

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Wednesday 20 October 2021 – Morning

A Level Sociology

H580/03 Debates in contemporary society

**Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes
plus your additional time allowance**

**YOU MUST HAVE:
the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet**

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF



INSTRUCTIONS

Use black ink.

Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.

Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.

Answer ALL the questions in Section A.

Choose ONE option in Section B and answer ALL questions for that option.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is 105.

The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].

Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).

ADVICE

Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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SECTION A

Read the source material and answer ALL the questions in Section A.

Source A

Developments in digital forms of communication have helped increase access to people and opportunities across the world. This is particularly evident in social media networking. Those who join work-based social networks can increase their social capital and potentially their material rewards. For example, work-based social networks such as LinkedIn have helped people access worldwide job opportunities and/or promotion opportunities. Global work-based networking sites offer support for those seeking work and employment opportunities. Some argue social media networking has helped break down the barriers of age, disability, gender and ethnicity.

Source B

Until recently most people interacted face-to-face, through letters and landline telephones; however, this form of interaction was limited and global relationships were difficult to develop and maintain. Today families may use social media networking to maintain their relationships across the world. Also, more than half the UK population over the age of 18 use social media networks such as Facebook and Instagram to connect and communicate with others. However, some sociologists are concerned that digital communication provides a new form of surveillance. Private companies can gather information on individuals' use of social media and their consumer habits without their knowledge and consent. This has led some sociologists to claim that digital communication is a new form of social control.

- 1* With reference to the Source(s) and your wider sociological knowledge, explain the impact of developments in digital communication on people's social capital in employment. [9]**
- 2 With reference to the Source(s) and your wider sociological knowledge, evaluate the view that social media has a positive role in people's social lives. [10]**
- 3 Evaluate the sociological view that the impact of advances in digital forms of communication on young people has been negative. [16]**

SECTION B

Choose ONE option from Section B and answer ALL the questions for that option.

OPTION 1

CRIME AND DEVIANCE

- 4* In what ways are victim surveys a useful measurement of crime? [10]**
- 5* Assess the view that the main influence on female patterns of crime is traditional gender socialisation. [20]**
- 6* Evaluate the view that there is racism and discrimination within the criminal justice system. [40]**

OPTION 2

EDUCATION

- 7* In what ways does teacher labelling influence the educational achievement of children from different social classes? [10]**
- 8* Assess the view that policies since 1988 designed to benefit girls in education have been successful. [20]**
- 9* Evaluate the view that cultural factors are the main influence on the educational achievement of different ethnic groups. [40]**

OPTION 3

RELIGION, BELIEF AND FAITH

10* In what ways can the concept religious belief have different meanings? [10]

11* Assess the view that patterns of religiosity among minority ethnic communities reflect strong religious beliefs. [20]

12* Evaluate functionalist explanations of the role of religion in society. [40]

END OF QUESTION PAPER



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