



VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 2526)

Name of Candidate	MALAVIKA G. NAIR	Registration Number	966415
Medium Eng/Hindi	ENG.	Date	25 June 24
Center			

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1 (a)	10	
(b)	10	
(c)	10	
(d)	10	
(e)	10	
2 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
3 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
4 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
5 (a)	10	
(b)	10	
(c)	10	
(d)	10	
(e)	10	
6 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
7 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
8 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS. Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all. Questions Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any THREE are to be attempted choosing at least ONE from each Section.
3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
4. 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.
5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended

Strongly Recommended

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp. Punjab & Sind Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

SECTION 'A'

- I. Write a short note on each of the following from sociological perspective. 10x5=50
I.(a) "Marx put at the heart of his sociology—as no other sociology does—the theme of exploitation". Elaborate 10

The history of human existing societies is the history of class struggle according to Marx. The conflict perspective of Marx takes the idea of 'exploitation'—where forces of production and consequent relations of production are dominated by one 'exploiting class' over the exploited class.

Exploitation: The Dominant Conceptual Theme:

① Man Exploiting Nature for his unending needs and desires and thereby forming alienative relations is one of the central theme.

② Man exploits the other men in relations of production. The ownership class exploits the non ownership class by monopolizing the forces of production and control of surplus:

Primitive Communism → No surplus → Egalitarian

Ancient Society → Surplus → Slaves exploited by masters.

Feudal Society → Surplus → Serfs exploited
by feudal lords
Modern Society → Surplus → Capitalists
exploiting workers.

③ The unending exploitation of the workers in capitalist society will eventually result in the rise of a class for itself - i.e. the subjective awareness of objective conditions of exploitation. This internal logic of greed of capitalism, along with polarization and pauperization of working class will lead to revolution against exploitation.

④ Marx believes the surplus free communist society will be free of exploitation and misery.

⑤ The alienation of man from himself, process, product and peers is due to exploitation. (Fuerbach - Alienation of Self is Religion/God)

⑥ Environmental Marxism focuses on the exploitation of nature by man. ⑦ Feminist Marxism focuses on exploitation of women by patriarchy due to private property concern.

The entire superstructure based on the economic substructure thus maintains and perpetuates exploitation according to Marx.

1.(b)

Assess Max Weber's concept of "Ideal Types" as a unique and distinctive methodological approach in sociology.

10

An Ideal Type is a one sided accentuation of a very many concrete diffused viewpoints arranged in a unified analytical construct. It is an abstraction which does not exist in reality.

Ideal Type as a Distinctive Methodology:

① Weber develops the idea of Ideal Types to exercise selectivity and focus in studying social phenomena. The entire social reality is too complex to study says Weber.
eg → Calvinism as an ideal type of Protestant Religion in Protestant Ethic Study.

② It is the social science equivalent of experimentation. As directly copying natural sciences methods will not work, Weber in the debate of Methodenstreit formulates ideal type as a solution to balance objectivity and subjectivity.

③ It acts as a classificatory device. For eg → Weber classifies four ideal types of social action - goal rational, value (weber) rational, affective (emotional) and traditional actions.

④ Ideal types enables logical interconnections between different aspects of society. \Rightarrow Weber uses ideal types in his study of bureaucracy and authority. He shows how routinization of charisma leads to traditional or rational authority.

⑤ Ideal types can be used to explain social statics or social change. For \Rightarrow Bureaucracy as an ideal type is enduring whereas the change brought by Capitalism is also studied using ideal type.

⑥ It enables macro social enquiry by combining the principles of Verstehen of Weber i.e. the subjective meanings can also be studied using ideal types.

However, ideal types are limited in studying micro interactionist perspectives. It has also been criticized as vague and merely a way of using the idea of 'concepts' in social sciences. Nevertheless, it remains a valuable tool even today for sociologists.

1.(c)

Explain how Talcott Parsons AGIL model can be applied to understand and analyze the education system in contemporary societies. 10

The AGIL Model of Parsons is a framework by which any social system or subsystem or action can be analyzed under the four functional prerequisites of being a system - i.e. Adaptation, Goal Achievement, Integration and Latency.

Application on the Educational System

1) The Educational System may be broadly categorized as a part of the Cultural Sub

Adaptation	Goal Achievement
Integration	Latency

System of Society. It helps in Cultural System integration through value consensus, and ensuring harmony.

