
SOCIOLOGY

Paper 3 Social Inequality and Opportunity

9699/31

May/June 2014

3 hours

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer **three** questions, **each from a different section**.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.



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

Section A: EducationAnswer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

- 1 (a) Explain the relationship between the hidden curriculum and gender inequality in schools. [9]
- (b) Assess the view that racism is the main factor explaining why pupils from some minority ethnic groups underachieve at school. [16]
- 2 (a) Explain the Marxist theory of the relationship between the education system and the economy. [9]
- (b) Assess the view that the education system helps to improve the life chances of all members of society. [16]

Section B: Global DevelopmentAnswer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

- 3 (a) Explain why children in low-income countries are likely to experience economic exploitation. [9]
- (b) 'Low-income countries can never become rich.' Assess this view. [16]
- 4 (a) Explain why there are different views about how 'development' should be defined. [9]
- (b) 'A global economy means greater opportunity for everyone.' Assess this view. [16]

Section C: MediaAnswer **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

- 5 (a) Explain the factors that may influence the production of television news. [9]
- (b) 'The new media are undermining the power of those who own newspapers and television stations.' Assess this view. [16]
- 6 (a) Explain the difficulties of studying the impact that television has on viewers. [9]
- (b) 'Existing theories fail to explain adequately how the media influence human behaviour.' Assess this view. [16]

Section D: Religion

Answer **either** Question 7 **or** Question 8.

- 7 (a) Explain the difficulties in measuring the extent of religiosity in society. [9]
- (b) 'The extent to which secularisation has occurred in modern industrial societies has been exaggerated.' Assess this view. [16]
- 8 (a) Explain the view that religion is a form of social control. [9]
- (b) 'The growth of religious fundamentalism is a response to globalisation.' Assess this view. [16]

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