

Exam Board Criteria A*/A

Candidates recall accurately, select and communicate a range of knowledge and show detailed understanding of relevant social structures, processes and issues. They apply appropriate concepts, terms and theories effectively in a range of contexts. They recognise issues and debates and deploy relevant evidence to reach valid conclusions. They analyse links between structures, processes and issues to produce grounded analyses. They identify, explain and evaluate the use of a range of appropriate methods, sources, information and data to address a question or issue. They interpret accurately information and data presented in a variety of forms, critically evaluate the relevance of the evidence in relation to the arguments and outline appropriate conclusions.

What It Means

You need to include a range of sociological concepts, using them in the right context and to demonstrate your understanding of the term. For 4 mark define questions you need a good quality definition, an example to illustrate your definition and either a comparison, a criticism or a link to theory. You need to ensure that on 5 markers you are describing for 2 marks and explaining for 3 marks. You need to include reference to theory if appropriate but particularly in the 12 mark essay questions. In essay questions you need to address “how far / to what extent” – ensure you are presenting more than one argument. Your skills of evaluation are assessed in all the 12 marker essay questions. You need to ensure you have a range of sociological knowledge not common sense, have evidence/examples to support your arguments.

Useful Links

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/specification-4190/past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

Google docs shared GCSE Revision