

**Paper 2 : Sociology
Marking Scheme**

Sample paper

1 hour 45 minutes

A summary of the assessment objectives and the coverage included in this sample paper is provided below for the assistance of candidates and teachers.

A01- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of theories, evidence, key concepts and methods.

A02- apply knowledge and understanding of sociological theories, evidence, key concepts and methods.

A03- analyse and evaluate sociological theories, evidence, key concepts and methods in order to present arguments, inform judgements and draw conclusions.

Allocated marks across different assessment objectives

Unit	Ques No.	A01 (40)	A02 (24)	A03 (16)	Total marks
Introduction to Sociology- Theories, Concepts and Processes	1	2			2
	2	2			2
	3	2			2
	4	4			4
	5	1	3		4
	6	1	5		6
Families and Households	7	1			1
	8	2			2
	9	2			2
	10	4			4
	11	1	5		6
	12	4	3	8	15
Education	13	1			1
	14	2			2
	15	2			2
	16	4			4
	17	1	5		6
	18	4	3	8	15

Question	Answer	Marks
1	<p>What is meant by the term 'validity'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. data that is true.</p> <p>Award a further mark for an additional point that shows a greater level of knowledge and understanding. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociological research which is qualitative is more likely to be valid • Interpretivists are concerned with validity when carrying out sociological research • Validity can be improved by conducting research in different ways e.g. covertly <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
2	<p>What is meant by the term 'rapport'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. a relationship of trust/ease between a researcher and participant.</p> <p>Award a further mark for an additional point that shows a greater level of knowledge and understanding. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building a rapport with participants can increase the validity of findings • Building a rapport increases the likelihood that a sociologist will be able to gain empathy • A rapport is particularly important when using methods like unstructured interviews and observation <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
3	<p>What is meant by the term 'objectivity'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition e.g. Not allowing experiences or opinions to influence you when carrying out research.</p> <p>Award a further mark for an additional point that shows a greater level of knowledge and understanding. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positivists see objectivity as a key part of sociological research • Objectivity means that sociological research is seen as being more 'scientific' • Quantitative methods like questionnaires and the analysis of official statistics mean that it is easier for a sociologist to remain objective <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
4	Explain why a sociologist may choose to use a postal questionnaire as part of sociological research	4
	Band 2 Knowledge and understanding of why a sociologist may choose to use a postal questionnaire as part of sociological research is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	3-4
	Band 1 Knowledge and understanding of why a sociologist may choose to use a postal questionnaire as part of sociological research is partial with some reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is not fully developed.	1-2
	0 marks awarded for answers that are incorrect or irrelevant.	

Possible content includes:

- Collection of quantitative data that can help a sociologist to identify trends and patterns
- Practicality of postal questionnaires in terms of time and money and geographical reach
- Limited ethical issues associated with postal questionnaires
- Reliability
- Lack of direct involvement from a researcher may improve validity of results
- Less chance of social desirability effect

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
5	Explain how one research method can lead to the collection of qualitative data [4]	4
	Band 2 Knowledge and understanding of how one research method can lead to the collection of qualitative data is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	3-4
	Band 1 Knowledge and understanding of how one research method can lead to the collection of qualitative data is partial with some reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is not fully developed.	1-2
	0 marks awarded for answers that are incorrect or irrelevant.	

Possible content includes:

- Unstructured interviews allow a researcher to create an informal environment where participants are likely to feel comfortable and open up on thoughts, feelings and emotions
- Observation allows a researcher to witness first-hand the behaviours and attitudes of individuals/groups. Researchers can ask questions based on what they see
- The analysis of secondary data like documents allows a sociologist to understand events from the perspective of others and can allow a sociologist to gain empathy

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
6	Identify one sampling technique and explain how effective this sampling technique may be in generating a representative sample for sociological research	6
	1 mark for identifying a sampling technique	1
	Possible answers include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Random sampling ○ Stratified sampling ○ Systematic sampling ○ Quota sampling ○ Snowball sampling 	
	<i>In addition to first mark available, further marks are available for A02 as shown below</i>	
	Band 2 Application of how effective this sampling technique may be/not be in generating a representative sample is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	3-5
Band 1 Application of how effective this sampling technique may be/not be in generating a representative sample is partial with some reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is not fully developed.	1-2	
	0 marks awarded for answers that are incorrect or irrelevant.	

