

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

**SOCIOLOGY**

**0495/02**

Paper 2

May/June 2003

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

**1 hour 30 minutes**

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.  
Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.  
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.  
You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs, music or rough working.  
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.  
At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.  
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

## Introduction

In many countries women have become more involved in the workforce in recent years. They work in offices and factories alongside men and some have highly successful careers that take them to the top of their professions. However, there is still a lot of inequality between women and men in employment.

The following sources present evidence about female employment in various parts of the world.

Study the sources carefully before answering the questions.

## Source A

Evidence collected by governments around the world shows that gender inequality is widespread in employment. For example, female employees on average earn less than their male counterparts. Even in the same types of job, women are often paid less than men. Females may also experience inequalities in other areas of employment such as job tenure, opportunities for promotion, holiday entitlements, and sick pay. Rates of unemployment are also often higher among women.

Women's average weekly wages as a percentage of male average weekly wages

	%
Sweden	89
Germany	82
Israel	79
UK	74
USA	72
Hungary	68
Egypt	64
Nigeria	60
Turkey	54
Brazil	49
Kenya	47

## Source B

I wanted to find out about the experiences of female workers in a local factory. The best way to do this was to observe them at work. I got permission from the factory owners to do a participant observation study. For six months I worked alongside the women pretending to be just another worker. The other women didn't know that I was studying them; therefore the observation was *covert* rather than *overt*.

## Source C

The Government was concerned that some employers may be discriminating against female employees, so they set up a study to look into the matter. Sociologists were used to interview a sample of the country's largest employers. A pilot study was carried out to make sure the research strategy would work. After the findings from the pilot had been studied, the full interviews took place. A major problem with the research was that quite a few of the employers refused to take part, so the findings might not be representative.

Answer **all** of the questions.

Before attempting the questions, you should study all of the sources carefully.

Study **Source A** carefully.

- 1 In which countries are women paid less than half the amount paid to men? [2]
- 2 What is meant by the term *gender inequality*? [2]
- 3 The evidence in Source A is based upon information gathered by governments in different parts of the world.  
Give **two** reasons why the evidence in Source A may not be accurate or reliable. [4]

Study **Source B** carefully.

- 4 What is the difference between *covert* and *overt* participant observation? [2]
- 5 Describe **two** advantages and **two** disadvantages of participant observation. [4]

Study **Source C** carefully.

- 6 What is a *pilot study*? [2]
- 7 How can a pilot study improve the quality of evidence gathered in sociological research? [4]
- 8 Explain why the refusal of some employers to take part in the study might mean the findings are not representative. [4]
- 9 Describe **three** possible causes of bias or inaccuracy in evidence collected by interviews. [6]

