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For Examiner's Use	
Examiner's Initials	
Question	Mark
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General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2015

Sociology

41902

Unit 2 Crime and Deviance; Mass Media; Power; Social Inequality

Thursday 14 May 2015 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

You will need no other materials.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- This paper is divided into **four** topics. 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.

- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- Do all rough work in this 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.



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Topic 1 Crime and Deviance

Study **Items A and B** (below). Answer **all** questions in **Section 1 and one** question from **Section 2** in the spaces provided.

Item A

Public attitudes to crime

Surveys which ask opinions about crime show that most people think the amount of crime is increasing. This is despite official statistics showing that levels of almost all types of crime have declined over the last 10 years. The surveys also show that most people think that the punishments for committing crime are not severe enough.

Item B

Number of arrests by gender and offence in England and Wales (2010–2011)

	Violence	Sexual offences	Property crime	Fraud	Criminal damage	Drug offences	Other
Men	315 508	31 937	271 444	22 164	75 395	96 741	155 272
Women	61 802	947	60 509	7 353	10 640	13 492	26 564



Section 1

1 From **Item A**, what trend is shown in official statistics over the last 10 years?
(Tick the correct box.)

[1 mark]

Levels of crime have increased

Levels of crime have stayed the same

Levels of crime have decreased

2 From **Item B**, which is the most common offence for which women were arrested in 2010–2011?

[1 mark]

.....

3 Identify **two** types of legal punishment used in the United Kingdom today for those who break the law.

[2 marks]

Type 1

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Type 2

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4 Explain what sociologists mean by anomie.

[4 marks]

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5 Describe **one** way in which the police have tried to reduce property crime **and** explain why people in some localities are more likely to be victims of property crime than others.

[5 marks]

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6 Describe **one** way in which deviant behaviour may differ between age groups **and** explain why this difference occurs.

[5 marks]

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Section 2

Answer **either** Question 7 **or** Question 8. You may find it helpful to refer to the Items on page 2.

7 Discuss how far sociologists would agree that official statistics give a true representation of crime in society. **[12 marks]**

8 Discuss how far sociologists would agree that gender socialisation is the main reason why women commit less crime than men. **[12 marks]**

Write your answer to the question you have chosen on **pages 6, 7** and, if needed, **page 8**.

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Topic 2 Mass Media

Study **Items C and D** (below). Answer **all** questions in **Section 3 and one** question from **Section 4** in the spaces provided.

Item C**The influence of the mass media**

Sociologists have always been interested in the way members of society are affected by what they see and hear in the mass media. Some early studies claimed that the mass media directly 'injected' a passive audience with opinions that benefited the rich and powerful people who controlled society.

However, most recent studies argue that the way people are influenced by the mass media is more complicated.

Item D**Representations of disabled people as folk devils in tabloid newspapers**

A study published in 2011 found that there was an increased use in tabloid newspapers of negative terms to describe disabled people who received incapacity benefit. The use of terms such as 'scrounger', 'cheat' and 'skiver' was found in 18% of articles in 2010–2011, compared with 12% in 2004–2005. The increased use of these terms reinforced the stereotype of disabled people as being work-shy, rather than really needing help from society.



Section 3

9 From **Item C**, what did early studies claim about the mass media’s audience?
(Tick the correct box.)

[1 mark]

The mass media had no influence on the audience

The audience just accepted the media’s message

The way the audience was influenced was complicated

10 From **Item D**, what percentage of articles in tabloids in 2004–2005 described disabled people in negative terms?

[1 mark]

.....

11 Identify **two** examples of folk devils found in recent mass media, apart from those mentioned in **Item D**.

[2 marks]

Example 1

Example 2

12 Explain what sociologists mean by content analysis.

[4 marks]

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Describe **one** way in which the growth of the internet has changed the way we get news **and** explain why this may make it more difficult for the rich and powerful to influence people.

[5 marks]

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14

Describe **one** situation in which women are under-represented in the mass media **and** explain why this situation persists today.

[5 marks]

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Section 4

Answer **either** Question 15 **or** Question 16. You may find it helpful to refer to the Items on page 10.

15 Discuss how far sociologists would agree that the mass media are the most important influence shaping public opinion. **[12 marks]**

16 Discuss how far sociologists would agree that the mass media today still present a mostly negative image of minority social groups. **[12 marks]**

Write your answer to the question you have chosen on **pages 14, 15** and, if needed, **page 16**.

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Topic 3 Power

Study **Items E and F** (below). Answer all questions in **Section 5** and **one** question from **Section 6** in the spaces provided.

Item E

The distribution of power in the United Kingdom

Pluralist sociologists claim that in democracies such as the United Kingdom there are systems in place to ensure that one social group cannot dominate society. They argue that people can vote to change the government in elections, or can join pressure groups which influence political decisions.

However, conflict sociologists disagree, and argue that power today is still unequally distributed in all aspects of personal and social life.

