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SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 647)

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Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	2071
Center		Date	2 Jan, 2016

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained		
1(a)	12.5		1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). 2. There are EIGHT questions printed in ENGLISH. 3. All questions are compulsory. 4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. 5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. 6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. 7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.	
1(b)	12.5			
1(c)	12.5			
1(d)	12.5			
2(a)	25			
2(b)	25			
3(a)	25			
3(b)	25			
4(a)	20			
4(b)	15			
4(c)	15			
5(a)	12.5			
5(b)	12.5			
5(c)	12.5			
5(d)	12.5			
6(a)	20			
6(b)	15			
6(c)	15			
7(a)	20			
7(b)	15			
7(c)	15			
8(a)	20			
8(b)	20			
8(c)	10			
Total Marks Obtained:				

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103, 1st Floor, 8/1-2, Ansal Building, Behind UCO Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi – 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. (a) Language as a social fact

12.5

Social facts are ways of acting, thinking and feeling which are external to and coercive of individuals. (Durkheim). Durkheim himself studied language as a social fact, as it showcases the various characteristics of social facts.

1. Language is a thing and has to be empirically studied. Every language has given grammatical rules, and one cannot philosophise about them.

2. Language is external to individuals. People have to adopt the existing language in a society. A 'private' language, or a language developed by single individual cannot serve the core purpose of language i.e. communication.

3. Language is coercive of individuals. It is one of the social facts in a society, and thus reflects the other social facts. For eg. there are no words for certain specific things in some languages. In cultures

where ~~cross~~ ^{cross} ~~cousins~~ ^{cousins} marriages happen, the word for ~~uterine kin~~ is same as that for ~~affine~~ ^{uterine} kin.

4. Language can be explained only on the basis of other social facts. Any developments in language are result of social changes.

Durkheim's analyses of language as social fact establishes the focus of studying language in a scientific, empirical manner.

1. (b) Interactionist perspective on deviance

12.5

Interactionist perspective in sociology has focussed on the interactions based on meanings attached to symbols. Interactionists thus do not view deviance based on psychological or social factors which cause deviance. They focus on the interaction between deviants and those who refer to them as deviants.

Howard Becker believes that there is no such thing as a deviant act. Any act becomes deviant when

when it is defined as such by the actors. He further argues that labelling an act as deviant depends upon who performs the act, the conditions under which it is performed etc.

Labelling an individual as deviant further encourages deviant behaviour. It also leads to ~~the~~ exclusion of such people, and development of deviant sub culture.

Interactionist perspective has been criticised for overemphasise on labelling an act as deviance rather than the act itself. Young argues that a terrorist might join terrorist organisation due to political beliefs and relative deprivation rather than being labelled as a terrorist.

Interactionists also do not explain why an individual commits a deviant act in the first place.

Despite criticism, the labelling theory has played an important role in explaining working class crime, deviance by youth and deviant acts by

1. (c) Sociology and common sense

12.5

c) Sociology is the scientific study of social facts. Common sense is the realm of knowledge used in everyday life. The relationship between the two has evolved with the evolution of the discipline.

a) Classical sociology - Positivists such as Durkheim completely rejected common sense knowledge and believed that sociological explanations need to move beyond common sense truths.

Sociology	Common sense
1. It is based on objective and <u>scientific causal analysis</u>	1. Non scientific in nature
2. Organised skepticism - nothing can be taken for granted	2. Rattinised knowledge taken for granted assumptions
3. Universal or at least general	3. Specific
4. Objective	4. Subjective - close relation with everyday life

Common sense and sociology have however come closer now. Interpretive sociology focusses on understanding the meanings and motives of actions, which are based on common-sense. Phenomenology rejects any truth beyond the common-sense theories used by the actors. (Atkinson)

There is a thin line between common-sense and sociological understanding and there is a need to ensure that sociological understanding is not reduced to common-sense truths.

1. (d) Limitations of questionnaire as a technique of data collection 12.5

d). Questionnaires are a series of questions which can be administered either through structured interviews, or through other media such as post, email or telephonic interviews.

