



General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2012

Sociology

41902

Unit 2

Wednesday 27 June 2012 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is 41902.
- This paper is divided into **four** Topic Areas. Answer **three** Topics only.

Topic 1: Answer **all** questions in Section 1 **and one** question from Section 2.

Topic 2: Answer **all** questions in Section 3 **and one** question from Section 4.

Topic 3: Answer **all** questions in Section 5 **and one** question from Section 6.

Topic 4: Answer **all** questions in Section 7 **and one** question from Section 8.

- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- Questions carrying 12 marks should be answered in continuous prose. In these questions you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about **30 minutes** answering each of the **three** topics.

Topic 1: Crime and Deviance

Answer **all** questions in **Section 1** and **one** question from **Section 2**.

Total for this topic: 30 marks

Study **Items A and B** and answer the questions that follow.

Item A**What counts as deviance?**

Sociologists have often commented on how behaviour that is seen as unacceptable in one social situation may be seen as normal in a different one. In his book 'Outsiders', the famous American sociologist Howard Becker described how musicians in the 1950s saw cannabis use amongst themselves as acceptable, even though it was an illegal act that was frowned on by the rest of society.

Item B**David Cameron visits a Manchester housing estate**

When David Cameron visited a run-down Manchester estate in 2007, a teenager wearing a hoodie was photographed making a gesture behind Mr Cameron's back. Some journalists claimed that the incident was typical of the increasingly anti-social behaviour of young people today. They said that measures such as ASBOs and curfews had failed to stop this trend.

Section 1

- 0 1** From **Item A**, what did the musicians regard as acceptable behaviour, even though it was an illegal act that was frowned on by the rest of society? *(1 mark)*
- 0 2** From **Item B**, name **one** measure that has been used to tackle anti-social behaviour amongst young people. *(1 mark)*
- 0 3** Identify **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using self-report studies to collect data about levels of crime in society. *(2 marks)*
- 0 4** Explain what sociologists mean by white-collar crime. *(4 marks)*
- 0 5** Describe **one** police action that may lead to some members of minority ethnic groups being stereotyped as criminal **and** explain why this stereotyping occurs. *(5 marks)*
- 0 6** Describe **one** reason why people in poverty are more likely to be victims of crime than the more wealthy **and** explain why this situation persists. *(5 marks)*

Section 2**EITHER**

- 0 7** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that what is seen as deviance arises from labelling by society. *(12 marks)*

OR

- 0 8** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that most anti-social behaviour is carried out by young men. *(12 marks)*

Turn over for the next topic

Turn over ►

Topic 2: Mass Media

Answer **all** questions in **Section 3** and **one** question from **Section 4**.

Total for this topic: 30 marks

Study **Items C and D** and answer the questions that follow.

Item C

Football presenter sacked for remarks about female referee

In January 2011, a female assistant referee was the subject of sexist comments made by two male Sky TV presenters. The presenters suggested that female referees did not know the laws of football as well as male officials.

The first presenter was sacked after further allegations of sexist behaviour came to light, whilst the other resigned two days later. Critics said that the incident was typical of the laddish, sexist culture that was still common in sports television programmes.

Item D

How newspaper readers voted in the 2010 General Election

| Newspaper | Percentage (%) voting Labour | Percentage (%) voting Conservative | Percentage (%) voting Liberal Democrat | Percentage (%) voting for other parties |
|------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Daily Telegraph | 7 | 70 | 18 | 5 |
| The Sun | 28 | 43 | 18 | 11 |
| Daily Mirror | 59 | 16 | 17 | 8 |
| The Guardian | 46 | 9 | 37 | 8 |

Section 3

- 0 9** From **Item C**, what happened to the first presenter? *(1 mark)*
- 1 0** From **Item D**, which newspaper had the highest percentage of readers who voted Labour? *(1 mark)*
- 1 1** Identify **two** types of digital media. *(2 marks)*
- 1 2** Explain what sociologists mean by the hypodermic syringe model. *(4 marks)*
- 1 3** Describe **one** way in which the mass media can present a negative image of groups such as animal rights protesters **and** explain why this might cause problems in a democratic society. *(5 marks)*
- 1 4** Describe **one** way in which digital media have given more power to ordinary people **and** explain why this may cause problems for governments. *(5 marks)*

Section 4**EITHER**

- 1 5** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that representations of women by the mass media are still largely stereotypical. *(12 marks)*

OR

- 1 6** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that the mass media are the most important agent of socialisation shaping people's political opinions today. *(12 marks)*