Item F

Voting behaviour by social group in the 2010 general election (Figures are a percentage (%) of people who actually voted for a particular political party)

Social group	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Other
Managerial and professional	39	26	29	7
Clerical and administrative	39	28	24	9
Skilled manual	37	29	22	12
Semi-skilled and unskilled manual, unemployed, pensioners	31	40	17	12



Section 5

17 From **Item E**, what do pluralist sociologists believe about the distribution of power?
(Tick the correct box.)

[1 mark]

Ordinary people cannot change the way society is run

There are systems in place to stop very powerful groups dominating society

Pressure groups have no influence on governments

18 From **Item F**, which social group was most likely to vote Liberal Democrat in the 2010 general election?

[1 mark]

.....

19 Identify **two** reasons why some adults do not vote in general elections.

[2 marks]

Reason 1

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Reason 2

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20 Explain what sociologists mean by the Welfare State.

[4 marks]

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21

Describe **one** way in which children have more power over their lives today **and** explain why this may sometimes lead to problems.

[5 marks]

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22

Describe **one** way in which politicians have tried to persuade people to vote for them **and** explain how successful this has been.

[5 marks]

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Topic 4 Social Inequality

Study **Items G and H** (below). Answer **all** questions in **Section 7** and **one** question from **Section 8** in the spaces provided.

Item G

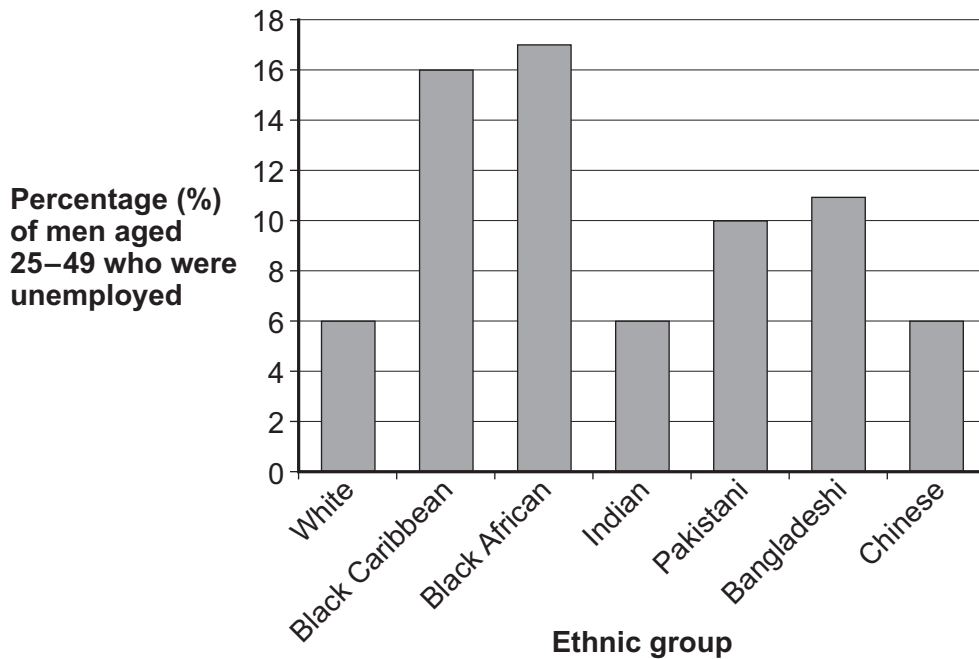
Social mobility in modern Britain

In the autumn of 2013 the former Prime Minister Sir John Major criticised the lack of working-class and lower middle-class people in the most important roles in society. He said that working-class people were mostly still excluded from the top jobs because these were taken by affluent middle-class people who had been privately educated.

However, others have suggested that many poor working-class people do not succeed because they do not value education and are fatalistic about their situation.

Item H

Male unemployment at the time of the 2011 census by ethnic group



Section 7

25 From **Item G**, what was Sir John Major concerned about in the autumn of 2013?
(Tick the correct box.)

[1 mark]

Private education was too expensive

That the working class was fatalistic

Too few working-class people made it to the top jobs in society

26 From **Item H**, men from which ethnic group were most likely to be unemployed in 2011?

[1 mark]

.....

27 Identify **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using absolute definitions of poverty.

[2 marks]

Advantage

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Disadvantage

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28 Explain what sociologists mean by the underclass.

[4 marks]

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29

Describe **one** reason why some people may be trapped in poverty **and** explain why their children may find it difficult to escape from this situation.

[5 marks]

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30

Describe **one** way in which gender may affect a person's life chances **and** explain why this situation occurs.

[5 marks]

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Item B: Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v.3.0.

Item D: Bad News for Disabled People: How the newspapers are reporting disability by Nick Watson, Emma Briant, Greg Philo and Inclusion London.

Item F: Ipsos MORI. Base: 10,211 GB adults aged 18+ (of which 5,927 were "absolutely certain to vote" or said they had already voted), interviewed 19 March–5 May 2010.

Item H: Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v.3.0.

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