LIMITATIONS

1. They can have low validity as the participants can lie. Even if the ~~parti~~ respondent speaks the truth, it is difficult to reveal the taken for granted assumptions and common-

- sense theories through a questionnaire (Cicourel)
2. Interview bias - the ideological beliefs of the interviewer can influence the respondents. (Stuart Rice)
 3. The wordings of the questions may mean different things to different people. For eg. in the Delhi Human Development Report, 50% of the poor and 90% of the richest people called themselves as 'middle class'.
 4. Interpretation of questions also depends on culture and socio-economic status. In a study by Derek Phillips, poor people were more open in revealing about mental illnesses.
 5. The researcher assumes what reality needs to be studied and thus questionnaires can only be used to check hypotheses.
- Despite limitations, questionnaires are being increasingly used by even

Interpretive & critical schools due to ease of administration and increased reliability.

2. (a) Sociology as a scientific study of the totality of social life has made immense contributions to the study of economic phenomena in its various dimensions. Comment.

25

A26) Sociology is the study of social institutions, social processes and social change. Economic institutions and economic system is one of the systems studied by sociology. Sociological thought has helped established relationship between economic phenomena and other social realities, thus enriching the discipline.

Sociologists have studied various dimensions of economic phenomena including their causes and effects. Durkheim, in his study of division of labour established that division of labour is responsible for ensuring social solidarity in industrial societies by leading to specialisation and interdependence. Similarly Marx, on the other hand revealed dysfunctional aspects of division of labour by emphasising

that it prevents the development of
true class consciousness and divides
workers.

sociology has also helped analyse
the causes for ~~devel~~ important
^{economic} ~~social~~ phenomena. Weber studied
the role of intellectual and cultural
factors in the emergence of
capitalism. He argued that capitalism
first emerged in Europe due to
prevalence of protestant ethics.

The sociological explanations of economic
problems such as poverty have
influenced policy makers. ~~and these~~

~~sociological~~ thought has also
contributed to the discipline of
economics. Economic theories such
as Game theory is influenced by
branches of micro-sociology such
as phenomenology symbolic
Interactionism. Similarly, welfare

Economics move beyond the rational model of man envisaged under classical Economics and emphasis on social development.

Despite these contributions, sociology sociological explanations have limitations due to lack of objectivity which can be attained in economics. Economic explanations are based on deductive analysis where universal laws are applicable to specific situations. This is not possible in sociology as it is impossible to completely eliminate subjectivity while studying human consciousness and collective action.

The convergence between economics and sociology reflect the growth of interdisciplinary approach, which helps in addressing limitations of both the disciplines and enriching understanding about economic phenomena.

2. (b) The division of labor goes beyond the economic interests, it also establishes social and moral order within the society. Discuss in context of theory of Emile Durkheim.

25

Durkheim's analysis of division of labour reflect his commitment to society ~~and~~ above individual, ~~through this~~ and as he has focussed on understanding the forces which lead to establishment of social order and solidarity.

Durkheim has developed a dichotomy between simple and complex societies and explained that different forms of solidarity exist in the two.

1. Simple societies - These are characterised by lack of division of labour, ~~and~~ similarity, low material density and low use of technology. These societies are held together due to mechanical solidarity, which is based on similarity.

The conscience collective (i.e. the norms and values held ^{in common} by society) is strong, rigid and high in intensity.

In simple societies, people feel strongly about the conscience collective and thus any crime is seen as a crime against the entire society. Thus repressive sanctions are followed.

2. Complex societies - These are characterised by high material ^{and moral} density, ~~and~~ The number of people and interactions between them is high, which leads to greater competition. Durkheim argued that division of labour in such societies leads to specialisation and greater interdependence, thus leading to establishment of social and moral order. Therefore, these societies are held together through organic solidarity which is based on differences. He further believed that division of labour also influences the type of sanction and punishment. Complex societies are characterised by

retroactive sanctions because crime is seen as against an individual and not against the entire society. Moreover, specialisation makes every individual to be indispensable.

Durkheim's analysis goes beyond the economic dimension of division of labour and refutes Comte's belief that division of labour leads to rampant individualism and decreased morality.

However, Durkheim has over-emphasised on the functional aspects of division of labour. Marx argues that it leads to division of labourers and false class consciousness.

Despite criticism, Durkheim's analysis, with its focus on social dimensions of division of labour give important insights into social and moral order in different societies.

