



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

**SOCIOLOGY**

**2251/02**

Paper 2

**May/June 2009**

**1 hour 45 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

**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 **4** printed pages.



**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 to men and women sharing more tasks in the home today. [4]
  - (c) Explain the problems women may face in trying to achieve equal relationships with men in the family. [6]
  - (d) To what extent do women still experience inequality in the home? [8]
- 2 Marriage can take two different forms: monogamy and polygamy. Monogamy is widely practised in modern industrial societies. In most of these societies there has been a sharp decrease in first marriages and an increase in remarriages in recent years.
- (a) What is meant by the term *monogamy*? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** reasons why polygamy is the main form of marriage in some societies. [4]
  - (c) Explain why the number of first marriages has been steadily declining in many modern industrial societies. [6]
  - (d) Assess the evidence that marriage is far less important than it used to be in modern industrial societies. [8]

**Section B: Education**

- 3 Differences in innate intelligence may help to explain why some people do better at school than others.
- (a) What is meant by the term *innate intelligence*? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** factors that may influence a person's level of intelligence. [4]
  - (c) What problems are there in using IQ tests to measure intelligence? [6]
  - (d) Assess the factors, other than intelligence, that may explain why there are differences in educational achievement. [8]

- 4 Bowles and Gintis argue that schools are important in preparing young people to be hard working and obedient members of the workforce. Schools play a major role in the socialisation process; this is achieved largely through processes outside the official curriculum.
- (a) What is meant by the term *official curriculum*? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** examples of how schools reinforce gender roles. [4]
- (c) What is the role of the 'self-fulfilling prophecy' in relation to educational achievement? [6]
- (d) To what extent do schools prepare young people to be obedient members of the workforce? [8]

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

- 5 In modern industrial societies there are a variety of styles of dress, types of music, special language and attitudes that distinguish youth from older people and from children. This is known as youth subculture.
- (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 dominant values of society? [8]
- 6 Official statistics suggest that most crimes are committed by young men between the ages of 14 and 25. Many come from disadvantaged ethnic minority groups.
- (a) What is meant by the term *ethnic minority*? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** reasons why many young criminals come from disadvantaged ethnic minority groups. [4]
- (c) What factors may encourage young criminals to give up their criminal activity as they get older? [6]
- (d) Assess the reasons why women appear to commit fewer crimes than men. [8]

**Section D: The Mass Media**

- 7 More people watch television than are exposed to any other form of mass communication, and so the images and messages may be influential.
- (a) What is meant by the term *mass communication*? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** reasons why children may be influenced by the images and messages presented on television. [4]
  - (c) In modern industrial societies a few powerful individuals own most of the television channels. Why might this be a threat to democracy? [6]
  - (d) Assess the explanations that have been offered for the ways in which the media influences behaviour. [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) Assess the explanations that have been offered for the way that the mass media influences people's behaviour. [8]