



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 2012**

**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 “Interpretivists exaggerate the extent to which people are free to negotiate their social roles.” Explain and assess this claim. [25]
- 2 Assess the evidence that the behaviour patterns associated with childhood are socially constructed. [25]

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

- 3 “Questionnaires have limited use in sociological research because the data they produce lacks depth.” Explain and assess this view. [25]
- 4 “Non-participant observation has many more strengths and fewer limitations than participant observation.” Explain and assess this claim. [25]

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

- 5 “Barriers to upward social mobility have virtually disappeared in modern industrial societies today.” Explain and assess this claim. [25]
- 6 “Racial discrimination can be explained entirely in terms of economic factors.” Explain and assess this view. [25]

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