

Cambridge International AS & A Level

SOCIOLOGY

Paper 1 Socialisation, Identity and Methods of Research

MARK SCHEME

9699/12

October/November 2022

Maximum Mark: 60



This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

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This document consists of 18 printed pages.

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Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always whole marks (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit
 is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme,
 referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

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Social Science-Specific Marking Principles (for point-based marking)

1 Components using point-based marking:

Point marking is often used to reward knowledge, understanding and application of skills.
 We give credit where the candidate's answer shows relevant knowledge, understanding and application of skills in answering the question. We do not give credit where the answer shows confusion.

From this it follows that we:

- **a** DO credit answers which are worded differently from the mark scheme if they clearly convey the same meaning (unless the mark scheme requires a specific term)
- **b** DO credit alternative answers/examples which are not written in the mark scheme if they are correct
- **c** DO credit answers where candidates give more than one correct answer in one prompt/numbered/scaffolded space where extended writing is required rather than list-type answers. For example, questions that require *n* reasons (e.g. State two reasons ...).
- **d** DO NOT credit answers simply for using a 'key term' unless that is all that is required. (Check for evidence it is understood and not used wrongly.)
- **e** DO NOT credit answers which are obviously self-contradicting or trying to cover all possibilities
- **f** DO NOT give further credit for what is effectively repetition of a correct point already credited unless the language itself is being tested. This applies equally to 'mirror statements' (i.e. polluted/not polluted).

2 Presentation of mark scheme:

- Slashes (/) or the word 'or' separate alternative ways of making the same point.
- Semi colons (;) bullet points (•) or figures in brackets (1) separate different points.
- Content in the answer column in brackets is for examiner information/context to clarify the marking but is not required to earn the mark (except Accounting syllabuses where they indicate negative numbers).

Using the mark scheme

Some of the questions are marked using a point-based system, awarding marks for specific points and accumulating a total mark by adding points.

Some of the questions are marked using level of response. For these, the level description represents performance at the top of the level.

For levels of response marking you should:

- award a mark at the top of the level if all criteria in the level are met
- consider the level descriptions across the full range, bearing in mind that it is not necessary for a candidate to give a faultless performance for maximum marks to be awarded within any single category
- award marks on a 'best-fit' basis; thus, compensation between higher and lower achievement for different criteria is acceptable.

For Question 4 and Question 5, award a mark for each assessment objective separately, using the level descriptions at the end of the mark scheme.

In some cases, candidates may provide a response which the mark scheme has not predicted. These answers should nevertheless be credited according to their quality

Question	Answer	Marks
1	Describe two formal social sanctions.	4
	Indicative content	
	Enforcement of legal rules through negative sanctions: • Fines • Imprisonment • Criminal record	
	 Community service Enforcement of non-legal rules through negative sanctions: Formal reprimand at work Dismissal from work Expulsion from school 	
	Also positive formal sanctions: School certificates Awards Medals Promotion	
	Reward a maximum of two sanctions. For each sanction, up to 2 marks are available:	
	1 mark for identifying a formal social sanction	
	1 mark for describing the identified social sanction	
	(2 × 2 marks)	

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Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	Explain two ways the values of a sociologist may influence the research process.	8
	Indicative content	
	 Interviewer bias – the responses of an interviewer may influence the interviewee. Collection of data – e.g. construction of question in an interview – those posed/excluded. Theoretical position of researcher e.g. Positivist or Interpretivist. Ethical considerations –would want to get the consent of participants in the research conducted. Choice of research topic e.g. sympathy for the poor may lead to an interest in researching poverty and the way the research is conducted. Processing of data - Interpretation and presentation of findings may be influenced by beliefs – researcher imposition. Sociologists may sometimes be influenced by the common-sense ideas of their time, and this may then have a distorting influence on their research (Kuhn's paradigms). Any other appropriate way. 	
	For this question, use of sociological material is likely to be demonstrated through reference to methodological concepts or use of examples related to specific research methods.	
	Reward a maximum of two ways. Up to 4 marks are available for each way:	
	1 mark for making a point/giving a way (e.g. the responses of an interviewer may influence the interview)	
	1 mark for explaining that point (e.g. the verbal or non-verbal reaction of the interviewer may influence the answers given)	
	1 mark for selecting relevant sociological material (e.g. interviewer bias.)	
	1 mark for explaining how the material supports the point (e.g. this may lead interviewees to provide answers that coincide with what they perceive as the researcher's values)	
	(2 × 4 marks)	

