

AS SOCIOLOGY

Paper 2 Research Methods and Topics in Sociology

Tuesday 23 May 2017 Mc

Morning

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

• an AQA 12-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7191/2.
- Answer all questions in Section A and all questions from one topic in Section B.
- Do all rough work in your answer 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 60.
- 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.

Section A

Research Methods

Answer **all** questions in this section.

0 1 Outline **two** problems of using laboratory experiments in sociological research.

[4 marks]



Evaluate the importance of theoretical factors when choosing sociological research methods.

[16 marks]

Section B

Choose one topic from this section and answer all the questions on that topic.

	Topic B1 Culture and Identity	
03	Define the term 'global culture'.	[2 marks]
04	Using one example, briefly explain how leisure choices may shape identity.	[2 marks]
0 5	Outline three ways in which age may shape an individual's experiences in soc apart from leisure choices.	ciety, [6 marks]
06	Outline and explain two ways in which agencies of socialisation may socialise into gender roles.	children [10 marks]

Read Item A below and answer the question that follows.

Item A The United Kingdom is a multicultural society with a range of different ethnic groups. Some of these ethnic groups have their own distinctive identity and culture.

However, individuals may adopt more than one identity, depending on the social situation in which they find themselves.

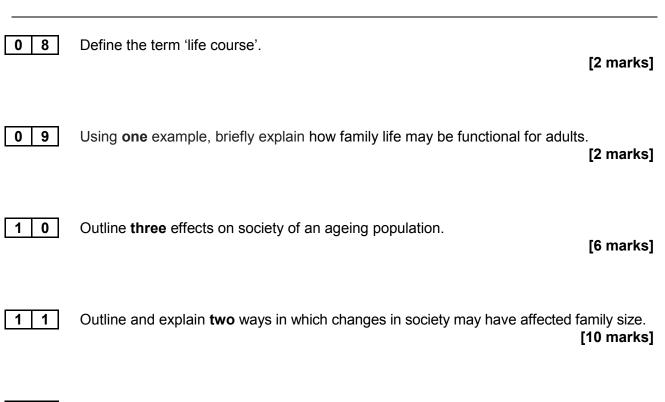
Applying material from Item A and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of the ways in which ethnicity may shape identity.

[20 marks]

Turn over for the next topic

0 7

Topic B2 Families and Households



2 Read **Item B** below and answer the question that follows.

Item B The 'march of progress' view argues that the experience of childhood in Western societies has improved in the last 50 years or so. In particular, families have become child centred.

However, other sociologists point to many negative aspects of childhood today, such as increased child obesity.

Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of changes in the experience of childhood in the last 50 years or so.

[20 marks]

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Topic B3 Health

1 3	Define the term 'the sick role'.	[2 marks]
1 4	Using one example, briefly explain why there may have been a decline in the confidence of patients in the medical profession.	[2 marks]
1 5	Outline three reasons why women are more likely than men to be treated for illness.	mental [6 marks]
1 6	Outline and explain two reasons why some age groups are more likely than o consult their doctor.	thers to [10 marks]
1 7	Read Item C below and answer the question that follows.	

Item C Working-class people are at a greater risk of illness and early death than middleclass people. Materialist explanations see the unequal structure of society as the underlying cause of these social class inequalities in health.

However, some sociologists argue that cultural and behavioural differences are more important.

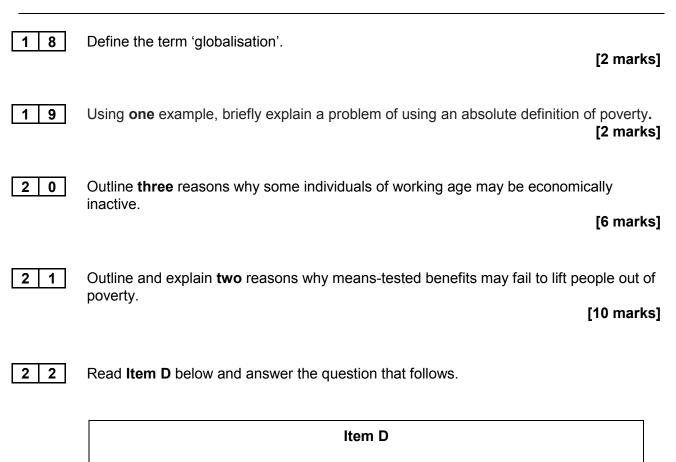
Applying material from **Item C** and your knowledge, evaluate materialist explanations for social class inequalities in health.

[20 marks]

Turn over for the next topic

6

Topic B4 Work, Poverty and Welfare



Marxists argue that alienation at work is inevitable in capitalist society. They argue that technology is used to de-skill workers and make work repetitive and dull. Technology enables managers to control workers more effectively.

Other sociologists are more optimistic about the nature of work. They argue that technology can free workers from monotonous work and can increase workers' skills and independence.

Applying material from **Item D** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that alienation at work is inevitable in capitalist society.

[20 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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