

Section A

Answer Question 1.

- 1 Socialisation is the process through which individuals learn how to behave in society. Different agents of socialisation contribute to this process at various stages in a person's life. For example, the peer group can be especially powerful in shaping the identity of children and young adults. These agents of socialisation ensure that most individuals conform to the roles that society expects of them. However, there is still great variation in behaviour, with different social groups taking on very different norms and *values*. For example, Paul Willis's study showed how different groups of pupils in a secondary school had very different attitudes towards education.

Feminist sociologists take a great interest in socialisation; in particular they focus on the formation of gender identity within the family. They emphasise how the roles of males and females are largely determined by gender role socialisation as individuals learn the forms of behaviour that are regarded as appropriate for their gender.

- (a) What is meant by the term *values*? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** ways that the peer group contributes to the formation of gender identity. [4]
- (c) Explain why norms may vary between different social groups. [8]
- (d) Assess the view that socialisation within the family is the main factor shaping gender identity. [11]

Section B

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

- 2 'In order to fully understand society, sociological research should be based on the methods of the natural sciences.' Explain and assess this view. [25]
- 3 'Questionnaires do not provide a complete picture of social reality.' Explain and assess this view. [25]

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