



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

CANDIDATE  
NAME

CENTRE  
NUMBER

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**SOCIOLOGY**

**2251/13**

Paper 1

**May/June 2013**

**2 hours 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 in the spaces provided.

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.

You may not need all the answer lines for your answer.

**DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.**

Answer Question 1 and **three** questions from Sections **B** to **D**.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **28** printed pages.



**Section A: Research Methods**

For  
Examiner's  
Use

Sociologists can find evidence in many forms, both primary data and *secondary data*. This data may be quantitative or qualitative. *Official statistics* and content analysis are two forms of quantitative data.

Qualitative data can include *life histories* and personal documents as well as evidence that the sociologist has gathered personally using interpretivist methods such as participant observation. Sometimes researchers ask people to keep diaries which can then be used alongside evidence from interviews and questionnaires.

1 (a) What is meant by the following terms:

(i) Secondary data

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..... [2]

(ii) Official statistics

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..... [2]

(iii) Life histories.

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(b) Explain **two** limitations of using personal documents in sociological research.

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(c) Describe **two** reasons for combining different sources of data in a research study.

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(d) Describe **one** strength and **one** limitation of covert participant observation.

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(e) Describe **two** types of interviews that may be used in sociological research.

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Examiner's  
Use*

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(f) Describe **two** strengths and **two** limitations of using interpretivist methods in sociological research.

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**Section B: Culture and Socialisation**

*For  
Examiner's  
Use*

**2** For feminist sociologists the most basic division in society is between men and women rather than between different classes. This division is reflected in their socialisation and gender roles.

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

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**(b)** Describe **two** male gender roles.

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3 Functionalists claim that agencies of socialisation regulate people's activities and behaviour in order to encourage social conformity. Some of these agencies are part of the process of formal social control.

(a) What is meant by the term agencies of socialisation?

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(b) Describe **two** agencies of formal social control.

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**Section C: Social Stratification and Inequality**

*For  
Examiner's  
Use*

4 Social status may be achieved or ascribed. Each individual has more than one social status and these may change during a lifetime.

(a) What is meant by the term social status?

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..... [2]

(b) Describe **two** statuses that are usually fixed at birth.

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(c) Explain the difficulties a person may encounter when trying to change their social status.

*For  
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5 Many ethnic minority groups are found at the bottom of stratification systems where they often experience racial discrimination.

(a) Define the term ethnic minority.

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(b) Describe **two** examples of racial discrimination.

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(d) To what extent is upward social mobility possible for people from ethnic minority groups?

For  
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**Section D: Power and Authority**

*For  
Examiner's  
Use*

**6** Governments maintain authority through the exercise of power. One form of government power involves the use of coercion.

**(a)** What is meant by the term authority?

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**(b)** Describe **two** ways by which governments can apply coercion.

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7 There is a distinction between insider and outsider pressure groups. All pressure groups may use lobbying as a way of influencing governments. New social movements have developed which differ from pressure groups.

(a) What is meant by the term lobbying?

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..... [2]

(b) Describe **two** features of new social movements.

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(d) To what extent do pressure groups reflect the interests of the public?

*For  
Examiner's  
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