② Adaptational Need: The educational system can contribute to the economic system of society by providing trained personnel, effective functional role allocation etc - Davis and Moore

③ Goal Attainment in society through the political system will be aided by

education through providing stable avenues of social mobility, political awareness, participation etc.

④ Latency needs of the society is managed by education whereby the school system and structure of authority, relations forming the basis for other social life and co-operation e.g. Authority of teacher respected translated to following rules as an adult.

⑤ The Educational system also provides an avenue for socialization of the individual allowing him to be a fully functioning social member.

The AGIL framework and functionalist scheme fails to see the 'status quoist' tendencies of education system. For e.g. Low social mobility was found in David Glass study (1950), Oxford study (1970) and Essex studies (1980s) in Britain. High level of elite self recruitment, lack of cultural capital (Bourdieu) and Marxist perspective of education as an ideological state Apparatus is neglected by AGIL schema.

1.(d)

"science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind. Explain.

10

Einstein famously said the words Science without religion is lame and religion without science is blind. Bryan Turner echoes the same sentiments while stating religion and science are not antithetical to each other.

'Science without Religion is Lame'

① Religion provides the value consensus for society according to Parsons which can guide the goals of science to avoid the 'misguided men and guided missiles' issue.

② Religion can lead to rationalization of mindset Webber and scientific spirit.

eg → The idea of revealing 'Glory of God' through science by Protestants. Many scientists like Einstein are famously religious.

③ Religion begins where science ends, providing answers to existential questions - Parsons

④ Religion itself can influence science and science can be made a part of religion

eg → Vedas use some form of causality or sciences to conduct rituals - Geometry in

Sulvasutras

Religion without science is blind:

⑤ The Internal secularization of religion has now happened. Eg) Herberg's study in USA of Jews, Catholics, Protestants show they reflect American values to an extent.

⑥ Religion has been limited in explaining the modern social problems of industrial revolution whereby science stepped in.

⑦ Frazer, Tylor speaks of 'magic' as examples of superstitious religion or spurious science.

⑧ The same translates to social evils, perpetuated by religion eg) Sauhar, Sati which was questioned by rationality of thinkers like Rajaram Mohun Roy.

⑨ New avenues of overlapping of religion and science eg) Rise of new cults - 'Quantum mysticism' 'Scientology' etc.

⑩ Science promotes individualism which has led to pluralization and privatization of religion - Berger.

Thus, Science and Religion work in complementary ways.

I.(e)

Examine the consequences of 'social mobility' on both the 'individual' and 'societal' levels within various societal frameworks. 10

Social mobility is the phenomenon which allows the horizontal or vertical movement of individuals or groups across various social stratas. Social mobility may be understood in terms of the various societal frameworks.

I. Open Society: Promotes social mobility
 e.g. Capitalist America.

→ Individual social mobility avenues are accentuated in such societies due to education, industrialization, urbanization etc. - [Fox and Miller], [Parsons, Davis and Moore] etc emphasize on this aspect for functionality of society.

→ Group social mobility is also possible in open societies but rather less pronounced due to focus on individuals.

II. Closed Society: Societal values do not promote mobility, emphasize status quoist hierarchy e.g. Caste system India, Feudal Europe Russia etc.

→ Individual Level: Strongly discouraged and often impossible to do. However, to some extent possible. ej. → Ghuwya talks of Sadhus and their respectable social position in terms of 'Status'.

→ Societal/Group level: Dipankar Gupta

says group social mobility is possible

ej. Sanskritization - M.N. Srinivas or by Westernization ej. Parsis in India.

This is aided by political power, numerical ascendancy, domination of secular hierarchy etc. ej. → SNDP movement in Kerala.

However, no societies are completely open or ~~free~~ ^{closed} in practice. The avenues of social mobility in American societies is limited by elite self recruitment, lack of access to legitimate means (Merton) etc.

At the same time, revolutions and social movement can change closed societies.

2.(a)

It has been suggested that a significant portion of Max Weber's theoretical framework was crafted through extensive and prolonged intellectual discourse with the shadow of Marx. Discuss. 20

Weber was profoundly influenced by Marx and has been called as the 'Bourgeoisie Marx' in academic circles. The influence of Marx in his framework and studies are manifold.

Weber's Theoretical Discourses: Under Marx Influence.