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Question	Answer	Marks
2(b)	Explain two limitations of laboratory experiments.	6
	Indicative content	
	 Limitations: Ecological validity – a laboratory is an artificial setting. The difficulty of isolating variables for testing and identifying causes when studying people. Possible ethical issues arising from treating individuals differently; of consent, etc. Small-scale experiments likely to be unrepresentative. Human behaviour is too complex to be studied in a laboratory. The Hawthorne effect – people behave differently when they know they are being studied. 	
	Reward a maximum of two limitations. For each limitation, up to 3 marks are available:	
	1 mark for identifying a limitation of (e.g. A laboratory is an artificial setting)	
	1 mark for explaining why this method has this limitation (e.g. as this is a non-natural environment, people may behave unnaturally)	
	1 mark for explaining why it is a limitation (e.g. this reduces validity)	
	(2 × 3 marks)	

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Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	'The peer group is the most influential agent of socialisation in shaping gender identity.'	10
	Explain this view.	
	Indicative content	
	 The role of 'peer pressure' with suitable examples and/or references to gender subcultures. The setting for peer gendering is often shaped in a school setting. Evidence that peer groups may reinforce gendered identities Examples of informal social sanctions in respect of expectations and attitudes (e.g. towards female roles, appearance, etc.) Individuals may hide alternative identities (boys and educational success) to fit in with a peer group. Any other relevant point. 	
	Research evidence: Lees, Willis, McRobbie, Lamb, Frosh, Reynolds, Francis, Hughes et al Additional concepts: Bedroom culture; Social control, conformity, positive/negative sanctions	
	Levels of response	
	 Level 3: 8–10 marks Good knowledge and understanding of the view that the peer group is the most influential agent of socialisation in shaping gender identity. The response contains two clear and developed points. Sociological materials such as concepts, theories and evidence, will be used to support both points. The material selected is appropriate and focused on the question with its relevance made clear. 	
	 Level 2: 4–7 marks Some knowledge and understanding of the view that the peer group is the most influential agent of socialisation in shaping gender identity. The response contains one clear and developed point and one relevant but underdeveloped point. Sociological material is used to support at least one point. The material selected is appropriate but not clearly focused on the question or its relevance is not being made clear. 	
	 Level 1: 1–3 marks Limited knowledge and understanding of the view that the peer group is the most influential agent of socialisation in shaping gender identity. The response contains one relevant but underdeveloped point and one (or more) points related to the general topic rather than the specific question. Any supporting material lacks focus on the specific question. 	
	Level 0: 0 marks No response worthy of credit.	

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Question	Answer		
3(b)	'The peer group is the most influential agent of socialisation in shaping gender identity.	6	
	Using sociological material, give one argument against this view.		
	Indicative content		
	 Deterministic explanation i.e. the influence of the peer group may be exaggerated, for example, many individuals do not necessarily conform. Biological explanations as opposed to sociological explanations. Evidence of changing attitudes with less strict gendering Role of other agents of socialisation relative to the influence of the peer group, e.g. others may be more or less influential or that it is too simplistic to isolate the power of one agent as the most significant. <i>Note:</i> With these arguments responses need to explain why an agent is a more important influence than the peer group, e.g. 'The family is where gender is initially shaped and is more influential than the peer group.' Youth cannot be easily isolated from other identities e.g. gender and class. Any other relevant argument. Research evidence: Lamb [same-sex toys]; McRobbie [boys occupying public spaces]; Frosh on what gives boys status and the labels they fear; Francis [role play in primary schools]; Reynolds [the identities expected of boys in a school setting] The above content is indicative and other relevant approaches to the question should be rewarded appropriately. <i>References to sociological theories such as Marxism, interactionism,</i> 		
	functionalism or postmodernism may be present but are not necessary even for full marks.		
	Levels of response		
	 Level 3: 5–6 marks One clear and developed argument against the view that the peer group is the most influential agent of socialisation in shaping gender identity. Sociological material, such as concepts, theories and evidence, is used to support the argument. The material selected is appropriate and focused on the question with its relevance made clear. 		
	Level 2: 3–4 marks • One clear but underdeveloped argument against the view that the peer group is the most influential agent of socialisation in shaping gender		
	 identity. The material selected is appropriate but not clearly focused on the question or its relevance to the argument is not made clear. 		

