

JUNE 2002

INTERNATIONAL GCSE

MARK SCHEME

MAXIMUM MARK : 30

SYLLABUS/COMPONENT : 0495/4

SOCIOLOGY



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INTERNATIONAL GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

SOCIOLOGY - 0495

1. TARGET: KNOWLEDGE OBJ. 2 AND INVESTIGATION OBJ. 6 - UNDERSTAND TERMINOLOGY AND METHODS

1(i)

LEVEL 1 - The candidate shows some limited understanding that an interview is talking to other people 1 mark

LEVEL 2 - The candidate shows understanding that an interview is using questions systematically to conduct research 2 marks

1(ii)

LEVEL 1 - The candidate shows some limited understanding that comparative studies contrast different examples 1 mark

LEVEL 2 - The candidate shows understanding that comparative studies contrast different examples to draw similarities and differences as part of systematic research 2 marks

TOTAL: 4 MARKS

2. TARGET: INVESTIGATION OBJ. 6 + INTERPRETATION OBJ. 4 - UNDERSTAND METHODS AND EVALUATE EVIDENCE

Advantages

- can study subjects that are contrasting
- detailed information can be gathered
- can compare different cultures
- a range of methods can be used
- or similar response

Disadvantages

- can be costly and time consuming
- results may not reflect social reality as respondents may not be truthful/accurate in their responses/behaviour
- subjects may not be representative or typical
- subject to researcher bias and interpretation of the evidence
- or similar response

One mark for each advantage and disadvantage identified, plus one mark for suitable extension/description

TOTAL: 4 MARKS

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3. TARGET: INVESTIGATION OBJS. 6 - AWARENESS OF METHODS AND THEIR USES

The following reasons may be identified and discussed:

- to make the study manageable
- to reduce costs and time
- to generalise to a wider population
- to gather more detailed and accurate information on fewer subjects
- to make the subjects and evidence relevant to the aim of the research
- other relevant response

3 at 1 = TOTAL 3 MARKS

4. TARGET: INVESTIGATION OBJS. 6 - AWARENESS OF METHODS AND THEIR USES

The following advantages may be described:

- first hand evidence
- detailed information can be gathered
- high validity
- gives researcher good understanding of culture and meaning
- other appropriate response

3 at 1 = TOTAL 3 MARKS

5. TARGET: EVIDENCE AND INVESTIGATION OBJS. 4 AND 6 - EVALUATION OF EVIDENCE AND AWARENESS OF METHODS

There are several sources of inaccuracy or bias in recording:

- not fit for purpose
- selectivity
- errors in accuracy of recording
- clerical errors in analysis
- incorrect interpretation of subject of research by researcher
- subjects alter their behaviour or are intimidated by the method of recording
- or other suitable response

4 at 1 = TOTAL 4 MARKS

6. TARGET: EVIDENCE AND INVESTIGATION OBJS. 3-8: SOCIOLOGICAL METHODS, RESEARCH STRATEGIES AND USE OF EVIDENCE

LEVEL 1 - The candidate identifies one main source of information; suggests a single, simple method of data collection but it is not selected explicitly in terms of the purpose of the investigation or justified clearly; a simple descriptive account of the method(s) is given with no attempt to discuss potential problems of research methods; presentation is generally not discussed.

1-3 marks

LEVEL 2 - The candidate identifies several sources of information; suggests one or two methods of data collection not necessarily

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related to the purpose of the investigation; a simple descriptive account of the method(s) is given with no attempt to discuss potential problems of research methods or other difficulties associated with the research topic; presentation is generally not discussed.

4-6 marks

LEVEL 3 - The candidate identifies several sources of information and offers reasons for selection; accurate description of research methods that are linked directly to the aim of the investigation; a simple understanding of a research strategy is apparent eg reinforcement of methods; awareness of limitations and strength of methods and other difficulties revealed; presentation in simple form suggested with some justification.

7-9 marks

LEVEL 4 - the candidate evaluates different sources of information and compares usefulness for purpose; clear and systematic research strategy linked to the aims of the investigation; compares value of the different possible methods and justifies selection explicitly; aware of limitations of methods and other possible difficulties eg. Ethical and access; suggests several different forms of justified presentation linked to the form of the data.

10-12 Marks

TOTAL: 12 MARKS

OVERALL TOTAL: 30 MARKS