

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

**SOCIOLOGY**

**2251/02**

Paper 2

May/June 2006

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

**1 hour 45 minutes**

**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.  
You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.  
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer any **three** questions.

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.

This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



### Section A: Family

- 1 Although men and women share many tasks in the home today, they are still often unequal partners.
- (a) What is meant by the term *unequal partners*? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** factors that have led men and women to share more tasks in the home today. [4]
- (c) To what extent do women still experience inequality in the home? [6]
- (d) What problems may women face in trying to achieve equal relationships with men in the family? [8]
- 2 The importance of the nuclear family has declined. There are now many other types of family in modern industrial societies.
- (a) What is meant by the term *nuclear family*? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** other types of family. [4]
- (c) What factors may have led to the decline of the nuclear family? [6]
- (d) To what extent is family life still important despite the decline of the nuclear family in modern industrial societies? [8]

### Section B: Education

- 3 In many modern industrialised societies girls are now achieving better examination results than boys in most subjects. It would seem therefore that the gender division in education has been reversed.
- (a) What is meant by the term *gender*? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** reasons why boys used to outperform girls at school. [4]
- (c) In what ways may boys and girls be treated differently within the education system? [6]
- (d) Why are girls now achieving better examination results than boys in most subjects? [8]
- 4 Formal education systems help to prepare young people for earning a living in modern industrial societies. Informal education performs a similar role in less industrial societies.
- (a) What is meant by the term *informal education*? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** ways in which formal education helps to prepare young people for earning a living. [4]
- (c) Apart from preparing young people for earning a living, what other social functions are performed by formal education systems? [6]
- (d) How far do all social groups benefit from the formal education system in modern industrial societies? [8]

### Section C: Crime, Deviance and Social Control

- 5 Youth subcultures are sometimes seen as a form of resistance to the mainstream culture.
- (a) What is meant by the term *subculture*? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** influences on the way that young people view themselves. [4]
  - (c) What factors explain the growth of youth subcultures in modern industrial societies? [6]
  - (d) How far do youth subcultures represent a threat to the mainstream values of society? [8]
- 6 What is seen as deviant in one culture may not be seen as deviant in another.
- (a) What is meant by the term *deviant*? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** examples of how definitions of deviance may differ between cultures. [4]
  - (c) Why might an act be defined as deviant when performed by members of one social group, but not when performed by members of another? [6]
  - (d) To what extent can deviance be explained in terms of labelling theory? [8]

### Section D: Mass Media

- 7 It is sometimes claimed that those who own the mass media have too much power.
- (a) What is meant by the term *mass media*? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** trends in the control of the mass media in modern industrial societies. [4]
  - (c) In what ways may ownership of the mass media be a source of power in society? [6]
  - (d) To what extent are the owners of the mass media able to control what is published and broadcast? [8]
- 8 The mass media play a major role in agenda setting in modern industrial societies.
- (a) What is meant by the term *agenda setting*? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** examples of how the mass media may influence political attitudes. [4]
  - (c) What factors influence journalists in their selection and presentation of news reports? [6]
  - (d) What explanations have been offered for the way that the mass media influence people's behaviour? [8]

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