation.
	[4]

(c)	Explain how young children learn to interact effectively with other people.
	[6]

ĺ	result of socialisation?	
•		

An	individual's roles change as they leave childhood and experience adulthood.	For
(a)	What is meant by the term adulthood?	Examiner's Use
	[0]	
4.	[2]	
(b)	Describe two features of childhood.	
	[4]	

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(c)	Explain how the roles of childhood and adulthood differ.	For
` ,	·	Examiner's
		Use
	[6]	

ow far do the experiences of childhood differ between societies?

Section C: Social Stratification and Inequality

In modern industrial societies there are more opportunities for individuals to improve their life

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nces.
What is meant by the term <i>life chances</i> ?
[2]
Describe two ways through which an individual can improve their life chances.
[4]

(c)	Explain why people in traditional societies are likely to have fewer life chances.
	[6]

How socie	far ties	do ?	won	nen	now	have	equal	opportu	ınities	with	men	in	modern	industr

	erty can be described as absolute or relative. Relative poverty appears to be a greater plem than absolute poverty in modern industrial societies.
(a)	What is meant by the term absolute poverty?
	[2]
(b)	Describe two examples of relative poverty.
	[1/1]
	[4]

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(c)	Explain some of the ways in which people can escape poverty.	For
		Examiner's
		Use
	[6]	

•	

Section D: Power and Authority

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Poli	tical parties are an important feature of democratic societies.
(a)	What is meant by the term political party?
	[2]
(b)	
()	
	[4]

(c)	Explain why political parties are important in democratic societies.
	[6]

	vhat extent are modern industrial societies democratic?
•••••	
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pub	election times opinion polls are used by the mass media to measure the views of the lic on political issues. There is disagreement about how far the results of opinion polls uence the political process.
(a)	What is meant by the term opinion polls?
	[2]
(b)	Describe two ways in which opinion polls may influence governments.
	[4]

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(c)	Explain governm	how nent.	the	mass	media	may	influence	the	views	of	the	public	about	the	For Examiner's Use
											•••••				
														[6]	

)	To what extent do opinion polls accurately reflect the views of the public about political issues?
	[8]

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