Possible content includes:

- Stratified sampling allows a researcher to break a sampling frame down into different categories to ensure that different social groups are represented in proportions that represent the demographic of society as a whole
- Random and systematic sampling pose the problem that by sheer chance the majority of people to be chosen as part of the sample may all fit into a similar category e.g. by chance choosing a lot more males than females
- Snowball sampling means that each participant is connected to a previous participant in some way. This means that your sample is likely to be unrepresentative as all participants are linked in some way rather than reflecting the wider population

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
7	Which of the following describes criminal activity which is not financially motivated?	1
	One mark for identifying Non-utilitarian crime	

Question	Answer	Marks
8	<p>What is meant by the term 'selective law enforcement'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. some groups being punished for crime more than others.</p> <p>Award a further mark for an additional point that shows a greater level of knowledge and understanding. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selective law enforcement is a term associated with Marxism • Those from particular backgrounds i.e. working class, ethnic minority are more likely to be punished compared to those from other backgrounds i.e. middle class • Selective law enforcement means that official statistics are invalid as white collar and corporate crimes are often ignored <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
9	<p>What is meant by the term 'deviance'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. behaviour which goes against the norms of society.</p> <p>Award a further mark for an additional point that shows a greater level of knowledge and understanding. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deviance is socially constructed and differs from one society to another • Deviance is different from crime. Some acts can be deviant and not criminal whilst others are both deviant and criminal • Informal agents of social control pass on norms and values and enforce social control as a way of preventing deviant behaviour <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
10	<p>Explain one factor that may lead to higher arrest rates of men compared to women</p>	4
	<p>Band 2</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of one factor which may lead to higher arrest rates of men compared to women is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.</p>	3-4
	<p>Band 1</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of one factor which may lead to higher arrest rates of men compared to women is partial with some reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is not fully developed.</p>	1-2
	0 marks awarded for answers that are incorrect or irrelevant	

Possible content includes:

- Patriarchal control theory- women have less opportunity to commit crime
- Gendered socialisation means that girls are socialised into behaviours which are less compatible with crime
- Chivalry thesis- women are more likely to be 'let off' when committing crime
- Police typification means that men are targeted for arrest more than women

Credit should be given to other relevant material.

Question	Answer	Marks
11	Explain why some sociologists argue that crime can be functional for society	6
	Band 3 Knowledge and understanding of why some sociologists argue that crime can be functional for society is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	5-6
	Band 2 Knowledge and understanding of why some sociologists argue that crime can be functional for society is evident but not completely clear. There is some reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is partly but not fully developed.	3-4
	Band 1 Knowledge and understanding of why some sociologists argue that crime can be functional for society is partial with little, if any reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response lacks any real development.	1-2
	0 marks awarded for answers that are incorrect or irrelevant	

Possible content includes:

- Boundary maintenance- crime reminds society of the rules of society and the consequences for breaking these rules
- Creation of a value consensus through joint condemnation of criminals
- Crime has a positive impact on the economy by creating jobs e.g. roles within the Criminal Justice System
- Crime leads to wider protection in society through dangerous criminals being imprisoned
- Crime can act as an 'early warning mechanism' which alerts society to the failure of institutions

