



GCE A LEVEL

1200U40-1

TUESDAY, 7 JUNE 2022 – AFTERNOON

SOCIOLOGY – A2 unit 4

**Social Inequality and Applied Methods of
Sociological Enquiry**

2 hours 15 minutes plus your additional time allowance

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer ALL questions from Section A.

Answer ONE question from Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided.

Use black ink, black ball-point pen or your usual method.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100 marks.

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

You are advised to divide your time accordingly.

(Turn over)

SECTION A: APPLIED METHODS OF SOCIOLOGICAL ENQUIRY

Read the following item and answer ALL the questions.

COMPULSORY QUESTION

Poverty in Wales 2018

Analysis of secondary data provides important information for sociologists and policy makers. On behalf of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, a team of researchers led by Helen Barnard analysed current and existing data on income and households. The researchers concluded that poverty is a problem in many parts of Wales. In 1994 Wales had the highest rates of working age poverty in the UK. Although this had improved by 2003, since then the rates of poverty have increased. Similarly, child poverty remains high in both England and Wales. Through close analysis of statistics spanning 25 years the researchers were able to identify patterns and trends. They discovered that there was a clear relationship between workless households and poverty. The researchers predicted that this problem is likely to increase as more households experience unemployment.

Adapted from Joseph Rowntree Foundation

(Turn over)

- 1 (a) Identify and explain TWO reasons why the researchers decided to use secondary data in their research. [10 marks]**
- (b) As an A level Sociology student, you have been asked to design a research project to collect data on the extent of and reasons for part-time working amongst a sample of young people in your area.**
- (i) Describe each stage of your research design, justifying the reasons for your choice at each stage.**
- (ii) Discuss problems that may occur and the impact of these problems on the quality of the data collected. [30 marks]**

SECTION B: SOCIAL INEQUALITY

Answer ONE of the following questions.

EITHER,

2 (a) Identify TWO areas of life in contemporary society where there is evidence of class inequality. Illustrate your answer with reference to supporting evidence for each area identified. [20 marks]

(b) Evaluate the view that social inequality is functional and inevitable. [40 marks]

OR,

3 (a) Identify TWO areas of life in contemporary society where there is evidence of ethnic inequality. Illustrate your answer with reference to supporting evidence for each area identified. [20 marks]

(b) Evaluate sociological explanations of social inequalities in the contemporary UK. [40 marks]

END OF PAPER

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