UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

CANDIDATE NAME	

CENTRE NUMBER						CANDIDATE NUMBER					

SOCIOLOGY **9699/22**

Paper 2 Principles and Methods 2 **October/November 2013**

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.
DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **two** questions.

You may not need all the answer lines for your answer.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

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Answer **two** questions.

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1 Functionalists use a biological analogy to compare parts of society to parts of the human body. In terms of this analogy, both humans and societies have certain needs that must be met if they are to survive. Social institutions exist to meet these basic needs and to ensure social order. For example, families provide socialisation, which helps meet the basic need for a *common culture*. The function of an institution is studied by examining its contribution to the survival, or harmonious running, of society. Some functionalists accept that there may be aspects of society that are dysfunctional, but they generally pay more attention to studying the functional parts of society. This has led critics, such as those in the Marxist tradition, to claim that functionalist theories support the maintenance of the existing social order.

(a) What is meant by the term *common culture*?

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(b) Describe **two** agencies of secondary socialisation.

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(c) Explain the functionalist view of social order.

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(d) Assess Marxist criticisms of the functionalist model of society.

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2 Data that is collected from interviews is often viewed by positivists as revealing the attitudes and behaviour of people in everyday life. However, interpretivists would argue that an interview creates a situation that is very artificial and unlike everyday life. They think that this is particularly the case with *structured interviews*. The answers that people give in an interview may have little to do with their real or normal behaviour. There is no guarantee that people will tell the truth in interviews, and they may forget or mislead the interviewer. People may also interpret the wording of the questions in interviews differently to what the interviewer intended. For these reasons, interpretivists question the validity of the data obtained using interviews. They believe that participant observation is the best method of obtaining research data that is valid.

(a) What is meant by the term *structured interview*?

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(b) Describe **two** qualities that positivists look for in a research method.

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(c) Explain why interpretivists think that participant observation is the best way of obtaining valid data.

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(d) Assess the view that the answers that people give in an interview may have little to do with their real or normal behaviour.

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3 There are many more opportunities for social mobility in modern industrial societies than in traditional societies. For this reason, modern industrial societies may be described as 'open' or meritocratic. A meritocracy is a system in which people are rewarded on the basis of how hard they work and how much ability they possess. Functionalists argue that a meritocracy is essential for the smooth running of a modern industrial society. However, conflict theorists question whether a meritocracy actually exists. They claim that there are structural inequalities in modern industrial societies that prevent many able and talented people from achieving upward social mobility. Feminists, for example, argue that *gender discrimination* is an obstacle to many women succeeding in high status occupations.

(a) What is meant by the term *gender discrimination*?

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(b) Describe **two** obstacles that a working class person may face in achieving upward social mobility.

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(c) Explain why it may be difficult to measure the extent of social mobility.

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(d) Assess the claim that structural inequalities prevent many able and talented people from achieving upward social mobility.

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