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
12	'The most effective way of reducing crime is through zero-tolerance policing' Evaluate the extent to which sociologists would agree with this statement	
	<p>Band 4</p> <p>Excellent understanding of how zero-tolerance policing can be effective in reducing crime shown. This understanding will be supplemented with relevant sociological theory, concepts and evidence throughout the response.</p> <p>Students will provide a balanced answer by giving at least two alternative ways that crime can be reduced.</p> <p>A focus on the demands of the question will be explicit throughout the response.</p> <p>An appropriate conclusion will be drawn.</p>	12-15
	<p>Band 3</p> <p>A good understanding of how zero-tolerance policing can be effective in reducing crime shown. There will be some inclusion of relevant sociological theory, concepts and evidence although there may be some inaccuracies or these will not be included throughout the entire response.</p> <p>There will be some balance to the answer with students giving at least one alternative way that crime can be reduced.</p> <p>A focus on the demands of the question will be apparent in some places but not throughout the entirety of the response.</p> <p>A conclusion may be drawn but this may not be entirely appropriate or relevant.</p>	8-11
	<p>Band 2</p> <p>Some understanding of how zero-tolerance policing can be effective in reducing crime shown. There will be a few references made towards relevant sociological theory, concepts and evidence but these may contain inaccuracies.</p> <p>The answer will lack balance and may involve the candidate only analysing one side of the debate</p> <p>There will be little focus on the specific demands of the question.</p>	4-7
	<p>Band 1</p> <p>Very little understanding of how zero-tolerance policing can be effective in reducing crime shown. Answers in this band are likely to be characterised by a few isolated statements about potential ways to reduce crime.</p> <p>The answer will lack balance and not show any real understanding of the demands of the question.</p>	1-3
	0 marks awarded for answers that are incorrect or irrelevant	0

Possible content includes (this list is not prescriptive and other relevant arguments should also be credited):

Arguments in support of the view in the question:

- Pro-active approaches mean that small crimes can be dealt with before they escalate into bigger crimes
- Environmental crime prevention
- Creating secure neighbourhoods in which public feel safe
- Rules are clearly established leading the creation of a value consensus
- Zero-tolerance policing means that the function of boundary maintenance becomes more evident
- All members of society receiving the same treatment for their actions
- Reference to case studies involving zero-tolerance policing

Alternative arguments which go against the view in the question:

- Zero-tolerance policing creating more crime through increased hostility between the police and public
- Zero-tolerance policing allowing the police to justify existing biases and the over-policing of particularly groups such as ethnic minorities
- Zero-tolerance policing as ineffective in reducing all types of crime
- The use of surveillance to stop crime
- Social and Community Crime Prevention
- The use of rehabilitation programmes

Credit should also be given to those who analyse ideas from a theoretical perspective.

Question	Answer	Marks
13	Which of the following describes a type of poverty where people lack the money and resources needed to access the basic needs of life?	1
	One mark for identifying Absolute poverty.	

Question	Answer	Marks
14	What is meant by the term 'poverty trap'	2
	Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. when you can't escape being in poverty.	
	Award a further mark for an additional point that shows a greater level of knowledge and understanding. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those stuck in the poverty trap find themselves in a situation where entering paid employment leads to them having the same or less money compared to claiming benefit allowance • Single mothers are one of the groups who are most likely to find themselves stuck in the 'poverty trap' • Governments have attempted to help people escape the 'poverty trap' through policies such as increasing minimum wage 	
	Credit should be given to other relevant material.	

Question	Answer	Marks
15	<p>What is meant by the term 'glass ceiling'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. when people can't access higher job roles</p> <p>Award a further mark for an additional point that shows a greater level of knowledge and understanding. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feminists argue that women face a glass ceiling and are not able to reach top job roles due to the patriarchal nature of society • Despite the fact that policies have been in place to create gender equality in society, women still continue to face disadvantage when it comes to reaching senior positions in the workplace • Some argue that women are now able to smash through the glass ceiling <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
16	<p>Explain one factor which may lead to high rates of poverty amongst ethnic minorities</p>	4
	<p>Band 2</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of one factor which may lead to high rates of poverty amongst ethnic minorities is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.</p>	3-4
	<p>Band 1</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of one factor which may lead to high rates of poverty amongst ethnic minorities is partial with some reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is not fully developed.</p>	1-2
	0 marks awarded for answers that are incorrect or irrelevant	

