

A-level SOCIOLOGY (7192/1)

Paper 1 Education with Theory and Methods

Specimen 2015

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you will need no other materials.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the bottom of this page.
- Answer all questions.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- Questions carrying 10 marks or more should be answered in continuous prose. In these questions
 you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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	Answer all questions. Education	
0 1	Outline two material factors that may affect social class differences in eduachievement.	ucational [4 marks]
0 2	Outline three reasons why government education policies aimed at raisin achievement among disadvantaged groups may not always succeed.	g educational

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	Extra space ————————————————————————————————————
0 3	Read Item A below and answer the question that follows.
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	Item A
	On average, pupils from some ethnic groups achieve more highly at school than
	others. For example, Chinese and Indian pupils generally out-perform white pupils
	at GCSE. This is even true when we take into account whether pupils are from
	deprived backgrounds, as measured by whether they receive free school meals
	(FSM). For example, Chinese pupils on FSM do better than white pupils who are
	not on FSM.
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	Applying material from Item A , analyse two reasons why pupils from some minority
	ethnic groups achieve above average results in school. [10 marks]
	[10 marks]

Extra space		

Read Item B below and answer the question that follows. 0 4 Item B At each stage from pre-school through to university entrance, girls tend to do better than boys. For example, on entering primary school, girls are more likely to be able to write their own name. On the other hand, boys are more likely than girls to be assessed by their schools as having special educational needs. When it comes to subject choice at age 16, there are major gender differences in the popularity of different A-level subjects and even greater gender differences in vocational courses. Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that gender differences in both subject choice and educational achievement are mainly the result of the influence of wider society. [30 marks]

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Extra space	

Methods in Context

0 5

Read **Item C** below and answer the question that follows.

Item C

Investigating streaming

Streaming involves teachers differentiating between pupils on the basis of their perceived ability, placing pupils whom they believe to be of similar overall ability in the same teaching group. This may result in working-class pupils and those from certain ethnic minorities being placed in lower streams. Lower-stream pupils may lose self-esteem, give up trying and even join an anti-school subculture. By contrast, higher-stream pupils may identify strongly with the school's values and goals.

One way of studying streaming is to use unstructured interviews. These are often effective in exploring interviewees' personal feelings about sensitive subjects. However, for a variety of reasons, some pupils and teachers may refuse to participate in an unstructured interview.

Applying material from **Item C** and your knowledge of research methods, evaluate the strengths and limitations of using unstructured interviews to investigate streaming.

[20 marks	

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	Turn over for	the next quest	tion	
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	Theory and Methods
0 6	Outline and explain two arguments against the view that sociology is a science. [10 marks]

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