

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
Joint Examination for the School Certificate
and General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

SOCIOLOGY
PAPER 2

2251/2

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER SESSION 2002

1 hour 45 minutes

Additional materials:
Answer paper

TIME 1 hour 45 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer paper/answer booklet.

Answer **three** questions.

Answer no more than **two** questions from any one section.

Write your answers on the separate answer paper provided.

If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

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

Section A

The Family and Kinship

- 1 The importance of the nuclear family in modern industrialised societies has declined. There are many other types of family today.
- (a) What is meant by the term *nuclear family*? [2]
 - (b) Describe **two** other types of family. [4]
 - (c) What factors have led to the decline of the nuclear family? [7]
 - (d) To what extent is family life still important despite the decline of the nuclear family in modern industrialised societies? [7]
- 2 During the last century the relationship between husband and wife has changed considerably in modern industrialised societies. The relationship between parents and children has also changed.
- (a) What have been the main changes in the relationship between husband and wife? [5]
 - (b) What factors might explain changes in the relationship between husband and wife? [5]
 - (c) To what extent do women have equal relationships with men in the family in modern industrialised societies? [5]
 - (d) In what ways has the relationship between parents and children in modern industrialised societies changed over the last century? [5]
- 3 People are marrying later and are more likely to live together before marriage in modern industrialised societies. They are also having fewer children.
- (a) Describe **two** reasons why people are marrying later in modern industrialised societies. [4]
 - (b) What are the social factors that lead people to want smaller families? [5]
 - (c) What are the social consequences of people having fewer children? [5]
 - (d) To what extent is the institution of marriage in decline in modern industrialised societies? [6]

Section B

Education

- 4 The higher a child's parents are in the class structure, the greater that child's chances of success in the formal education system.
- (a) What is meant by *formal education*? [2]
 - (b) In what ways might home background influence a child's chances of educational success? [6]
 - (c) What social factors within schools may encourage or discourage pupils in their studies? [6]
 - (d) What can schools do to help children from poor families to improve their chances of educational success? [6]
- 5 Schools and colleges in industrialised societies have developed mainly as a result of the need for more highly skilled workers. For children in many less industrialised countries, however, informal systems of education are still the most effective way of acquiring skills.
- (a) What is meant by *informal education*? [2]
 - (b) Why is informal education usually found in less industrialised societies? [6]
 - (c) In what ways do schools prepare young people for work? [6]
 - (d) Apart from preparing young people for work, what other social functions do schools perform? [6]
- 6 In some societies young people are seen as a separate group with a distinctive youth culture.
- (a) What is meant by *youth culture*? [2]
 - (b) Describe **two** examples of youth culture. [4]
 - (c) What factors might explain the growth of youth culture in modern industrialised societies? [6]
 - (d) To what extent do youth cultures represent a threat to the dominant values of society? [8]

Section C

Culture, Communications and the Mass Media

- 7 There are certain images and stereotypes that are often presented in the mass media. For example, the mass media may create a particular image of women through the use of photographs and language.
- (a) What is meant by *stereotypes*? [2]
 - (b) What images of women are created by the mass media? [4]
 - (c) How might stereotypes of women in the mass media affect women's lives? [6]
 - (d) What explanations have been offered for the ways that the mass media influence behaviour? [8]
- 8 In most industrialised societies ownership of the mass media rests in the hands of a few large companies. However, the owners are not the only influence on the content of the mass media.
- (a) In what ways might the owners be able to influence the content of the mass media? [5]
 - (b) Apart from the owners, who else can influence the content of the mass media? [5]
 - (c) Why might control of the mass media be considered an important source of power in modern society? [5]
 - (d) What actions might governments take to prevent the owners of the mass media becoming too powerful? [5]
- 9 The mass media are now the main source of information and ideas for the majority of the world's population. Local cultures and traditional ways of life are threatened by this development, particularly because young people are strongly influenced by the media.
- (a) How was important information communicated to people before the arrival of the mass media? [5]
 - (b) Why might the mass media be a threat to local cultures and traditional ways of life? [5]
 - (c) How might the lifestyles of young people be influenced by the mass media? [5]
 - (d) To what extent do the mass media help to improve the quality of people's lives? [5]