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Question	Answer	Marks
3(b)	 Level 1: 1–2 marks One point disagreeing with the view that the peer group is the most influential agent of socialisation in shaping gender identity, which is undeveloped or lacking clarity. Any supporting material lacks focus on the specific question. Level 0: 0 marks No response worthy of credit. 	

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Question	Answer			Marks
4	Evaluate the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. Indicative content		social identities are changing	26
		In support	In evaluation	
	Points	 Evidence of traditional identities persisting across gender, class, ethnicity and age groups. Socialisation largely still traditional in respect of most identities. Change is restricted to those groups who have the ability to create/choose identity; this ability is largely linked to power, status and income. Identity 'freedoms' less common in some parts of the world than others. An awareness of the difference between structuralist, interactionist and postmodernist views. 	 In modern societies individuals have greater opportunities to shape their social identities. Increased choice in the meanings attached to gender (changing), ethnic (merging), class (disappearing) and age identity (malleable). The impact of globalisation and consumer culture facilitating choice. Arguments may be linked to the changing impact of the agents of socialisation on identity formation. An awareness of the difference between structuralist and interactionist views Potential use of theories such as postmodernism and feminism may be used in support though is not necessary to achieve the highest marks. 	
	Research evidence	Crompton, Goldthorpe, Parsons, Phillips, Connell	Peele, Rampton, Phillips, Prandy and Lambert	
	Additional concepts	hypermasculine centred identities	gender fluidity marginalised masculinity,	
	The above content is indicative and other relevant approaches to the question should be rewarded appropriately.			
	Levels of re	sponse for Question 4		
		•	O1, up to 8 marks for AO2, and	

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Question		Answer		Marks
4	Level	AO1: Knowledge and Understanding	Marks	
	4	 Good knowledge and understanding of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. The response contains a range of detailed points with good use of concepts and theory/research evidence. 	7–8	
	3	 Reasonable knowledge and understanding of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. The response contains a narrow range of detailed points or a wider range of underdeveloped points, with some use of concepts or theory or research evidence. 	5–6	
	2	 Basic knowledge and understanding of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. The response contains a narrow range of underdeveloped points and may include basic references to concepts or theories or research evidence. 	3–4	
	1	 Limited knowledge and understanding of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. The response contains only assertive points or common sense observations. 	1–2	
	0	No knowledge and understanding worthy of credit.	0	

Question		Answer		Marks
4	Level	AO2: Interpretation and Application	Marks	
	4	The material selected will be accurately interpreted, well developed and consistently applied to answering the question.	7–8	
	3	The material selected will be accurate and relevant but lacks either some development or clear application to the question.	5–6	
	2	The material selected is relevant to the question but is not applied accurately or has limited development.	3–4	
	1	There is some attempt to apply sociological material but this lacks focus on or relevance to the specific question.	1–2	
	0	No interpretation and application worthy of credit.	0	

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Question		Answer		Marks
4	Level	AO3: Analysis and Evaluation	Marks	
	5	 Very good analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. The evaluation is clear, explicit and sustained. 	9–10	
	4	 Good analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. The evaluation is explicit and direct but not sustained or a more descriptive account of evidence and arguments that social identities are changing (opposite view to that expressed in the question). 	7–8	
	3	 Some analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. There is a juxtaposition of different arguments and theories which are not clearly focused on the question or a few simple points suggesting that social identities are changing (opposite view to that expressed in the question). 	5–6	
	2	 Basic analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. There is an attempt to consider more than one side of the debate or one simple point suggesting that social identities are changing (opposite view to that expressed in the question). 	3–4	
	1	 Limited analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. Any analysis or evaluation is incidental, confused or simply assertive. 	1–2	
	0	No analysis and evaluation worthy of credit.	0	