- ① The Existence of meanings: Marx used to emphasize the need for historical materialism and primacy of matter over spirit in response to Hegelian dialectics. Weber rejects both and emphasizes social meanings do not exist independent of the actor which perceives them.
- ② Weber's approach of using ideal types also relied on comparative and historical methods used by Marxists. Weber surveyed Protestant literature like Marx relied on 'Blue Books' for the empirical basis of his theories.

2.(a)

It has been suggested that a significant portion of Max Weber's theoretical framework was crafted through extensive and prolonged intellectual discourse with the shadow of Marx. Discuss. 20

Weber was profoundly influenced by Marx and has been called as the 'Bourgeoisie Marx' in academic circles. The influence of Marx in his framework and studies are manifold.

Weber's Theoretical Discourses: Under Marx Influence.

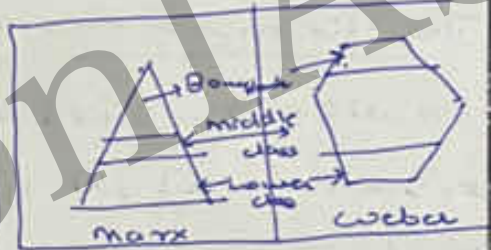
① The Existence of meanings: Marx used to emphasize the need for historical materialism and primacy of matter over spirit in response to Hegelian dialectics. Weber rejects both and emphasizes social meanings do not exist independent of the actor which perceives them.

② Weber's approach of using ideal types also relied on comparative and historical methods used by Marxists. Weber surveyed Protestant literature like Marx relied on 'Blue Books' for the empirical basis of his theories.

③ Views on class:

Weber's view on class differs from that of Marx as he defines the class as a group of people having same ability to draw rewards from the market. This is more comprehensive than the Marxian dichotomy of ownership and non-ownership classes.

Weber also disagrees with Marx in the polarization thesis of capitalist societies and suggests an ambiguity middle class and proliferation of classes forming an octagonal structure.



Weber also rejects the pauperization thesis and eventual rise of class consciousness and inevitability of revolution in the capitalist societies. He also states that conflict could be isolated and does not spontaneously result in revolution.

Class is not the only model of social stratification. Status - social estimation of

'honour' and 'power' form other dimensions along which society is divided.

Weber is critical of the monocausal economic determinism of the marxist view and expands the view to the 'rationalist model'

④ view on Power: Weber also adopts a conflict perspective to Power where one holds power at the expense of others. The same views are reflected in marxist views whereby dominant class usups all the power aided by the superstructure.

⑤ views on Religion: Marx viewed religion as the part of superstructure perpetuating false consciousness of masses. Each believed religion and God is the result of self alienation of man. He called it 'opiate of masses'. Weber disagrees and says religion can aid social change by rationalization of mindset - Protestant Ethics and The Spirit of Capitalism.

Engels viewed Protestant religion as a legitimizing ideology of capitalism but Weber says the 'gainspirit' of Protestant ethics and their values led to the growth of capitalism. eg: Rise of Calvinism, views of Benjamin Franklin on frugality, modesty, science etc.

② Views on Alienation: Marx believed division of labour of production in capitalist societies led to the alienation of man. Weber also accepts alienation as a consequence of capitalism. He also suggested that loss of substantive rationality leads to alienation.

The rise of Neomarxist led to the revitalization of Marxist theories and criticism of Weber's status quoist tendencies.

eg: Divisive role of religion in plural societies - Merton

The sociology of Weber is still closely connected to Marxist framework.

2.(b)

"Durkheim's idea of social facts both established sociology as an independent field of study and provided one of the most convincing arguments for studying society as it is before we decide what it should be". Discuss. 20

Social facts are ways of thinking, acting and feeling which are dispersed throughout the society, general to the society and exercising an external constraint on the members of the society. Social facts are things independent of observer according to Durkheim.

Social Facts : Establishing the Identity of Sociology.

Influenced by Emile Durkheim, Comte, Durkheim emphasized on social reality as su generis. Social reality is made of social facts. Durkheim in his Rules of Sociological Method, 1895 emphasized the cause and effect of a social phenomena should be seen at social level only.

For Example, unlike psychological views of suicide or biological views, Durkheim showed Regulation and Integration as

suicidal currents in the society. The individual exposed to these currents may be driven to suicide. This social fact formed the basis of functionalism. The same approach of social explanation of deviance by Merton rather than Sheldon or Lombroso's biological or Freudian view of psychology is an example of unique identity of sociological explanations.

