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SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 2299)

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Medium Eng/Hindi	English	Registration Number	
Center	BPL	Date	20/09/2023

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). - The Candidate should attempt FIVE Questions out of EIGHT questions strictly in accordance with the instructions given under each question printed in ENGLISH & HINDI - The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. - 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. - Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. - Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
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:			
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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

1. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 x 5 = 50

(a) How is Sociological approach to human actions different from that of psychological approach?

◦ Sociological approach to human action was seen in the works of Max Weber and Parsons.

Psychological approach sees no distinction between human action and behaviour. For them any action which is voluntarily performed is social action.

In sociological approach as given by Weber: social action is any action to which an individual attaches meaning and it takes into account the reaction of others, thereby oriented in its course.

Differences between the two is following:

Sociological approach	Psychological approach
1. sees a difference between action and behaviour. 2. It is limited by its orientation to others 3. Action should has meaning attached to it.	1. sees no difference between action and behaviour. sees action and behaviour as interrelated. 2. No such limitation 3. Four condition. 1. Action should be member of society. 2. Should be guided by norms and values 3. Goal oriented 4. Involvement of energy.

Thus although different, both ~~the~~ theories has helped in sociology.

1. (b) Although the interview method has few technicalities associated with it, the simplicity of the format can be deceptive. Discuss.

• Interview is a guided conversation between the researcher and the respondent. It can be structured or unstructured.

Interview method is used for data collection in both quantitative and qualitative methods.

Technicalities associated with the interview method are:

1. Rapport between the interviewer and interviewee.
2. Interviewer should be able to understand the situation.
3. Interviewer should avoid value bias while framing the questions.

It has following advantages:

1. deep collection of data on a wide range of issues
2. unstructured interviews can help in getting data which which one may not be expecting.

But simplicity of interview has some inherent drawbacks

also:

1. Social desirability Bias: Respondent may answer the questions in a way that provide positive perception about him/hers.
2. Respondent may forget some information or may be.
3. Contact and the way the respondent understand the situation also may lead to variation.

Thus, as PV Young said that interview also involves some issues and needs to be used with other methods.

1. (c) Sociological theories provide us with a framework for explaining the social world around us. Discuss the role of theory in guiding social research.

• Theory is a set of statements which provide information about a particular subject matter.

Importance of theory in social research:

1. Hypothesis building: It helps in building hypothesis, especially when conducting deductive approach.
2. Guide the researcher.
3. Helps understanding universal phenomenon.
4. Saves time of the researcher.
5. Narrow down the scope of enquiry.

But, Karl Popper has said
that a good theory is
one which is falsifiable.
It helps in building the
sociological knowledge.

But, theory also suffers
from drawbacks:

1. It has value bias of
researcher.
2. Universality is not guaranteed
in social science.

Research can also
help in theory building:

1. Lead to new theories.
2. Reformulate existing theories.
3. Reinterpretation of new theories.

Thus, theory building
is an important aspect of
study of sociology as a science.

1. (d) To what extent does Marx's theory of historical materialism explain the dynamics of modern capitalism?

Historical materialism is theory given by Marx. It sees society as a change from one mode of production to other mode of production.

The change was seen in terms of changing material conditions.

Modern capitalism is characterised by concentration of ownership of means of production in selected hands.

Marx's theory is similar to modern capitalism in following ways:

1. Capital is the main source of power
2. Society divided into classes
3. Dependence of labour on capitalists

But modern capitalism diverges from Marx view in following way.

1. Economic: skills of workers and type of service provided in mode of production also matters. ex: white collar workers are distinct from blue collar workers.

2. Laborer: Laborer has become heterogeneous. It has organised itself in unions and are benefiting from capitalism.

3. Rohrstofer has said that workers would not bring a revolution.

Thus, Marx's view on class struggle in modern capitalism but cannot explain it completely.

1. (e) Critically examine the concept of pattern variable as a tool in understanding social reality.

Pattern variables are the ^{set of} dilemmas that a social actor faces while performing social roles. It was given by Talcott Parsons. It was an attempt by Parsons to bridge the gap between social system (macro) and social action (micro). While pattern variables are the dilemmas, social system is the solution.

The following dichotomous pattern variables were mentioned by Parsons:

1. Self interest v/s collective interest.

Pattern variables (A)	Pattern variable B
① <u>Collective Interest</u>: concern for the <u>interest of society</u> a whole. ② <u>Affective</u>: A person is <u>emotionally attached</u> ③ <u>Ascription</u> based: In this status is ascribed by birth. ④ <u>Particularism</u>: Individual behaves in a particular manner with different individuals. ⑤ <u>Diffusivity</u>	① <u>Self-Interest</u>: concern for individual interest. ② <u>Affective neutrality</u>: A situation of <u>emotional detachment</u> of the actor. ③ <u>Achievement</u>: In this status based on individual achievement. ④ <u>Universalism</u>: Individual behaves in the same manner with all. ⑤ <u>Specificity</u>
Thus, pattern variables help in giving idea about social system	

2. (a) "Although Durkheim and Weber both recognized the cultural significance of religion, their respective "theories of religion" diverge in their perspectives. Critically examine the statement. 20

Durkheim used the functionalist approach to explain the religion. Weber used the interpretivist approach.

