

**Paper 1 : 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.

AO1- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of theories, evidence, key concepts and methods.

AO2- apply knowledge and understanding of sociological theories, evidence, key concepts and methods.

AO3- 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 'patriarchy'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. male dominance.</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"> • A term associated with feminism • Women face oppression within society • Norms, values and behaviour patterns which favour men <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
2	<p>What is meant by the term 'hybrid identities'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. two or more aspects of a person's identity are combined producing a unique form of identity.</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"> • Hybrid identities are more likely to occur within a complex global culture where there is a greater flow of ideas and greater movement • Hybrid identities can cause conflict when one particular identity contradicts another • Hybrid identities are part of today's postmodern society where identity is now fluid <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
3	<p>What is meant by the term 'ruling class ideology'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition e.g. the ideas of the ruling class which are spread throughout 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"> • A term associated with Marxism • Ruling class ideology leads to a false class consciousness existing amongst the proletariat • Different institutions are used by the ruling class to spread ruling class ideology including the family, education and the media <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
4	Explain how society operates from the perspective of functionalist sociologists	4
	Band 2 Knowledge and understanding of how society operates from the perspective of functionalist sociologists is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	3-4
	Band 1 Knowledge and understanding of how society operates from the perspective of functionalist sociologists 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:

- Functionalists hold a consensus view of society
- Functionalists believe that a value consensus exists within society
- Functionalists believe that social solidarity exists within society
- Functionalists believe that institutions within society have the power to socialise individuals into the norms and values of society
- Functionalists believe that society works like the human body; the organic analogy

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
5	Explain how one agent of socialisation can reinforce a person's gender identity	4
	Band 2 Knowledge and understanding of how one agent of socialisation can reinforce a person's gender identity 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 agent of socialisation can reinforce a person's gender identity 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:

- The family puts children through a process of 'canalisation'. Children are given toys, activities and clothes to teach them their gender role.
- The family encourage different behaviours for boys and girls, such as taking long time over hair for daughters. Sends a message that girls should care about appearance.
- In schools some subjects are portrayed as more suitable for boys and girls, health and social care encourages girls to be caring and maternal.

- Studies have found that in schools boys dominate playgrounds and girls play around the sides. Boys play ball games such as football, encourages them to be masculine and powerful. Girls play around the side and gossip, encouraging them to be feminine.
- Media promotes gender role models. Boys may see famous male sports stars who are competitive or male celebrities that have money and power.
- Media shows us what boys and girls are 'meant' to look like. For example, Marvel films show men as being muscular, whilst girls are shown to be skinny in these films

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
6	Identify one agent of informal social control and explain how effective this agent is in maintaining social order	6
	1 mark for identifying an agent of informal social control Possible answers include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Family ○ Education ○ Peer group ○ Media ○ Religion ○ Workplace 	1
	<i>In addition to first mark available, further marks are available for A02 as shown below</i>	
	Band 2 Application of how one agent of informal social control is or isn't effective is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	3-5
	Band 1 Application of how one agent of informal social control is or isn't effective 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:

- The family performing the function of providing primary socialisation
- Education performing the function of providing secondary socialisation
- Peer groups enforcing peer pressure into criminal/deviant behaviour
- Anti-school subcultures that exist within schools
- Media may reinforce negative behaviour through promoting and glamorising criminal lifestyles
- Religion can promote traditional, conservative values and lifestyles
- The workplace uses positive and negative sanctions to promote the expected behaviour of employees

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
7	Which of the following describes a family where the children have left home?	1
	One mark for identifying Empty Nest Family	

Question	Answer	Marks
8	What is meant by the term 'family diversity'	2
	<p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. different types of family.</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"> • Family diversity has increased for a number of reasons such as increased employment opportunities for women which means they are less focussed on family life compared to women in previous generations • Family diversity is seen as a good thing by feminists as it shows that there is a move away from the traditional patriarchal nuclear family • Family diversity has negative consequences in the view of functionalist and New Right sociologists who see the nuclear family as the most desirable family type for society <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	

Question	Answer	Marks
9	What is meant by the term 'secularisation'	2
	<p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. less religion in 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"> • Secularisation is the decline of religious beliefs and practices and can be measured through a decline in attendance to religious events like going to church on Sundays • The rise of secularisation in society has had an impact on divorce rates. Religious teachings tend to promote marriage and stability and therefore with religion having less influence it has led to more people feeling it is acceptable to divorce <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	

Question	Answer	Marks
10	Explain one factor that has led to a decline in the birth rate	4
	Band 2 Knowledge and understanding of one factor which has led to a decline in the birth rate is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	3-4
	Band 1 Knowledge and understanding of one factor which has led to a decline in the birth rate 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:

- The changing position of women and an increased focus on careers
- Children as an economic liability rather than an economic asset
- The availability of contraception
- Changing societal attitudes to those who do not have children
- A decline in the infant mortality rate

Credit should be given to other relevant material.