Question		Answer	
4	Level	AO3: Analysis and Evaluation	Marks
	5	 Very good analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. The evaluation is clear, explicit and sustained. 	9–10
	4	 Good analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. The evaluation is explicit and direct but not sustained or a more descriptive account of evidence and arguments that social identities are changing (opposite view to that expressed in the question). 	7–8
	3	 Some analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. There is a juxtaposition of different arguments and theories which are not clearly focused on the question or a few simple points suggesting that social identities are changing (opposite view to that expressed in the question). 	5–6
	2	 Basic analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. There is an attempt to consider more than one side of the debate or one simple point suggesting that social identities are changing (opposite view to that expressed in the question). 	3–4
	1	 Limited analysis/evaluation of the view that the extent to which social identities are changing has been exaggerated. Any analysis or evaluation is incidental, confused or simply assertive. 	1–2
	0	No analysis and evaluation worthy of credit.	0

Question		Answer		Marks
5	Evaluate the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. Indicative content		26	
		In support	In evaluation	
	Points	 Qualitative methods are more suitable for study of human behaviour than quantitative methods. They produce highly valid data that explores the subjective meanings actors hold from their point of view – interpretivist rationale. Allow you to understand the reasons behind behaviour. Give more control to the subjects / less imposition from the researcher Reference made to a range of qualitative methods to illustrate these points. 	 Qualitative data cannot be easily replicated and so lacks reliability Qualitative data lacks objectivity/is value laden and subjective. As qualitative methods involve a closer connection with the researcher, there is more likely to be researcher bias. There are sometimes ethical problems linked to qualitative methods Researcher imposition The small numbers involved often leads to unrepresentative samples Practical considerations – time, money, etc. 	
	Research evidence	Weber, examples of studies using qualitative methods	Durkheim, Popper	
	Additional concepts	Interpretivism, agency, realism, validity, verstehen, rapport	Positivism, scientific approach; replicable, social facts; hypothesis.	
		ontent is indicative and other relevations warded appropriately.	ant approaches to the question	
	Levels of re	sponse for Question 5		
		m mark for Question 5 is 26. hould award up to 8 marks for AO1 ks for AO3	, up to 8 marks for AO2, and	

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Question		Answer		Marks
5	Levels of Response			
	Level	AO1: Knowledge and Understanding	Marks	
	4	 Good knowledge and understanding of the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. The response contains a range of detailed points with good use of concepts and theory/research evidence. 	7–8	
	3	 Reasonable knowledge and understanding of the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. The response contains a narrow range of detailed points or a wider range of underdeveloped points, with some use of concepts or theory or research evidence. 	5–6	
	2	 Basic knowledge and understanding of the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. The response contains a narrow range of underdeveloped points and may include basic references to concepts or theories or research evidence. 	3–4	
	1	 Limited knowledge and understanding of the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. The response contains only assertive points or common sense observations. 	1–2	
	0	No knowledge and understanding worthy of credit.	0	

Question		Answer		Marks
5	Level	AO2: Interpretation and Application	Marks	
	4	The material selected will be accurately interpreted, well developed and consistently applied to answering the question.	7–8	
	3	The material selected will be accurate and relevant but lacks either some development or clear application to the question.	5–6	
	2	The material selected is relevant to the question but is not applied accurately or has limited development.	3–4	
	1	There is some attempt to apply sociological material but this lacks focus on or relevance to the specific question.	1–2	
	0	No interpretation and application worthy of credit.	0	

Question 5	Answer			Marks
	Level	AO3: Analysis and Evaluation	Marks	
	5	 Very good analysis/evaluation of the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. The evaluation is clear, explicit and sustained. 	9–10	
	4	 Good analysis/evaluation of the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. The evaluation is explicit and direct but not sustained or a more descriptive account of evidence and arguments suggesting that qualitative methods do not provide the best way to study social behaviour. 	7–8	
	3	 Some analysis/evaluation of the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. There is a juxtaposition of different arguments and theories which are not clearly focused on the question or a few simple points suggesting that qualitative methods do not provide the best way to study social behaviour. 	5–6	
	2	 Basic analysis/evaluation of the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. There is an attempt to consider more than one side of the debate or one simple point suggesting that qualitative methods do not provide the best way to study social behaviour. 	3–4	
	1	 Limited analysis/evaluation of the view that qualitative methods provide the best way to study social behaviour. Any analysis or evaluation is incidental, confused or simply assertive. 	1–2	
	0	No analysis and evaluation worthy of credit.	0	