

Sociology Paper I

Time Allowed: Three Hours | Maximum Marks: 250

Question Paper Specific Instructions

- There are EIGHT questions divided in two Sections and printed both in HINDI and in ENGLISH.
- Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
- Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each Section.
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
- Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

SECTION A

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| 1 | Answer the following questions in about 150 words each: | 50 |
| 1(a) | What is the distinctiveness of the feminist method of social research? Comment. | 10 |
| 1(b) | Discuss the relationship between sociology and political science. | 10 |
| 1(c) | How does the dramaturgical perspective enable our understanding of everyday life? | 10 |
| 1(d) | Is reference group theory a universally applicable model? Elucidate. | 10 |
| 1(e) | Do you think that the boundary line between ethnicity and race is blurred? Justify your answer. | 10 |
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| 2(a) | What, according to Robert Michels, is the iron law of oligarchy? Do lions and foxes in Vilfredo Pareto's theory, essentially differ from each other? Substantiate. | 20 |
| 2(b) | What is historical materialism? Examine its relevance in understanding contemporary societies. | 20 |
| 2(c) | What are variables? How do they facilitate research? | 10 |
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| 3(a) | What are the characteristics of scientific method? Do you think that scientific method in conducting sociological research is foolproof? Elaborate. | 20 |
| 3(b) | How do you assess the changing patterns in kinship relations in societies today? | 20 |
| 3(c) | Is Weber's idea of bureaucracy a product of the historical experiences of Europe? Comment. | 10 |
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| 4(a) | Do you think that common sense is the starting point of social research? What are its advantages and limitations? Explain. | 20 |
| 4(b) | How is poverty a form of social exclusion? Illustrate in this connection the different dimensions of poverty and social exclusion. | 20 |
| 4(c) | Highlight the differences and similarities between totemism and animism. | 10 |

SECTION B

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| 5 | Answer the following questions in about 150 words each: | 50 |
| 5(a) | Examine the relevance of corporate social responsibility in a world marked by increasing environmental crises. | 10 |
| 5(b) | How is civil society useful in deepening the roots of democracy? | 10 |
| 5(c) | What functions does religion perform in a pluralistic society? | 10 |
| 5(d) | Analyze critically David Morgan's views on family practices. | 10 |
| 5(e) | Does women's education help to eradicate patriarchal discriminations? Reflect with illustrations. | 10 |
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| 6(a) | What are the different dimensions of qualitative method? Do you think that qualitative method helps to gain a deeper sociological insight? Give reasons for your answer. | 20 |
| 6(b) | Explain Max Weber's theory of social stratification. How does Weber's idea of class differ from that of Marx? | 20 |
| 6(c) | What are the ethical issues that a researcher faces in making use of participant observation as a method of collecting data? Explain. | 10 |
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| 7(a) | Explain how economic globalization has brought changes in the patterns of employment in the 21st century. | 20 |
| 7(b) | Do you think that the social media has brought significant changes in the forms of protest? Argue your case. | 20 |
| 7(c) | Assess critically A. G. Frank's 'theory of development of underdevelopment'. | 10 |
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| 8(a) | What is Taylorism? Analyze its merits and demerits. | 20 |
| 8(b) | What are new religious movements? Elaborate emphasizing their forms and orientations. | 20 |
| 8(c) | Examine the role of science and technology in addressing age-old taboos and superstitions. | 10 |

Typeset by UPSC Gurus from the official UPSC question paper. The official bilingual paper is available at upsc.gov.in.