

Cambridge International AS & A Level

SOCIOLOGY

9699/12

Paper 1 The Family

October/November 2020

1 hour 30 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

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 [].

This document has **4** pages. Blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer Question 1.

- 1 Fletcher believed that people attach more value to marriage today and so have higher expectations of married life. He argued that due to these higher expectations people are more likely to divorce if they are dissatisfied with the reality of their marriage. However, other sociologists have argued that marriage has lost its social significance and is no longer valued in modern industrial societies.

Whether or not people value marriage today, the divorce rate has increased in most societies. At the same time there has been a change in attitudes towards relationships, with alternatives to marriage, such as cohabitation and *civil partnerships*, becoming more socially acceptable in many societies.

- (a) Define the term *civil partnership*. [2]
- (b) Describe **two** reasons why a person may stay in an unhappy marriage. [4]
- (c) Explain why cohabitation has become more common in some societies. [8]
- (d) Assess the view that marriage is no longer valued in modern industrial societies. [11]

Section B

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

- 2 'The family has lost its social significance in modern industrial societies.' Explain and assess this view. [25]
- 3 'In families today, there is equality between males and females.' Explain and assess this view. [25]

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 after the live examination series.

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