

A Level Sociology

AQA

Advanced Information Guidance 2022

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/content/summer-2022/AQA-7192-AI-22.PDF>

Key points

- Students will sit 3 exams – all are 2 hours in length
 - NO content has been removed from the specification – all content covered MUST be revised in preparation for the examinations. Students have detailed lists of what to revise in their PASS booklets.
 - AQA have given guidance on the MAIN focus (NOT the question itself) of any questions over 20 marks. Please see below for detail.
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Paper 1 – Education with Theory and Methods

23rd May - AM

80 Marks – 2 hours

Section A – Education – 50 marks

4, 6, 10 mark questions – no guidance

30 mark question – AQA have given the major focus for this essay

‘the significance of educational policies, including problems of selection, marketisation and privatisation, and policies to achieve greater equality of opportunity or outcome, for understanding of the structure, role, impact and experience of and access to education; the impact of globalisation on educational policy’

See below for further guidance in this area...

Minimum content to be covered

The impact of educational policies of selection, marketisation and privatisation, such as the tripartite system and the post-1988 education system, in relation to educational standards and class differences of outcome; the globalisation of educational policy.

Ball, Whitty, David

The impact of educational policies aimed at achieving greater equality of opportunity or outcome, eg the comprehensive system, compensatory education policies, education action zones and tuition fees.

Douglas, Keddie, Ball

Education policies in relation to gender and ethnic differences and their impact, eg GIST, WISE and multicultural education.

Francis, Sewell, Mirza

Different sociological explanations of the impact of educational policies, eg in relation to parentocracy and differences in economic and cultural capital.

Gewirtz, Gillborn & Youdell, Bartlett

Section B – Methods in context – 20 marks – no guidance given

Section C – Theory and Methods – 10 marks – no guidance given

Paper 2 – Topics in Sociology

7th June PM

80 marks – 2 hours

Section A – Families and Households – 40 marks

2 x 10 mark questions – no guidance given

20 mark question - AQA have given the major focus for this essay

'the relationship of the family to the social structure and social change, with particular reference to the economy and to state policies'

Content
Different sociological views, eg functionalist, feminist, Marxist, New Right and postmodernist, on the role of the family and its relationship to wider social structures such as the economy.
Parsons, Murdock, Zaretsky, Oakley
The impact of government legislation, eg divorce, adoption and same sex marriage, and policies, eg education, housing and welfare, on the family.
Donzelot, Leonard, Murray

Section B – Beliefs in Society - 40 marks

2 x 10 mark questions – no guidance given

20 mark question - AQA have given the major focus for this essay

'ideology, science and religion, including both Christian and non-Christian religious traditions'

Content
Science as a social construct. Issues in defining religion.
Durkheim, Giddens, Berger
Religion and science as belief systems and ideological influences.
Bainbridge, Weber, Berger
Different theoretical views on the role and function of religion, eg functionalist, Marxist (including neo-Marxist), feminist and postmodernist.
Durkheim, Parsons, Marx, El Sadaawi

Paper 3 - Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

13th June AM

80 marks – 2 hours

Section A – Crime and Deviance – 50 marks

4, 6, 10 mark questions – no guidance

30 mark question – AQA have given the major focus for this essay

'crime, deviance, social order and social control'

Content
Functionalist explanations of crime, deviance, social order and social control, eg positive functions of crime, adaptations to strain, types of subculture, differential association. Durkheim, Merton, A.K.Cohen, Cloward and Ohlin
Marxist and neo-Marxist explanations of crime, deviance, social order and social control, eg criminogenic capitalism, law making and critical criminology. Marx, Chambliss, Snider, Taylor, Walton & Young
Labelling theory of crime, deviance, social order and social control, eg the social construction of crime, the effects of labelling and deviance amplification. Becker, Cicourel, Lemert, S.Cohen, Braithwaite
Right realist explanations of crime, deviance, social order and social control, eg the causes of crime and solutions to crime. Wilson, Murray, Wilson & Kelling, Felson
Left realist explanations of crime, deviance, social order and social control, eg relative deprivation, subcultures and marginalisation. Young, Lea & Young

See below for more questions

Section B – Theory and methods – 10 marks – no guidance given

Section C – Theory and Methods – 20 marks – AQA have given the major focus for this essay

'consensus, conflict, structural and social action theories'

Content

The difference between consensus and conflict theories of society, including consensus theories such as functionalism, the New Right, and conflict theories, ie Marxism and feminism; the major variants of such theories, eg scientific and humanistic Marxism; liberal, radical, Marxist etc feminism.

Marx, Gramsci, Althusser, Durkheim, Parsons, Merton

The difference between structural theories such as functionalism and Marxism, and action theories; the main types of action theory, such as social action theory, symbolic interactionism and ethnomethodology.

Weber, Mead, Blumer, Becker, Goffman, Garfinkel