Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Tuesday 11 June 2024 – Afternoon

A Level Sociology

H580/03 Debates in contemporary society

Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes

You must have:
- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

INSTRUCTIONS
- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **all** the questions in Section A.
- Choose **one** option in Section B and answer **all** the questions for that option.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is **105**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets **[ ]**.
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **4** pages.

ADVICE
- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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Section A

Read the source material.

Source A

The digital revolution has caused an incredible change in the way that information is stored, produced and transmitted. In the past many different and unrelated media companies delivered different types of information through separate and unconnected devices. In the 21st Century media convergence has resulted in fewer but much larger media companies that dominate all forms of digital media and the technology used to produce and view it. Advances in digital technology have also led to multi-media and multi-functional mobile devices being embedded into our everyday lives. These allow us to both connect to other devices and carry out numerous tasks, often at the same time.

Source B

Some have argued that the digital revolution has provided opportunities to place every part of our lives under surveillance and monitor our personal information. Interconnected devices such as smart speakers have made daily life simpler but have also made it easier to collect data about our everyday lives. Additionally, laws have been passed so that governments can monitor our digital media use. However, others argue that the digital world gives anonymity and privacy, through both social media and the more illegal parts of the internet.

1* With reference to the source(s) and your wider sociological knowledge, explain media convergence. **[9]**

2 With reference to the source(s) and your wider sociological knowledge, evaluate the view that the digital revolution has increased opportunities to monitor personal information. **[10]**

3 Evaluate the view that globalisation has led to a homogenised culture. **[16]**

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Section B

Choose **one** option from this section and answer **all** the questions for that option.

OPTION 1

Crime and deviance

4* In what ways can middle-class criminals avoid detection and punishment? **[10]**

5* Assess the view that left-wing solutions to crime are effective. **[20]**

6* Evaluate the view that the main cause of crime and deviance is labelling. **[40]**

OPTION 2

Education

7* In what ways have educational policies since 1988 increased competition between schools? **[10]**

8* Assess the view that the role of education is to produce an obedient workforce. **[20]**

9* Evaluate the view that material factors are the main cause of differences in educational achievement. **[40]**

OPTION 3

Religion, belief and faith

10* In what ways do sects differ from other religious institutions? **[10]**

11* Assess the view that religion is a negative force in society. **[20]**

12* Evaluate the view that religion has declined in importance. **[40]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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