
SOCIOLOGY

9699/31

Paper 3 Social Inequality and Opportunity

October/November 2014

3 hours

No Additional 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: Education

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

- 1 (a) Explain why the educational achievement of girls has improved compared to boys in many modern industrial societies. [9]
- (b) Assess the view that schools reproduce social inequality. [16]
- 2 (a) Explain the part that cultural capital may play in determining which pupils succeed at school. [9]
- (b) 'The main role of schools is to prepare pupils for work.' Assess this view. [16]

Section B: Global Development

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

- 3 (a) Explain the difficulties in measuring global inequality. [9]
- (b) 'Global inequality has been increasing in the last few decades.' Assess this view. [16]
- 4 (a) Explain why the population in low-income countries is increasing faster than the population in high-income countries. [9]
- (b) 'The poor remain in poverty because they lack the right cultural values to change their lives for the better.' Assess this view. [16]

Section C: Media

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

- 5 (a) Explain the social factors that may affect the impact of media messages on audiences. [9]
- (b) 'Media representations of minority ethnic groups are based on a narrow range of stereotypes.' Assess this view. [16]
- 6 (a) Explain the differences between the traditional media and the new media. [9]
- (b) 'Society is being transformed by the impact of the new media.' Assess this view. [16]

Section D: Religion

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

- 7 (a) Explain the differences between sects and churches. [9]
- (b) Assess the view that women are discriminated against within organised religion. [16]
- 8 (a) Explain the growth of New Age ideas in modern industrial societies. [9]
- (b) 'There is little evidence that people are becoming less religious in modern industrial societies.' Assess this view. [16]

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