
SOCIOLOGY

9699/31

Paper 3 Social Inequality and Opportunity

May/June 2017

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.

Answer **three** questions.

Section A: Education

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

- 1 (a) Explain the functionalist theory of the relationship between education and social mobility. [9]
 (b) 'Cultural deprivation is the main cause of educational underachievement.' Assess this view. [16]
- 2 (a) Explain why some minority ethnic groups have low levels of educational achievement. [9]
 (b) 'The school curriculum is shaped by the powerful groups in society.' Assess this view. [16]

Section B: Global Development

Answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

- 3 (a) Explain the strengths and limitations of using economic indicators to measure development. [9]
 (b) 'All societies pass through the same stages of development, from undeveloped to fully developed.' Assess this claim. [16]
- 4 (a) Explain the social consequences of rapid urban migration. [9]
 (b) Assess the effectiveness of aid agencies in supporting global development. [16]

Section C: Media

Answer **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

- 5 (a) Explain how the media may contribute to deviance amplification. [9]
 (b) 'The power of the media to shape the way people think has been exaggerated.' Assess this view. [16]
- 6 (a) Explain the role of the media in shaping the identities of young people. [9]
 (b) 'It is mistaken to think that society has been radically changed by the growth of the new media.' Assess this view. [16]

Section D: Religion

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

- 7 (a) Explain the idea that people are consumers who 'shop for spirituality' today. [9]
- (b) 'Fundamentalist religions are popular today because they provide a sense of order and stability in a world that has become unstable and confusing.' Assess this view. [16]
- 8 (a) Explain the role of religion in promoting social solidarity. [9]
- (b) Assess the view that people are becoming more spiritual in modern industrial societies. [16]

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