Both of them recognised the importance of religion:

1. Bringing social change
2. Integration of society.
3. Finding answers of questions.
4. Guiding the norms and values of the society.

But both of their theories of religion has diverge in perspectives. This can be seen from following:

Rivkhami

1. saw society as
a unit of study.

2. society was
seen as
 sui-generis

3. Defined Religion
as a set of
beliefs and practices
about the sacred,
that unites people
following
beliefs into a
single moral
community.

Weber

1. saw ~~societies~~
individuals as
a unit of study.

2. saw significance
of meanings of
that individuals
attach to their
actions.

3. Studied the
Protestant ethic
and considered
it as a
spirit behind
the rise of
capitalism.

Durkheim

Wheeler

4. Studied the primitive form of religion and tries to generalize the finding.

5. Saw religion as a worship of society.

6. Religion and society were linked and saw both of them providing society with collective conscience.

4. Studied the major religions of the world like Taoism, Jainism, Hinduism etc.

5. Did not see religion in these terms.

6. Saw Religion and society as opposed.

Durkheim

7. Did not stress on importance of ascetics in religion.

8. No divisions in religion.

Weber

7. stressed on the role of ascetics in propagation of religion.

8. saw religion as inner worldly ascetics mystic, other worldly etc.

Thus, both Weber and Durkheim has helped in improving understanding of religion.

2. (b) "Merton's middle-range theory provides a useful link between theoretical concepts and empirical data". Do you agree with the statement? Substantiate your answer with examples. 20

Merton has propounded the middle range theories to deal with the problems with grand functionalism and raw empiricism. Functionalism were grand theories which ~~are~~ were considered too ambitious. While raw empiricism was found without any practical significance. Important facets of middle range theories are.

1. They are based on limited set of assumptions from which specific hypothesis is possible and

- Empirical testing is possible.
2. They are ideologically
neutral
 3. They are grounded theories.
They do not deal with
all the knowledge that is
around.
 4. They used concepts which
are operationalisable.
 5. Empirical testing is possible
 6. They involve use of
both quantitative and
qualitative methods
research. They also collect
data using different
methods. Thus it is a
close alliance of theory,
data and method.

Examples :

1. He modified the functional postulated.
2. have the concept of Latent and manifest function
3. saw social item having functions, non-functions as well as dysfunctions.
4. functional autonomy and functional equilibrium concepts was also given.

But, this theory also has certain weakness.

1. did not develop any middle range theory!
2. cannot be used to

explains third world countries
where everything seems to
be dysfunctional.

3. Has subjective concepts
like anomie.

But stuart merton
theory has enabled
extension of sociological
knowledge.

2. (c) "The union of anthropology and sociology is considered to be desirable and favorable, despite their distinctive areas of specialization". Discuss. 10

Sociology is a scientific study of society. Anthropology is the study of man and its environment/surroundings.

The union of sociology and anthropology is considered favorable because:

1. Field work based approach used by Radcliff Brown and Malinowski in anthropology is very useful in sociology.

2. Qualitative and quantitative methods of sociology can be used in anthropology.

3. Understanding of family and kinship can be drawn by sociology from anthropology.
Cultural lag concept is also borrowed from anthropology.
4. Understanding of concepts like stratification, social change, hierarchy are taken by anthropology from sociology.
5. Present/modern society studied by sociology can be understood well by studying primitive societies.
 Thus, social anthropology can be used for improving understanding of society.

4. (a) Sociology is a systematic study of society, distinct from philosophical and religious reflections, as well as from our everyday common-sense observations about society. Discuss. 20

Sociology is the systematic study of society. It is the study of society as a interconnected whole i.e. each individual related to each other and the society.

Sociology is different from ~~psychological~~ philosophical and religious reflections in the following way:

1. Sociology does not seek to answer the questions like what can be answered from the available knowledge.

2. Its aim is to find universal theories. While religion theory is applicable only to the followers of a particular religion.
3. Sociology is evaluative and deliberative. Religion and philosophy are speculative and imaginative.
4. Sociology aims to bring things at level of known. Religion pushes individuals towards fatalism.
- Sociology and common sense:
Common sense can be defined as every day (routine) knowledge. People have about their every day lives.

It is taken for granted knowledge.
Difference between sociology and
common sense are:

<u>Sociology</u>	<u>Common sense</u>
1. It seeks to find root causes and interconnections 2. It seeks to question the phenomenon and involve investigation 3. It is change-oriented 4. It builds universal theories	1. It sees what can be observed from the surface 2. It leads to reproduction of conjectures and stereotypical beliefs 3. It promotes status quo 4. Common sense knowledge vary from person to person

But religion and common sense
are also related to sociology.