Social fact enabled the development of empirical methods of research in sociology. Durkheim viewed religion as a real social phenomena unlike supernatural explanations of Frazer, Tylor, Müller etc. This enabled him to scientifically study religion and demythify the same.

Social fact can be classified and generalized in the scientific approach. They can be structural, morphological or material-non material etc.

Ritzer: Non material social facts e.g. religiosity.

Studying Society As it should Be:

Durkheim used The social facts' concept by echoing the views of Comte's Positivism which aims to affirm which is already there in society than what it should be which was the work of politicians, reformers etc.

A sociological enquiry uses the methods of Observation, Comparison and Contrast and Generalization to understand social reality. A scientific knowledge of society can provide ways for overcoming the tumultuous social conflicts which were present during France of Durkheim's times.

Social facts enable the empirical study of social phenomena and allows one to reach generalizations e.g.

Holbauchs: linked suicide to social complexity

furthering Durkheim's research.

Social facts allow the descriptive view of social phenomena and thereby allows concept building in social science. eg: → Suicide, Religion defined by Durkheim.

Social facts were also used by Durkheim to explain the 'collective consciousness' and its hold on society, to explain concepts of deviance, need for social reform etc.

However, Peter Berger says social facts do not fall from sky. Weber also emphasizes on subjective meanings to understand social phenomena.

Facts cannot be delineated in social Sciences beyond an extent due to context - Blumer

Nevertheless, The idea of social facts established sociology as an independent field of study.

2.(c) Critically examine 'pattern variables' as a conceptual tool, in understanding social reality.

10

Pattern variables of modality are the choices that present itself to an actor in dilemma and based on cultural norms, the actor selects one way of behaving or approach. This dualistic pattern is broader than Honnies' dichotomy of Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft:

Particularism v/s Universalism

Ascription v/s Achievement

Quality v/s Performance

Affectivity v/s Affective Neutrality.

Collective v/s Individual Orientation.

Critical Review:

Positive Views: ① Broadens the choice to an actor in social situation.

② Explains the patterned way of social actions and interactions.

③ Provides an objective framework to categorize social action

④ Culture dictates the choice for an actor in situation through socialization

eg: In family, affectivity v/s Affective Neutrality in jobs.

Limitations of Perspective:

⑤ views an individual as a cultural dope, overly socialized, neglecting individual behavioural maxims - (Theodore Abel and Weber)

⑥ Does not explain deviant social choices since culture defines all aspect of pattern variables of modality.

⑦ Dualistic presentation of choice is not always present in practice.

⑧ Grand theory - (Merton) which fails to explain any concrete social phenomena. No empirical backing. Purely Theoretical.

⑨ C. W. Mills - Status Quis Teriology since it does not explain social change and justifies existing cultural system.

⑩ Macro level enquiry which does not account for real life behaviour of people - (Schutz and Ethnomethodological)

The Pattern variables still form a useful conceptual tool in understanding Social Action and Systems in entirety.

3.(a)

The concept of 'latent and manifest functions' evolved by Robert K. Merton, has given greater 'significance and relevance' to the 'functional analysis' in understanding social reality. Elucidate. 20

Robert K. Merton revitalizes the concept of functionalism by incorporating various dimensions of 'latent and manifest functions' to fully understand and comprehend social reality.

Classical functional analysis developed by Durkheim, Parsons etc sought to explain every phenomena by the need it fulfills to the social system. e.g.) Parsons stated religion fulfilled the function of building value consensus and answering man's existential puzzles.

Merton says three assumptions of universal functionalism, functional unity and functional indispensability should be tested, and not accepted as true postulates.

Idea of Latent and Manifest Functions:

Every social phenomena may have a latent function as well as a manifest function. Manifest functions are directly observable and straightforward.

for eg) Education provides training for future generations.

Latent functions are not directly observed and can be seen only at the hidden level in which contributes to the function.

for eg) Hopi tribe has Rain dance which seems functionally redundant but improves social solidarity. The political machinery of America is effective in accomplishing goals through bribery etc which the political system cannot.

Significance: Deeper Understanding.

① Looking beyond the obvious or direct

impact of any social fact to see hidden impacts and meanings.

eg: Announcing of pensions for Kargil war martyrs led to rise in levirate marriages.

② 'Unintended consequences' which may be ignored can be seen and understood in a comprehensive way

eg: Insurance killing/crimes due to more insurance penetration.