Section D

Occupations

- 10 Automation and microchip technology are changing the workplace. Although new technology has many advantages it may also make work less satisfying.
- (a) What is meant by *automation*? [2]
 - (b) What are the advantages of automation? [4]
 - (c) Why might automation make work less satisfying for many workers? [6]
 - (d) What impact have changes in technology had on the occupational structure of the industrialised countries over the last century? [8]
- 11 The process of moving from agricultural to large-scale factory production is known as industrialisation. There are many differences between work in industrial and pre-industrial society.
- (a) Describe the reasons why people work in industrialised societies. [5]
 - (b) What are the main differences between work in pre-industrial and industrialised societies? [5]
 - (c) How might a person's quality of life be affected by the type of work they do? [5]
 - (d) What links have been identified between work and leisure in industrialised societies? [5]
- 12 One way of measuring the extent of industrial conflict is by the number of strikes. There are two types of strikes: official and unofficial.
- (a) What is the difference between official and unofficial strikes? [2]
 - (b) What are the main causes of strikes? [6]
 - (c) To what extent is the number of strikes an accurate measure of the extent of industrial conflict in society? [6]
 - (d) In what ways do trade unions help to reduce the level of industrial conflict in society? [6]

Section E

Population

- 13** As life expectancy increases in industrialised societies, the proportion of elderly people in the population grows. There are problems associated with an ageing population.
- (a) What is meant by an *ageing population*? [2]
 - (b) Why are people living longer today? [6]
 - (c) What are the social consequences of an ageing population? [6]
 - (d) What might governments do to address the problems created by an ageing population? [6]
- 14** World population is growing rapidly and this is leading to many problems in less industrialised countries.
- (a) What are the main causes of rapid population increase in less industrialised countries? [5]
 - (b) In what ways might a rapidly growing population create problems for a society? [5]
 - (c) How might modern industrialised societies be affected by the growth in world population? [5]
 - (d) What might governments do to encourage people to have smaller families in less industrialised countries? [5]
- 15** In less industrialised countries most deaths and illnesses are associated with poverty. In more industrialised countries diseases of affluence are increasingly common.
- (a) What is meant by *diseases of affluence*? [2]
 - (b) What kinds of illnesses most commonly lead to death in less industrialised countries? [6]
 - (c) What kinds of illnesses most commonly lead to death in more industrialised countries? [6]
 - (d) What might governments do to improve health conditions in less industrialised countries? [6]

Section F

Crime and Delinquency

- 16** Social control is the process that encourages people to conform to the norms and values of society. Sociologists distinguish between formal and informal social control.
- (a) What is meant by *informal social control*? [2]
 - (b) What are the main sources of informal social control? [4]
 - (c) How are formal social controls enforced? [6]
 - (d) To what extent does social control serve the interests of the most powerful groups in society? [8]
- 17** The official crime statistics should be treated with great caution. Many people do not report crimes to the police and the police do not always record crimes that have been reported to them.
- (a) Why might some crimes not be reported to the police? [5]
 - (b) How might the activities of the police affect the types of crimes and offenders that appear in the official crime statistics? [5]
 - (c) Women appear to commit fewer crimes than men. How might this be explained? [5]
 - (d) Apart from official statistics, what other ways are there of measuring the amount of crime in a society? [5]
- 18** Levels of crime in industrialised societies are much higher in inner city areas. Working class young people have higher rates of crime than young people from the middle class.
- (a) What reasons have sociologists given for the concentration of crime in inner city areas? [5]
 - (b) Why is crime among young people often linked to the use of illegal drugs? [5]
 - (c) Why do working class young people have higher rates of crime than middle class young people? [5]
 - (d) To what extent is crime linked to unemployment? [5]

