

General Certificate of Education
January 2008
Advanced Level Examination



SOCIOLOGY
Unit 6

SCY6

Tuesday 29 January 2008 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is SCY6.
- This paper is divided into **two** Sections. Choose **one** Section and answer **all** parts of the question from that Section.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for questions (or part questions) are shown in brackets.
- Parts (b) and (c) of your chosen question should be answered in continuous prose. In these part questions you will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Choose **one** Section and answer **all** parts of the question from that Section.

SECTION A: CRIME AND DEVIANCE

Total for this section: 60 marks

1 Read **Item A** below and answer parts (a) to (c) that follow.

Item A

Some sociologists see official statistics as a valuable free resource to use in the study of crime and deviance. Such statistics can reveal apparent patterns of crime and its social distribution across different localities, social classes, genders, ages and ethnic groups.

However, other sociologists are deeply suspicious of such data. Interpretivists such as Cicourel argue that we should regard official statistics not as a resource in the study of crime and deviance, but as a problematic topic whose social construction we need to investigate. Others argue that there are many practical problems involved in using official statistics to study crime and deviance. 5

- (a) Identify and briefly explain **two** ways in which knowledge of **one** of the following areas may help us to understand crime and deviance: families and households; health; mass media; education; wealth, poverty and welfare; work and leisure; power and politics; religion; world sociology. (8 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Crime and Deviance and other substantive topics you have studied.

- (b) Using material from **Item A** and elsewhere, examine some of the problems of using official statistics in the study of crime and deviance. (12 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Crime and Deviance and sociological methods.

- (c) Assess the view that delinquent subcultures are the main cause of crime. (40 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Crime and Deviance and sociological theory.

SECTION B: STRATIFICATION AND DIFFERENTIATION

Total for this section: 60 marks

- 2 Read **Item B** below and answer parts (a) to (c) that follow.

Item B

Social mobility can be defined as the movement from one position in a social hierarchy, or stratification system, to another position in that hierarchy. This movement may be upward or downward. Most studies of mobility have looked at the chances of individuals moving up or down between different positions in an occupational class hierarchy. 5

Such studies can tell sociologists a great deal about a stratification system, but there are many problems involved in measuring social mobility. For example, before we can decide whether an individual who has changed jobs has actually moved from one class to another, we need to be able to decide how many classes there are and which occupations belong in each of them. 10

- (a) Identify and briefly explain **two** problems of measuring social mobility **apart from** those referred to in **Item B**. (8 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Stratification and Differentiation and sociological methods.

- (b) Examine the extent of **and** reasons for ethnic differences in the United Kingdom in **two or more** of the following areas: families and households; health; mass media; education; wealth, poverty and welfare; work and leisure; power and politics; religion; world sociology. (12 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Stratification and Differentiation and other substantive topics you have studied.

- (c) Assess sociological explanations of the inequalities and differences between social classes. (40 marks)

This part of the question includes assessment of your understanding of the connections between Stratification and Differentiation and sociological theory.

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page