Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

SOCIOLOGY **0495/12**

Paper 1 **October/November 2021**

2 hours

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

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INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
  - Section A: answer Question 1.
  - Answer **either** Question 2 from Section B **or** Question 3 from Section C.
- 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 **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Section A: Theory and methods

Answer Question 1

1 Laboratory experiments are a type of methodology used in sociology. Positivists argue laboratory experiments are the only method where causation can be proved. However, the method is rarely used because of practical issues such as cost and ethical issues such as informed consent and harm. One example of a laboratory experiment was controversial because it experimented on children and how they learn aggressive behaviour.

In this experiment a sample of 36 boys and 36 girls aged between 3 and 6 were selected. The children were observed before the experiment began so researchers could rate how aggressive each child was. Four groups of children were compared in the experiment in order to measure the effects of watching violent behaviour. The three groups who were shown violence went on to imitate the violent behaviour. The fourth group was not shown any violence and did not behave aggressively in the experiment.

The experiment was highly standardised and able to be repeated. In the laboratory researchers were able to control variables to make comparisons and gather objective data. The conclusion of the study was that children who see violence are more likely to behave violently.

Source A

(a) From Source A identify **two** ethical issues with laboratory experiments. [2]

(b) Identify **two** methods that could be used to gain quantitative data, apart from laboratory experiments. [2]

(c) Using information from Source A, describe **two** reasons why the laboratory experiment was a useful method. [4]

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

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

(f) Explain why some sociologists criticise the data gathered from unstructured interviews. [10]

(g) To what extent is the consensus view more useful than the conflict view for understanding society? [15]

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

Section B: Culture, identity and socialisation

2 Sociologists debate whether primary or secondary socialisation is more influential. However, all societies use sanctions to control individuals. Some sociologists believe sanctions are used differently depending on the class, ethnicity, age or gender of the individual. It has also been argued that globalisation is changing cultures and affecting people's lifestyles.

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

(b) Describe **two** examples of global culture. [4]

(c) Explain how negative sanctions are used to control individuals. [6]

(d) Explain why age is a social construction. [8]

(e) To what extent is secondary socialisation more influential than primary socialisation for an individual? [15]

Section C: Social inequality

3 Sociologists argue that as countries become modern and industrial they change from being closed societies to open societies. One of the reasons for this change is the rise of equal opportunities legislation. Despite changes in legislation, inequality still exists for women, minority ethnic groups and lower social classes.

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

(b) Describe **two** examples of equal opportunities legislation. [4]

(c) Explain how women experience inequality in the workplace. [6]

(d) Explain why racial discrimination may be negative for an individual. [8]

(e) To what extent is it possible to escape poverty? [15]

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