5. (a) Latent dysfunctions of science and technology

12.5

Latent functions and dysfunctions are those which are neither intended nor seen. Merton emphasises that sociology must focus on the study of latent functions and dysfunctions

1. Developments in science and technology, when unmatched with progress in non-material domain leads to cultural lag. (Ogburn). This is a period of mal adjustment reflected through several social ills which

happen due to use of ~~science~~ technology.
for. eg. the proliferation of ultrasound
machines lead to ~~amino~~ greater
female foeticide and skewed sex
ratios in ~~most~~ green revolution areas.

2. Use of technology in production
process lead to greater automation,
thus leading to greater control and
higher alienation of workers (Marx)

3. Technology has helped in establishing
modern forms of surveillance with
greater threat to privacy and thus
killing individuality. (Foucault)

4. Zubin has analyzed the role of
technology in ~~work~~ ~~the~~ economic
production. It has killed creativity
and lead to repetitive, mundane jobs.

Technology and science do not
exist in vacuum, and their
functions and dysfunctions depend
on the other social factors such
as work culture.

5. (b) Cognitive consonance between pattern variable and paradigm 12.5

Ans (b) Paradigm is a set of shared values held by a group of researchers which guides research. Paradigm help in understanding how data is interpreted and analysed. The pattern variable studied by Parsons provide a paradigm for the study of social systems, as all social systems can be analysed based on these pattern variables.

Parsons studied 5 sets of pattern variables:

1. Ascription v/s Achievement
2. Diffusion v/s Specificity - referring to the ~~same~~ role obligation
3. Particularistic v/s Universalistic
4. Affectivity v/s Affective neutrality - presence or absence of emotional interaction situation
5. On Collective orientation v/s Individual orientation

These pattern variables provide a

paradigm for ~~the~~ study of social systems.
Based on these Parsons identified 4

forms of social systems -

Ascription - Particularistic, Achievement-Particularistic,

Achievement - Universalistic and

Ascription - Universalistic.

Limitation:

Pattern variable ~~is~~ consider ^{the} social
dilemma existing in an action situation
as a dichotomy. However, these
dilemmas may be present as a
continuum.

5. (c) Inequality and poverty

12.5

^{social} Inequality refers to unequal distribution
of wealth, power or privilege.
Poverty is a result of acute social
inequality and refers to the
* condition of material deprivation.

The concept of relative poverty
emphasised by Townsend comes
closest to ^{economic} inequality. It refers to
the inability to support a
standard of living which is
considered as appropriate for a society.

therefore, higher ^{economic} ~~social~~ inequality leads to greater relative poverty. However, inequality can only supplement and not supplant the need for studying absolute deprivation. (Smartya sen).

For instance, in a village hit by a drought, everybody could be extremely ^{economic} poor, but there would be no ^{economic} inequality.

Social inequality is a broader concept which reveals multiple forms of deprivation, and could be responsible for poverty. For eg. socio unequal distribution of privilege ~~error~~ based on gender, race and ethnicity leads to greater poverty among women and ethnic minorities. (Alcock)

The overarching ^{understanding} ~~study~~ of social inequality can play a crucial role in public policy efforts focussed on eradication of poverty.

5. (d) Critical social science methodology

12.5

As the Critical social science is critical of the existing social order and aim to change it. They are critical of the sociologists who emphasise on society over individual.

Critical methodology argues that the role of the researcher is to go beyond the dominant views and reveal the true nature of hegemony and exploitation. They argue that the duty of the researcher is not just to study the social realities but change the oppressive social structures. In sociology, critical methodology is followed by Neo- marxists and feminists.

Research methods: They do not focus on particular research methods, as for them function of research is more important than technique of research. Any methods which reveal the oppressive structures are used. For - eg. Teela

Sanders used participant observation and interviews for her research on sex industry.

Criticism:

Hammersley has criticised critical methodology because these only focus on study of the oppressed. The study of oppressors can ^{also} reveal insights into hegemony. The school is also criticised because theorisation does not lead to any visible social change.

6. (a) Discuss the relationship between crime and social exclusion. Analyze the role of welfare state in breaking this linkage. 20

There is a complex inter-relationship between crime and social exclusion ~~with~~ as reflected through different ~~more~~ theories of deviance. Social exclusion can lead to deprivation and thus crime. On the other hand, being apprehended for a crime can push individuals into poverty and social exclusion.