③ Functional analysis gives a complete understanding of social phenomena

eg: Latent function of rituals in anxiety-relieving - Malinowski

④ Avoids mistake of classical functionalist by assuming functional indispensability and functional unity.

⑤ Can be used to effectively suggest functional alternatives to dysfunctional social aspects.

⑥ Functional analysis in such a way

explains why society holds on to certain 'outdated customs' or 'social relics'

eg: Rituals in marriage still followed for feelings of auspiciousness, allaying uncertainty fears of marriage even in modern world.

Merton's functional analysis also examines the functions at system, sub-system and individual level. It also examines functions, dysfunctions and non functions as well.

However, it has been criticized:

- ① Status quoist bias
- ② Abandoning moral justification
eg: corruption is functional in a latent way.
- ③ Functional alternatives are merely structural alternatives.
- ④ Presupposes universal functionalism; sometimes certain practices are outdated and continuing traditional actions weber.

However, Merton's ideas of latent and manifest functions has deepened sociological understanding.

3.(b)

"Emile Durkheim's concept of the division of labor highlight its dual nature, serving as both a functional and potentially anomic force in society." Discuss. 20

Durkheim examined the various systems of divisions of labour and sought to give a complete sociological explanation for the same - beyond what classical ~~functionaries~~ ^{economists} like Adam Smith.

Dual Nature of Division Labour: A functional force.

Division of labour in simple societies was based on likeness of parts which are mechanically juxtaposed on each other. No special training, low interdependence creates mechanical solidarity.

Over time societies increase in material density \Rightarrow population and moral density i.e. frequency of contact. This leads to differentiation and specialization of parts echoing Spencerian view.

The increased needs of the society is now met through different specialized

parts and their inevitable interdependence creates organic solidarity.

ej) Earthen houses used to keep cows, now market dependent on farms

Durkheim says This organic solidarity and division of labour in modern societies is functional:

① It adapts to the rising needs of the larger population.

② more efficient and specialized units improves productivity.

③ Rationalization of the society

ej) Religion declining as a controlling structure due to laws.

④ Division of Labour enables individual freedom to pursue his/her own self interest and development.

⑤ Functional for each individual by rising specialized roles.

⑥ Functional for each subsystems which become specialized and more scientific

ej) Education taken over by schools

from families.

① Functional for The society as a whole to meet its various systemic goals, leading to further social and economic development

eg. → Rise in living standards due to industrial revolution.

Division of Labour: An Anomic Force

In its pathological manifestation, division of labour which is 'anomic' - i.e. lack of or multiplicity of norms or 'forced' due to strict implementation of norms, can create structural strain and social conflict.

The tumultuous social situation in France is explained by Durkheim in this manner due to anomie.

The Conscience Collective in division of labour in a normal social fact should be less in volume, intensity, specificity etc.

Anomie creates lack of norms or multiple norms which causes disruption in society due to lack of effective collective consciousness. The social conflicts of protest, corruption, scandals etc, political instability is the result.

Excessive or forced division of labour by too much strictly enforced collective consciousness also creates disruption.

ej: Bolshavik Revolution in Russia.

The effective organization and coordination of various parts is necessary for proper organic solidarity.

Durkheim's ideas of division of labour is limited in explaining large social changes, exploitative power relations etc.

However, it explains the social 'physics' of statics and dynamics in modern societies.

3.(c)

"Weber was neither very sophisticated nor very consistent in his methodological pronouncements". Discuss the statement in the context of Weber's concept of "verstehen".

10

Weber advocated his methodology of Verstehen which sought understanding of social phenomena at both the direct observational level and at the level of subjective understanding of meanings.

Drawbacks of weberian Approach:

① Lack of consistency in his methods is a major drawback. He uses ideal types and verstehen inconsistently in his own studies.

② Verstehen relies on establishing an empathetic liaison with the actor for understanding probable meanings. eg: He uses in Calvinist literature in study of Protestant Ethics.

This cannot be reproduced nor empirically verified.

③ Verstehen is not a consistent method as it is vague and creates different

results each time.

④ Verstehen does not have any concrete rules or guidelines and can reduce reliability and validity of social research.

⑤ Weber's utilization of empirical data in Verstehen is limited.

⑥ Macrosocial enquiry is dominated by historical method, comparative analysis etc. eg.) Study of India, China in Protestant Ethics.

Despite its various drawbacks, Verstehen is a unique approach which led to the development of Symbolic Interactionism (Blumer), Ethnomethodology (Schutz) and Phenomenology. It remains relevant in micro level social enquiry but Weber was not fully successful in evolving it for macro level applications.

