Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

SOCIOLOGY **0495/12**

Paper 1 **October/November 2024**

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 in Section B **or** Question 3 in 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 Source A

In 2004 a researcher began a sociological study into the experiences of stay-at-home fathers. These fathers had given up the breadwinner role to stay at home and look after the children. The researcher chose to use unstructured interviews. The researcher believed that unstructured interviews would be like a conversation.

The study was based in a wealthy area of London. The researcher lived in the area and had been a stay-at-home father himself. Finding a sample was easy because the researcher knew where other fathers went with their children during the day. A sample of 16 stay-at-home fathers agreed to participate in the research.

Each of the 16 participants was interviewed three times over a two-year period. The interviews took place in various settings including coffee shops, local parks and participants' homes. Each unstructured interview lasted for about two hours.

(a) From **Source A**, identify **two** settings where the interviews took place. [2]

(b) Identify **two** ethical issues sociologists should consider when doing research. [2]

(c) Using information from **Source A**, describe **two** reasons the data gathered might be accurate. [4]

(d) Describe **two** limitations of using focus groups in sociological research. [4]

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

(f) Explain why questionnaires may lack validity. [10]

(g) To what extent is positivism the best approach to sociological research? [15]

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

Section B: Culture, identity and socialisation

2 Societies are diverse but in most societies people experience peer pressure and socialisation. Sociologists agree that in all societies there are agencies of informal social control that try to ensure conformity. Gender and ethnicity are important factors in an individual's social identity.

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

(b) Describe **two** examples of peer pressure. [4]

(c) Explain how primary socialisation affects children's gender roles. [6]

(d) Explain why ethnicity affects an individual's social identity. [8]

(e) To what extent do informal agencies of social control ensure conformity? [15]

Section C: Social inequality

3 Sociologists disagree to what extent equal opportunities exist and whether social classes are changing. Some sociologists are concerned about patriarchy and ageism. Other sociologists debate the effects of poverty.

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

(b) Describe **two** examples of patriarchy in society. [4]

(c) Explain how poverty affects individuals. [6]

(d) Explain why ageism affects the elderly. [8]

(e) To what extent are social classes changing in modern industrial societies? [15]

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