Merton, In his analysis of deviance

emphasises that anomie puts pressure on individuals depending on their positions in the social stratification. Individuals who are socially excluded, act as rebels and reject both the socially accepted means and the goals. They replace these with their own means and goals and develop counter culture.

Young further believes that socially excluded people suffer from relative deprivation as they do not have ^{equal} access to employment opportunities and avenues of growth. This results in greater crime by these sections.

This relationship is seen in crimes committed by unemployment, working class and terrorist attacks by ethnic minorities.

However, ~~that~~ analysis by Merton and Young ignore the increasing number of white collar crimes. Moreover, the Labelling Theory by

Becker shows that social exclusion could
rather be dependent variable ~~and~~
crime be the independent variable
in this causal analysis. Many
convicts who are released from jails
suffer ostracisation and social exclusion
as they are labelled as criminals. The
release of juvenile offender in the
Delhi rape case reflect the social
exclusion faced by convicts.

Therefore, it is difficult to establish a
linear causal relationship between
crime and social exclusion. The
new government should enhance
social integration by focusing on
restorative justice ~~and~~, egalitarian
policies and cultural exchange in
order to break this linkage.

6. (b) "The institution of marriage is marked by continuity as well as change".
Critically examine. 15

A6.(b) The institution of marriage which was seen as near universal earlier has witnessed significant changes in the form of increased marital breakdown and emerging forms of alternatives to family. Despite these changes, the prevalence of heterosexual attraction and conventional marriages has also continued unabated. (Sommerville).

Removal of social and economic constraints have encouraged alternatives to marriage such as live-in-relationships and single person households (Germansheim). Moreover, technology have removed biological restrictions on child-birth, thus making homo-sexual marriages and families possible. (Weeks et al) Political and social reforms such as the recognition of same-sex marriages in USA have also encouraged changes in institution of

marriage.

Hart argues that increased ease of divorce, and greater conflict in marriage due to higher individualism has lead to increased marital breakdown.

This is reflected in the increased divorce rates around the world.

Despite these changes, the institution of marriage is still significant. This is evident from the fact that most live-in-relationships culminate into marriages. Moreover, even same-sex partners had been fighting to have gay marriages legalised in the USA.

The changes in institution of marriage are also culture specific. ~~like~~ For eg. census 2011 shows that 97% of women in India are married.

The institution of marriage, albeit significant changes is characterised by continuity. ≠

6. (c) Critically analyze the dysfunctions of the institution of family.

15

Family is a primary social group consisting of ~~character~~ consisting of adults in a socially accepted sexual relationship and children living the cohabitating adults in a common residence. (Murdock)

While functionalists have focussed on the functional prerequisites met by family, there is a need to also focus on the dysfunctions of the institution:

1) Dysfunctional for children - The frustrations and tensions of parents are projected on children who become the 'emotional scapegoats' (Bell and Vogel). Families also kill individuality and creativity of individuals.

2) David Leach has emphasised that ~~family~~ isolated nuclear families are not able to meet the emotional demands of the members. This leads to great strain. ~~and~~

3) Dysfunctional for women - feminists have criticised the romanticised view of heterosexual families. Lyotard argues that family is like an economic system where women have low bargaining power. Women are pushed into domestic work which is monotonous with no self development. (Cakley).

4) Marxists emphasise that family produce submissive workforce and reduce bargaining power of the workers. The institution ~~acts to~~ prevents the development of true class consciousness and supports continuation of capitalist mode of production by declining the revolutionary momentum of workers.

These dysfunctions reveal that there is a need to move beyond the idea of heterosexual nuclear family and focus on different forms of personal relationships which are egalitarian and lead to self development of individuals.

- ✓ 8. (a) Compare and contrast Talcott Parson with Karl Marx with respect to their views on social change. 20

Social change is the process of prolonged change in social institutions, practices and values. (Wilson). Parson has given a functionalist model of social change, with greater emphasis on equilibrium and stability. Marx, with his ideological emphasis on class struggle has presented a conflict model of change.