SECTION 'B'

5. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words. 10x5=50
5.(a) "Parson regarded power differential as necessary for the effective pursuit of collective goals." Discuss. 10

Power has been defined by Parson in the variable sum concept whereby it is the ability of the society to achieve its goals committed by public sense. Griddens calls this an understanding of Power in a broad sense.

Thus, using his framework of AGIL, to attain the goals of society, power differential is preferable for Parson.

- ① To ensure effective co-ordination of various parts for attaining goals.
- ② Effective integration of different subsystems of the society.
- ③ Effective power for the people in certain positions of society for proper decision making.

The collective goals are also decided by the society and for the same there is a political subsystem which has the power

to make such decisions for the collective well being of society.

Limitations:

- Ignores the exploitative dimension of power. \Rightarrow Marxists says power is monopolized by ruling class.
- Ignores the conflict perspective of power - Weber. Power is held at the expense of others. Steven Lube says power can force one social unit to act in ways desired by others. This leads to lack of freedom and exploitation. \Rightarrow Power elite in socialist societies - Raymond Aron
- Power allows the ruling class to protect their interests as the society's interest or collective goals - Ghansu.

While power is needed in society to achieve its collective goals, extreme power differentials are not desirable as they lead to moral and social decay of societies.

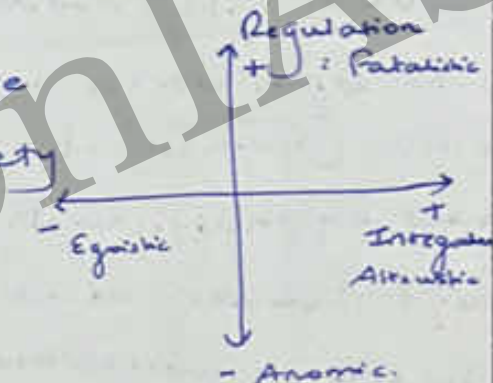
5.(b)

Utilizing Durkheim's Suicide theory, examine the pattern of elevated suicide rates in present-day Indian society. 10

Durkheim defines suicide as an act of omission or commission resulting in the death of an individual directly or indirectly through any positive or negative action knowingly. He develops the idea of Regulation and Social Integration as the twin suicidogenic currents in society.

Elevated Suicide Rates in India:

① Regulation: Excessive regulation by the society leads to fatalistic suicide. The cases of rising farmer suicides due to vacillating policies of MSP, farm laws etc.



② Excessive Integration leads to altruistic suicides by individuals e.g. Suicide Bombers in Jammu and Kashmir, Maoists etc. Traditional Actions of Sabi, Jauhar and guards of lung dying in funeral pyres. Suicide among students in Kota, entrance training etc.

③ Lack of Social Regulation and rise of 'Anomie' due to multiple factors.

→ Globalization and breakdown of norms e.g. Rising fuel prices, inflation,

→ Policies which create anomie and social upheaval e.g. Suicide rates during demonetization.

→ Protest ideologies and suicide as a means to counter them.

④ Lack of Integration: Egoistic Suicides due to alienation, normlessness, powerlessness [Seeman] etc. Rejection of social values by individuals in India

e.g. Farmer suicides due to feelings of despair, powerlessness. Rising suicide rates among educated youth due to unemployment etc.

Durkheimian framework shows how integration and regulation leads to higher societal issues of rising suicide. The constant rate of suicide and declined rates during times of crisis e.g. Kargil War is also observed in Indian society.

5.(c)

"Pressure groups are the corner stone of a democracy". Critically analyse.

10

Tocqueville who was very impressed with American concept of democracy believed Civil Society including Pressure Groups was a major reason for its success compared to France.

Functional Role of Pressure Groups in Society:

① Pressure groups highlight the issues through electioneering, propagandizing and lobbying

Odgaard influencing the policies of the State. ej Environmental Pressure Groups in EU playing a role in its policies.

② Pressure groups assert the right of the citizens (Locke) and ensures active participation in democracy.

③ Nonaccountable entities providing effective ideological oppositions to the hegemony of state (Guamsu). ej Activities of forums like ADR in India.

④ Can use anomalous methods to gain their objectives ej Protests by trade unions.

⑤ Creation of knowledge and information, educating masses → ASER survey by NGO Pratham on Education in India
Corruption Index by Transparency International.

