



Cambridge IGCSE™

SOCIOLOGY

0495/13

Paper 1 Research Methods, Identity and Inequality

May/June 2025

2 hours

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
Answer Question 1.
Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Answer Question 1.

Research methods

- 1 Read Source A and then answer the questions below.

Source A

The British Social Attitudes (BSA) survey studies public opinion on social and political issues in Britain. The survey has been done each year since 1983. Researchers interview participants in their homes using a structured interview with 300 closed pre-coded questions. The questions in the survey ask about issues such as welfare benefits, health care, education, transport, the environment, immigration and crime.

Participants are selected for the survey using random sampling. The population of Britain is approximately 67 million people. The sample for the survey is 4000 adults who live in Britain.

A key aim of the BSA survey is to study changes in public opinion on social and political issues over time, so some questions are the same and repeated every year. Other questions in the survey are different every year.

The BSA survey collects quantitative data and produces statistics. These statistics make the survey useful for both government policy making and sociologists doing research.

Source: adapted from the website UK Data Service

- (a) (i) From **Source A**, identify **two** issues researchers ask about in the BSA survey. [2]
- (ii) Using information in **Source A**, explain **two** reasons why the BSA survey is useful for studying public opinion. [4]
- (iii) Using information in **Source A**, explain **three** limitations of the BSA survey. [6]
- (b) State **two** digital sources of secondary evidence. [2]
- (c) Explain **one** strength and **one** limitation of systematic sampling. [4]
- (d) Evaluate the view that the scientific method is the best approach to use in sociological research.

Your answer should include:

- at least **two** arguments for and **two** arguments against
- a conclusion. [10]

- (e) Explain the research methods and evidence that you would choose to investigate why some young people join gangs. Give reasons for your choices.

Your answer should include:

- **two** primary methods with relevant sampling
- **one** source of secondary evidence.

[12]

Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Identity: self and society

2 (a) Define the term:

(i) norms [2]

(ii) canalisation. [2]

(b) State **two** positive sanctions used to control children. [2]

(c) Explain **three** ways societies are culturally diverse. [6]

(d) Explain **three** ways identities are socially constructed. [6]

(e) Discuss how the workplace is an effective agent of socialisation.

Your answer should include:

- at least **three** developed points with evidence. [8]

(f) Evaluate the view that the penal system is the most effective agent of formal social control.

Your answer should include:

- at least **three** arguments for and **three** arguments against
- a conclusion. [14]

Social stratification and inequality

3 (a) Define the term:

(i) universal basic income [2]

(ii) poverty trap. [2]

(b) Give **two** examples of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). [2]

(c) Explain **three** economic consequences of migration. [6]

(d) Explain **three** ways labelling theory explains social inequality. [6]

(e) Discuss how the culture of poverty keeps people poor.

Your answer should include:

- at least **three** developed points with evidence. [8]

(f) Evaluate the functionalist view that social stratification is positive for society.

Your answer should include:

- at least **three** arguments for and **three** arguments against
- a conclusion. [14]

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