Cambridge IGCSE

Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

SOCIOLOGY **0495/12**

Paper 1 **October/November 2016**

2 hours (including 15 minutes' reading time)

No Additional Materials are required.

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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 Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
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.

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Section A: Theory and methods

Answer Question 1.

1 Source A

Milgram's Electric Shock experiment.

In 1963 Stanley Milgram carried out a laboratory experiment. He told participants that the experiment was to study how punishment affected learning.

The research group was divided into 'teachers' and 'learners'. The 'teachers' saw the 'learners' sit in a chair that looked like an electric chair. The 'teacher' was then asked to test the 'learner' and if they made a mistake give them an electric shock.

The equipment used to give the electric shock was labelled 15 volts to 450 volts. The 450 volts was clearly labelled 'Danger: severe shock'. The 'teacher' was told the shock would be painful but it would not hurt the 'learner'. The equipment was really a fake. The 'learners' were not really in danger but as the voltage went up the 'teachers' heard cries of pain. At 330 volts the 'learners' went silent.

In the experiment none of the 'teachers' questioned the activity until the 'learners' fell silent. This showed that people will usually follow the instructions of an authority figure without question.

(a) Identify **two** reasons why laboratory experiments might not be valid. [2]

(b) Identify **two** methods that might be used to research behaviour, apart from laboratory experiments. [2]

(c) Using information from Source A, describe two reasons why laboratory experiments might be unethical. [4]

(d) Describe **two** strengths of using experiments in sociological research. [4]

(e) Describe **two** strengths and **two** limitations of using positivist methods in sociological research. [8]

(f) Explain why sociological researchers may use triangulation in their research. [10]

(g) To what extent might the sociological perspectives of researchers shape their research? [15]

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

Section B: Culture, identity and socialisation

2 The Wild Boy of Aveyron was a child who lived in the woods, in 18th Century France. When he was captured the child couldn't speak. The Wild Boy of Aveyron is one of many examples of feral children used to highlight the role of primary socialisation.

(a) What is meant by the term 'feral children'? [2]

(b) Describe **two** examples of what is learnt in primary socialisation. [4]

(c) Explain how children learn social expectations. [6]

(d) Explain why socialisation is necessary for social conformity. [8]

(e) To what extent does nurture explain human behaviour? [15]

Section C: Social inequality

3 'It is estimated that 27 million people alive today are living in slavery. This is more than at any other point in history. This number is greater than the total population stolen from Africa during the transatlantic slave trade. (Bale 2009)'

Adapted from Macionis and Plummer, Sociology – A Global Introduction.

(a) What is meant by the term 'slavery'? [2]

(b) Describe **two** examples of social inequality, apart from slavery. [4]

(c) Explain how minority ethnic groups can experience inequality. [6]

(d) Explain why poverty still exists today. [8]

(e) To what extent does social mobility exist in all societies? [15]

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