



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

SOCIOLOGY

9699/11

Paper 1 Principles and Methods 1

May/June 2012

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

There are three sections in this paper: Section A, Section B and Section C. Choose **two** of these sections and answer **one** question from **each** of the sections you have chosen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

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.

This document consists of **2** printed pages.



Answer **two** questions, each from a different section.

Section A: The Sociological Perspective

- 1 “The importance of gender as a factor influencing social identity has been over-emphasised by feminist theorists.” Explain and assess this view. [25]
- 2 Assess the positivist view that laws of society exist which govern human behaviour. [25]

Section B: Sociological Methods

- 3 Assess the strengths and limitations of using *qualitative* secondary data, such as historical documents and diaries, in sociological research. [25]
- 4 Assess the arguments for using unstructured interviews in sociological research. [25]

Section C: Social Differentiation and Stratification

- 5 “Modern industrial societies are no more meritocratic today than they were in the nineteenth century, when Marx was writing about social inequality.” Explain and assess this view. [25]
- 6 “White middle class males in positions of power are the main obstacle to females achieving gender equality in modern industrial societies.” Explain and assess this view. [25]

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