Dysfunctional Aspects:

Gramsci believes civil society like pressure groups to be part of the state's hegemonic domination. Not all sections are represented by pressure groups

→ ~~too~~ Traditional caste groups like Diamond Seroes..

Latent function
Disruptive factor of many pressure groups, use by non state actors impeding development → IB crackdown on NGOs and FCRA norms tightened due to security concern.

While pressure groups are vital in a 'living democracy for effective deliberative democracy' - Joseph M Bassette, they are also dysfunctional in certain aspects.

5.(d)

Robert K. Merton's theory of deviance, was a departure from constructing 'total theoretical systems' in explaining social phenomena. Discuss. 10

Merton, who considered himself an insider depending functionalism emphasized on the need for Middle Range Theories in Sociology. He criticized Parson's grand theory and stated at the present level of development Middle Range Theories like his study on deviance is the need of the hour.

Merton's Deviance Theory - A deviance from Grand Theoretical Systems'

① Merton sought to explain deviance in society using the concept of relative deprivation. He says deviance is a social phenomena, not individual and it is due to structural gap of legitimate means to achieve culturally sanctioned goals. The theory uses straight forward concepts.

② It sought to explain the social phenomena of deviance. Its scope was clearly defined unlike Parson's theory

which seeks to explain entire social reality

③ Merton uses classification to find the different types of deviant behaviour:

	<u>Acceptable</u>	<u>Legitimate means</u>	<u>eg:</u>
Conformists	✓	✓	upper middle class
Retreatist	✗	✗	drug addict
Ritualist	✗	✓	lower clerical staff
Innovators	✓	✗	merchant, entrepreneur
Rebels	✗	✗	New social order - revolution

④ The theory is effective in classification and led to further research building social science as Merton envisaged.

Eg → Cloward and Ohlin The role of illegitimate means in society should also be explored.

⑤ Created new concepts which led to further research on the same eg → David Matza on deterministic aspects and role of neutralization by deviants.

Thus, Merton's deviance showed the ability of middle range theory. However, it lacked any empirical backing.

5.(c)

In Marx's view, social stratification is created by people's differing relationship to the means of production. Discuss. 10

According to Marx, the forces of production is the dominant technology creating the surplus forms the economic base of society. This surplus will be controlled by certain 'relations of production' e.g. feudal-seif or capitalist-worker etc. This Economic substructure creates social stratification.

Marxian view of class as Base of Stratification:

① The idea of ownership class and non ownership class is the basis of social stratification. In all the societies Marx found this dichotomy e.g. ^{lord} feudal-seif in feudal society, slave-master in ancient society and capitalist-worker in modern society.



② class as a descriptive tool was also used by Marx e.g. His pamphlet 'Manifesto' mentions seven classes in Germany.

③ The different relationship of people to forces of production may be seen in a minimalist theory by Poulantzas, Weber where there is a diffusion of classes and non homogeneous nature of each class. \Rightarrow Weber - 4 classes in Europe, rise of middle class.

④ E.O Wright shows organizational asset and credentials create nine levels of classes. \Rightarrow Expert manager, untrained worker, semi-credential manager etc.

CRITICISM:

⑤ Classes are on the way out - Waters and Paulskil as new aspects of lifestyle, status, friendship, social capital determines stratification.

⑥ Stratification can also be based on status and power - Weber and not merely economic base. \Rightarrow Caste system in India.

⑦ Diffused inequalities in a continuum in modern societies has decreased salience of class - Dahrendorf

Even then, the idea of classes and the relation of forces of production hold imaginative of sociologists even today.

8.(a)

Examine and highlight the similarities and differences between C. Wright Mills' understanding of the elite in the power structure and the perspectives of Pareto and Mosca on the same subject. 20

The Rule of Elite Theory in power is based on the concept that a ruling minority holds power in society and exercises the same on ~~un~~organized majority. It assumes conflict perspective as assumed by Weber.

Difference in Mills Approach v/s Mosca and Pareto

① Characteristics of Elite: Both Mosca and Pareto believed in superior attributes of elite which made them fit to rule. Mosca says elite may have better talent, intelligence etc. Pareto borrows Machiavellian concept of Lion and Foxes and uses ~~Persistence of Residue of Aggregates and Persistence~~ ^{Residue} Residue of Combination and Residue of Persistence of Aggregates to hold power.