Question	Answer	Marks
11	Explain why some sociologists argue that nuclear families can be harmful	6
	Band 3 Knowledge and understanding of how nuclear families can be harmful is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	5-6
	Band 2 Knowledge and understanding of how nuclear families can be harmful 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 how nuclear families can be harmful 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:

- The patriarchal nature of the nuclear family and reinforcing the oppression of women
- The nuclear family as a tool of capitalism and reinforcing inequality
- Unequal distributions of power between partners
- Segregated conjugal roles
- Domestic violence
- The position of children within the family with reference to the conflict view

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
11	<p>‘The main reason for the increase in divorce is the changing position of women in society today’ Evaluate the extent to which sociologists would agree with this statement</p>	
	<p>Band 4 Excellent understanding of how the changing position of women in society today has impacted divorce rates 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 factors that can be responsible for the increase in the divorce rate in society today.</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 A good understanding of how the changing position of women in society today has impacted divorce rates 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 factor that can be responsible for the increase in the divorce rate in society today.</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 Some understanding of how the changing position of women in society today has impacted on divorce rates 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 Very little understanding of how the changing position of women in society has impacted on divorce rates shown. Answers in this band are likely to be characterised by a few isolated statements about the potential reasons for divorce.</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:

- Equal Pay Act
- Sex Discrimination Act
- Rise of feminism
- Increase in female role models holding senior positions in the workplace
- Women breaking through the glass ceiling
- Women's focus on economic independence

Alternative arguments which go against the view in the question:

- Changes in law relating to divorce has made divorce easier to obtain
- Rising expectations of marriage means that marriages are now more likely to end in divorce if expectations are not being met
- The increase in secularisation means that marriage is now less valued and there is less stigma associated with divorce
- The availability of welfare payments may influence women's decisions to leave their marriage

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

Question	Answer	Marks
13	Which of the following describes a group of students who are opposed to values of the education system?	1
	One mark for identifying Anti-school subcultures.	

Question	Answer	Marks
14	What is meant by the term 'self-fulfilling prophecy'	2
	Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. becoming what you are labelled as.	
	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"> • A term which is associated with interactionists/labelling theorists • A self-fulfilling prophecy can be damaging to those who are labelled negatively and can lead to the formation of anti-school subcultures and educational underachievement • A self-fulfilling prophecy can lead to the formation of pro-school subcultures and educational success for those that are labelled positively 	
	Credit should be given to other relevant material.	

Question	Answer	Marks
15	<p>What is meant by the term 'ethnocentric curriculum'</p> <p>Award one mark for a limited definition, e.g. when the curriculum favours one particular ethnic or cultural group</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"> • An ethnocentric curriculum is likely to be characterised by a focus on a particular groups history, culture and achievements • An ethnocentric curriculum will likely ignore other ethnic and cultural groups and reinforces the marginalisation of these groups • An ethnocentric curriculum can be disengaging and demotivating for students who do not match the culture/ethnic background of the curriculum <p>Credit should be given to other relevant material.</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
16	<p>Explain one external factor which may lead to the underachievement of working class students</p>	4
	<p>Band 2</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of one external factor which may lead to the underachievement of working class students 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 external factor which may lead to the underachievement of working class students 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:

- The impact of material deprivation
- A lack of cultural capital held by working class parents
- Use of the restricted speech code in the home
- A lack of parental engagement/understanding of the education system
- Attitudes and values which are not compatible with educational success

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
17	Explain why some sociologists argue that schools are meritocratic institutions	6
	Band 3 Knowledge and understanding of how schools are meritocratic institutions is strong with clear reference to appropriate concepts and evidence. The response is fully developed.	5-6
	Band 2 Knowledge and understanding of how schools are meritocratic institutions 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 how schools are meritocratic institutions 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:

- Education is free in most countries
- Students are judged against universal standards with standardised curriculums and assessment procedures
- Schools perform the function of 'role allocation' whereby those who achieve the best results go on to get the best jobs
- Education allows for social mobility where students can move from their ascribed status to their achieved status
- Children in schools should be treated equally regardless of their social class, gender, ethnic background etc.

Credit should be given to other relevant material

Question	Answer	Marks
18	'The primary purpose of schools is to create a subservient workforce' Evaluate the extent to which sociologists would agree with this statement	
	Band 4 Excellent understanding of the ways in which schools create a subservient workforce 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 primary purposes of schools. A focus on the demands of the question will be explicit throughout the response. An appropriate conclusion will be drawn.	12-15
	Band 3	8-11

	<p>A good understanding of the ways in which schools create a subservient workforce 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 purpose of schools.</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>	
	<p>Band 2</p> <p>Some understanding of the ways in which schools create a subservient workforce 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 schools create a subservient workforce shown. Answers in this band are likely to be characterised by a few isolated statements about the potential negative impact of schools.</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:

- Reference to Marxism and society based on class inequality
- Correspondence principle
- Hidden curriculum
- The myth of meritocracy
- Feminist perspective that schools are patriarchal and socialise girls into becoming subservient to men
- Sanctions used in schools to enforce social control
- Systems of hierarchy and authority that exist within schools

Alternative arguments which go against the view in the question:

- Functionalist views that schools have other primary purposes such as the creation of a value consensus and preparing students for the economy
- The existence of anti-school subcultures in schools suggests that schools are not effective in creating a subservient workforce

- The nature of schools today gives students the ability to be creative and explore a wide range of subjects which encourages them to develop independence and imagination rather than becoming subservient
- Liberal forms of schooling which foster independence and creativity
- Evidence of schools being meritocratic institutions that foster social mobility