Possible content includes:

- Unfair treatment of ethnic minorities in education leading to lower levels of achievement
- Ethnic minorities facing a glass ceiling in terms of employment opportunities
- Media stereotyping of ethnic minorities
- Societal labels about ethnic minorities
- Racism and institutional racism

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
17	Explain why some sociologists argue that globalisation has led to greater levels of poverty for some groups in society	6
	Band 3 Knowledge and understanding of why some sociologists argue that globalisation has led to greater levels of poverty for some groups in society is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	5-6
	Band 2 Knowledge and understanding of why some sociologists argue that globalisation has led to greater levels of poverty for some groups in society is evident but not completely clear. There is some reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is partly but not fully developed.	3-4
	Band 1 Knowledge and understanding of why some sociologists argue that globalisation has led to greater levels of poverty for some groups in society is partial with little, if any reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response lacks any real development.	1-2
	0 marks awarded for answers that are incorrect or irrelevant	

Possible content includes:

- Ability of businesses to move to different parts of the world means that jobs are less secure
- Marxist views on capitalism and globalisation
- Increase in immigration means that there is greater rivalry for employment
- Impact of trade can lead to increased prices of goods and services
- Increase in exploitation of migrants and illegal migrants
- Disparity in educational standards and outcomes is enhanced by globalisation

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
18	'Stratification and inequality are necessary parts of a smooth running society' Evaluate the extent to which sociologists would agree with this statement	15
	Band 4 Excellent understanding of the ways in which stratification and inequality are necessary parts of a smooth running society shown. This understanding will be supplemented with relevant sociological theory, concepts and evidence throughout the response. Students will provide a balanced answer by giving at least two alternative arguments which suggest that stratification and inequality are not necessary parts of a smooth running society. A focus on the demands of the question will be explicit throughout the response. An appropriate conclusion will be drawn.	12-15

	<p>Band 3</p> <p>A good understanding of the ways in which stratification and inequality are necessary parts of a smooth running society shown. There will be some inclusion of relevant sociological theory, concepts and evidence although there may be some inaccuracies or these will not be included throughout the entire response.</p> <p>There will be some balance to the answer with students giving at least one alternative argument which suggests that stratification and inequality are not necessary parts of a smooth running society.</p> <p>A focus on the demands of the question will be apparent in some places but not throughout the entirety of the response.</p> <p>A conclusion may be drawn but this may not be entirely appropriate or relevant.</p>	8-11
	<p>Band 2</p> <p>Some understanding of the ways in which stratification and inequality are necessary parts of a smooth running society shown. There will be a few references made towards relevant sociological theory, concepts and evidence but these may contain inaccuracies.</p> <p>The answer will lack balance and may involve the candidate only analysing one side of the debate</p> <p>There will be little focus on the specific demands of the question.</p>	4-7
	<p>Band 1</p> <p>Very little understanding of how stratification and inequality are necessary parts of a smooth running society shown. Answers in this band are likely to be characterised by a few isolated statements about the impact of stratification and inequality.</p> <p>The answer will lack balance and not show any real understanding of the demands of the question.</p>	1-3
	0 marks awarded for answers that are incorrect or irrelevant	0

Possible content includes (this list is not prescriptive and other relevant arguments should also be credited):

Arguments in support of the view in the question:

- Functionalist view of inequality and stratification as universal necessity
- Role allocation
- Meritocracy
- Incentives for hard work and proving talent
- Social mobility
- Ascribed and achieved status

Alternative arguments which go against the view in the question:

- Marxist views that inequality and stratification are negative consequences of capitalism
- Communism as an alternative
- Different forms of poverty which show society is not running smoothly
- The impact of poverty
- Feminism views that inequality and stratification are the result of patriarchy
- Other forms of inequality and the impact on various groups- age, ethnicity etc
- Weberian views on stratification and inequality being linked to disparities in power