Talcott Parson
(Functionalist
model of social change)

1. There is no single
prime mover of social
change. The equilibrium
in society could be
disturbed due to various
factors such as
demographic changes,
development of new
technology etc.

2. Parson ^{rejects the} emphasises
that possibility of
revolutionary change
and emphasises that
social change to system
passes through stages
of equilibrium. Any
innovation

Karl Marx
(Conflict model of
social change)

Marx in his theory of
historic materialism
considers ^{changes in} economic
base to be primary,
which thereby lead
to change in the
superstructure. The
development of new
forces of production
produce strain on
the relation of
productions, thus
leading to change
in the economic
base.

2. Marx believes that
social change is a
product of class
struggle and is
abrupt and
revolutionary.

causes momentary strain
on the equilibrium.
However rise of vested
interest leads to
institutionalisation of
change

Despite ideological differences, Benson's
and Marx's analysis of social change
is complementary rather than
conflicting. (Berge)

1. Both present a systems view of society
and focus on the structural changes
rather than the role of agency.
2. Their views about conflict and
consensus are the same. as they think
that conflict leads to change and
consensus leads to social stability
3. Both present an evolutionary view
of social change where societies evolve
from simple (primitive communism) to
industrial societies.

Therefore different perspectives on
social change have helped enrich
sociological understanding of the process.

8. (b) Critically analyze the Pluralist perspective on power and state. Bring out the differences between Classical Pluralism and Elite pluralism. 20

Pluralists represent a constant sum approach of power. However, they reject the Marxist and Elite ~~perfect~~ theories and emphasise that power is dispersed among different groups in a society, rather than being concentrated by elite groups.

Pluralist perspective focusses on the decision making perspective of power. They argue that different interest groups exist in a society, representing multiple interests. These groups influence the decision making by the state in order to serve their respective interests. State acts as a neutral mediator. In a democracy, the people and interest groups have the power to remove the elected or persuade them to serve the interest of the people. (Mansheim)

While classical pluralism emphasises on complete dispersal of power among

people, elite pluralists believe that multiple elites representing sectional interests exist in a society. The political power is dispersed among these elites, who act to serve the interest of their respective groups.

Pluralist perspective of power has been criticised ~~as~~ as it focusses only on decision making and ignores other dimensions of power (Lukes)

1. ~~Pluralist~~ Pluralist analysis ~~also~~ ~~not~~ ignores the consequences of decisions. The decision making by the state has ~~not~~ failed to deliver redistribution of wealth, which is the biggest proof that power is held by capitalists (Westergaard)

2. The ~~not~~ 'non decision making' i.e. matters which are not allowed to reach the decision making stage is not taken into consideration in pluralist explanation. (Lukes). For eg. the Lok Sabha disallowed even the introduction of a Bill to decriminalise homosexuality, and prevented any

debate on it. This reflected that only safe decisions are allowed to be taken.

3. All interest groups do not possess equal power and some groups such as minorities are not able to influence decision making.

4. Many people, such as immigrants or refugees are not represented by any interest groups.

Therefore, while pluralist perspective sheds important light on the functioning of democratic institutions in modern democracies, it ~~overcelebrates~~ ^{overemphasises} ~~equality of~~ the role of interest groups in decision making.

8. (c) Elaborate on the social distribution of poverty in society.

10

Poverty is the ~~total~~ undesirable condition of economic deprivation.

It is one form of social inequality resulting from unequal distribution

of wealth. However, it juxtaposes with other forms of social inequalities, thus leading to particular social distributions.

Certain social groups are more prone to be in a state of poverty as they are socially excluded from

the opportunities and institutions in societies. These include the following:

1. Single parent households and women

Feminisation of poverty occurs due to less bargaining power of women, unequal wages and dual burden of domestic and work responsibilities (Bernard)

2. Persons with Disabilities - Lack of inclusive infrastructure and social inclusion pushes them into poverty (ALCOCK)

3. Ethnic minorities and immigrants - low education levels, job segregation, disadvantaged housing, racial and ethnic discrimination leads to greater poverty among ethnic minorities (ALCOCK). eg. Sachar Committee had reflected greater poverty levels among Muslims in India.

social distribution of poverty shows that the government measures for eradication of poverty must focus on other forms of social inequalities, and redistribution of wealth alone cannot lead to equality in societies.