Turn over for the next topic

Turn over ►

Topic 3: Power

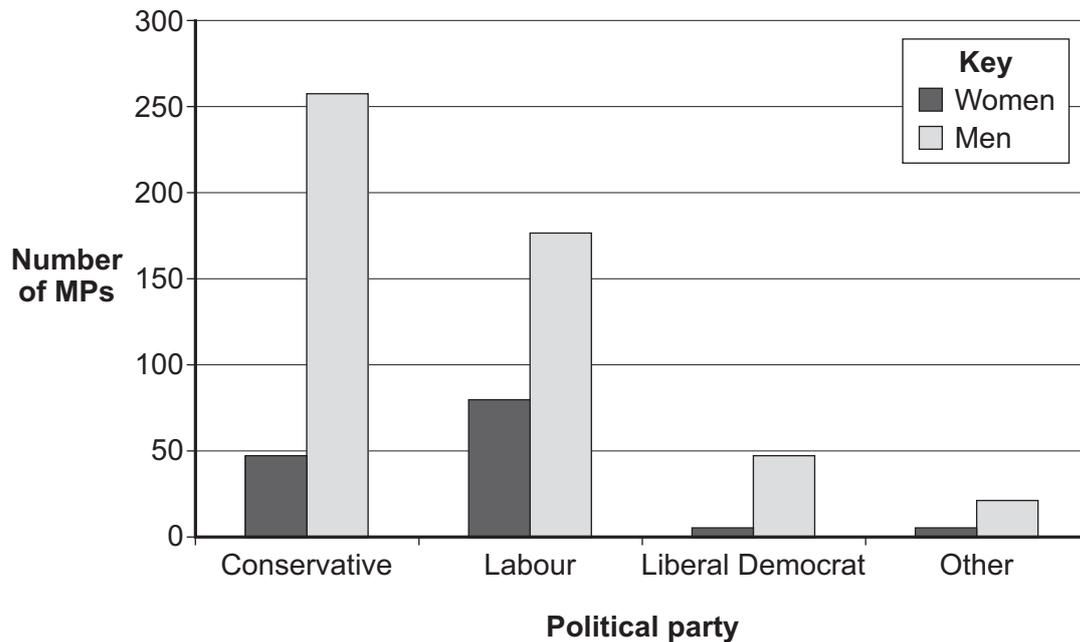
Answer **all** questions in **Section 5** and **one** question from **Section 6**.

Total for this topic: 30 marks

Study **Items E and F** and answer the questions that follow.

Item E

Members of Parliament (MPs) by gender and political party, General Election 2010



Women make up 51% of the population of the United Kingdom, but only 22% of MPs.

Item F

'Pester power' increases the cost of Christmas to parents

Two recent online surveys have found that parents today are spending more and more on children's presents compared with parents in the past. This is largely because of pressure from their children for the latest gadgets, toys and clothes.

Older parents said that they usually spent less than £50 in total on Christmas presents for their children, but a quarter of younger parents said that they spent over £200. Nearly two-thirds of the younger parents admitted that they go without things in order to buy their children presents at Christmas.

Section 5

- 1 7** From **Item E**, which political party has the largest number of women MPs? (1 mark)
- 1 8** From **Item F**, how much did older parents usually spend on Christmas presents for their children? (1 mark)
- 1 9** Identify **two** ways in which people can take part in the political process. (2 marks)
- 2 0** Explain what sociologists mean by a benefits culture. (4 marks)
- 2 1** Describe **one** way in which recent governments have tried to improve conditions for older people **and** explain why this may not always have been successful. (5 marks)
- 2 2** Describe **one** way in which members of minority ethnic groups may still experience prejudice **and** explain how this may affect the power they have in today's society. (5 marks)

Section 6**EITHER**

- 2 3** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that in society today power is shared equally between women and men. (12 marks)

OR

- 2 4** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that in society today relationships between children and adults are increasingly democratic. (12 marks)

Turn over for the next topic

Turn over ►

Topic 4: Social Inequality

Answer **all** questions in **Section 7** and **one** question from **Section 8**.

Total for this topic: 30 marks

Study **Items G and H** and answer the questions that follow.

Item G**The social background of university students admitted in 2008**

| Parent's job | Percentage (%) of total students admitted |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Managerial and professional | 37 |
| Technical and semi-skilled | 32 |
| Unskilled | 5 |
| No information | 26 |

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Section 7

- 2 | 5** From **Item G**, what percentage of university students have a parent who is unskilled? (1 mark)
- 2 | 6** From **Item H**, name **one** community whose members are less likely to be diagnosed as suffering from serious mental illness than the population as a whole. (1 mark)
- 2 | 7** Identify **two** ways in which sociologists decide an individual's social status. (2 marks)
- 2 | 8** Explain what sociologists mean by the glass ceiling. (4 marks)
- 2 | 9** Describe **one** way in which governments have attempted to increase upward social mobility **and** explain why this may not have been successful. (5 marks)
- 3 | 0** Describe **one** possible cause of social exclusion **and** explain why people often find it hard to escape from this situation. (5 marks)

Section 8**EITHER**

- 3 | 1** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that Britain is now a classless society. (12 marks)

OR

- 3 | 2** Discuss how far sociologists would agree that a person's ethnicity is the most important factor affecting his or her life chances. (12 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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