



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

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**SOCIOLOGY**

**9699/12**

Paper 1 Principles and Methods 1

**October/November 2010**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

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

Write in dark blue or black pen.

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

There are three sections in this paper: Section A, Section B and Section C. Choose **two** of these sections and answer **one** question from **each** of the sections you have chosen.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

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

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This document consists of **2** printed pages.



Answer **two** questions, each from a different section.

### **Section A: The Sociological Perspective**

- 1 “Sociology can and should be based on the same principles and research methods as the natural sciences.” Explain and assess this view. [25]
- 2 “The concept of childhood is socially constructed.” Explain and assess this view. [25]

### **Section B: Sociological Methods**

- 3 Assess the usefulness of longitudinal surveys in sociological research. [25]
- 4 “Official statistics have only limited usefulness in sociological research.” Explain and assess this claim. [25]

### **Section C: Social Differentiation and Stratification**

- 5 “Property ownership is no longer the main source of economic and political power in modern industrial societies.” Explain and assess this view. [25]
- 6 “Racism is the reason why many ethnic minority groups are trapped in poverty.” Explain and assess this claim. [25]

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