Mills believe that rather than any

superior attributes, it is the key post of military, federal government and businesses in America occupied by a circulating elite due to social background of: WASPs, same Ivy League college backgrounds etc.

② Mosca's and Pareto's approach is more theoretical while Mills bases his observations in The American Society.

③ The key positions occupied by elite and how they circulate is explained by ~~both~~ Mills approach but Mosca and Pareto assumes power equivalent to political power.

④ Inner circulation of elite and elite self recruitment is explained by Mills' theories but superior attributes of ruling maybe possessed by any citizen but they cannot come to power is unexplained by Mosca and Pareto.

⑤ The individual social mobility in power structure is explained by Mosca and Pareto but not by Mills approach

ej: Due to superior talent, Kautilya and Chandragupta overthrow Nandas.

⑥ The status quoist bias of Mills theory does not explain violent social change whereas Mosca and Pareto's approach account for it ej: Coups after coups in Africa and Latin America due to circulation of Lion and Foxes

Similarities:

① Conflict View of Power (Weber) where power is a constant sum game.

② An organized minority rules over an uncoordinated amorphous minority.

③ Power of all forms is believed to be concentrated with the same elite.

- countered by Elite Pluralism of Peter Saunders study,

④ Power does not benefit always to those who hold it → Westergaard and Resler eg: Crony capitalist pushing state agenda.

⑤ Ignores dimension of power of non decision making, ideological power etc - Stewart Lubbe

⑥ Counter power or power with masses which has revolutionary potential Tim McGee is ignored.

Thus, the elite theory has many drawbacks and does not explain empirically all aspects of power eg: Parsons view of community's power.

However, they still portray the existence of power differential in society which is near universal.

8.(b)

"What key factors have acted as catalysts for revolutions throughout history"? Discuss with the help of different sociological perspectives. 20

Revolutions are violent social changes which bring significant changes in the social structure - MSA Rao. It results in a structural change rather than a gradual change-in-structure in society - Parsons.

Factors Resulting in Revolution:

① Marxist Model: Marx views revolution as inevitable due to pauperization, immiseration, polarization of the proletariat. The intelligentsia provides subjective awareness of the objective conditions changing them from a class-in-itself to class for itself. The revolution will establish a communist society.

② Functionalist provide a limited view on revolutions and Senelsoz uses the structural functional approach in which structural conduciveness,

openness of the society, bitter class antagonism, dissident elite, political bankruptcy, response of society to change etc result in revolution.

③ Theda Skocpol surveys historical instances of revolution and denies inevitability theory of Marx. Crain Brinton also presupposes factors like economic downturn, political bankruptcy, class antagonism and role of intelligentsia as main factors.

④ James F. Nolan and de Fronzo also adds the dimension of response of world powers to revolutionary circumstances in Third world countries as an additional factor.

⑤ Resource Mobilization Theory of Tilly emphasizes on need of various social, economic, human and moral resources for revolution.

⑥ Revolution may be also the result of positive revitalizing change due to enterprising individuals - APC Wallace.

⑦ Revolutionary circumstances can be also sustained by organized leadership, ideologies which provide alternative views e.g. Poulantzas - Radical Ideologies, ability of elite to organize sustained social action, charismatic leaders Coebel etc.

Thus Revolution can be explained in multiple social perspectives and almost universally it has a causal pluralist approach.

8.(c)

Modernity has many children, one of them is 'fundamentalism'. Critically examine the relevance of the statement. 10

Fundamentalism is a counter-culture response to uneven modernity according to T.K. Oommen. It is a modern phenomena with roots in communal policies of British in India's case.

Modernity in third world societies is 'prismatic' (Fred Riggs) and is uneven in nature. The rewards and benefits of modernity is unevenly spread. \rightarrow Muslims were backward in taking up Western Education - Syed Ahmed Khan.

To secure the benefits of modern society, fundamentalists use religion as a forefront. Steele and Bainbridge says religion in its primordial form is suggested to be brought back as an original solution to modern problems.

Fundamentalists believe that scriptures are irrelevant, present society is morally and culturally decayed, use narrow interpretation of scripture, intolerant of dissent, advocacy of religion as the solution for the same.

Fundamentalism is a feature of plural societies undergoing modernization - (Peter Berger). It is an example of how religion is used as a vehicle of protest (Merton) against the value consensus.

Communitarianism, is also the result of many fall outs of modernity but the rise of fundamentalism is even more pronounced today due to the rise of globalization and standardization of culture.