1. Sociology tends to correct
stereotypes and enriches
vocabulary of common sense.

So Religion gives direction
to sociology. Common
sense challenges conclusion
of sociology.

Thus, although
distinct, these disciplines
can help in improving
each other.

4. (b) Discuss the influence of Mead's concept of the social self on contemporary debates about identity and subjectivity. In what ways does his theory offer a new perspective on the relationship between the individual and society? 20

• Mead gave the concept of social self. He saw society and social experience preceding an individual.

Self is defined as the peculiar ability of being an object and subject to oneself. Self is seen to develop in the following ways:

1. Imitative stage: In this stage, the child copies the behaviour of people around him.

2. Play stage: It is a stage of imaginative imitative learning.

In this stage, the child takes the role of secret others which are around him. But the complete development of self does not happen.

3. [Game stage]: In this stage, the child takes the role of generalised others. This is imaginative learning. complete development of individual self happens.

It can be used to understand identity and subjectivity in following way:

1. Every individual has his own set of generalised others. Thus everyone has

a different self or identity.
2. self helps an individual
to exercise objectivity and
at some time imaginative-
thinking.

3. Subjectivity is involved
because influence of generalised
others is different.

Relationship between
individual and society
can be understood from

following:

1. Each individual has
a perception of 'I' and
'me'.
2. (I) makes change in
society possible. Society
gets fresh and innovative.

idea from T.

3. Me allows the individuals to live comfortably in the society.

But broad concept has shortcomings:

1. It does social life too consensual.
2. It studies social action in isolation and not as continuity from the past.

Thus, social self has improved the understanding of society.

4. (c) Discuss the significance of comparative method in the study of society.

10

◦ Comparative method in
study of society stems
from the need of researcher
to study a societal phenomenon
in different contexts.

Basis of comparative

method:

1. A particular societal
phenomenon is studied in
different contexts
2. cause of the phenomenon
are found out.
3. If the causes are
found to be same,
then the cause-effect
relationship can be
established.

Significance

1. Help in finding cause and effect relationship which is important for scientific study of society.

2. Help study similar phenomena in different contexts and their impact on the society.
But it has drawbacks.

also:

1. Large amount of data needs to be gathered for studying a single phenomenon.
2. Too many extraneous variables to be taken into account.

Still the comparative method is very useful for scientific study of society.

SECTION - B

5. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 x 5 = 50

(a) Discuss how gender affects access to resources and opportunities in the labour market.

Gender is a social phenomenon in contrast to sex, which is a biological phenomenon. Gender affects access to resources and opportunities in labour market in following

ways:

1. Kate Millet has said that Patriarchal norms prevent access to education resources to women on equal basis as men.

2. Blood and stone has not a significant women has not a significant power in decision making in household.

3. Karuna Ahmed Perk collargation

- Women in certain sector
- women paid less than men
- women in low positions in high quality jobs.

4. Glass ceiling in labour market
women prevented from occupying top positions.

5. Narrow division of
labour: Sylvia Walby said -
women work in house is
not recognised and paid.

But with new
legislature reforms, the
things are changing.
Feminisation of labour is
occurring.

5. (b) "In the sociology of deviance, no single theory has emerged as dominant." Discuss.

• Deviance concept was introduced by Merton.
Deviance was seen as an adapted response to anomie. Anomie was seen as a disjunction between social accepted goals and the institutional means to reach them.

But there are many theories explaining deviance.

1. Howard Becker [Labelling]
 theory: As per this, the person may be labelled as a deviant depends on the actor and also those who observe the act.

2. Cohen: subculture theory:
As per this those who
are deviant are actually
conforming to their
own subculture.

3. Power theory: As per
this those who have
power in the society
decide who will be
deviant.

4. Ecological approach: Deviance
varies from place to
place. It can vary
depending on area within a
city. Thus, no theory has
emerged dominant but has
increased the domain of
knowledge.

5. (c) Despite the acceptance of Weber's understanding of power by many, some believed it is too narrow. Discuss.

• Weber defined Power as a chance of man and men to exercise their will in a communal action, even against the resistance of others who are participating in the action.

Weber has following understanding of Power:

- ① Power is a constant / zero sum game. The power is fixed in society and those who exercise it, do so at the expense of others.
- ② Power is used by individuals to permanently their self interests.

But it was believed to be too narrow by some.

For example:

① Parsons: He saw power as a variable sum game. Power is not fixed. The

society's power increased when there is increase in well-being of society.

② Mart: Saw control over means of production as a source of power.

③ Micheal Mann saw economic, political and military sources of power.

Thus, Weber's view has its fair share of criticism also.

5. (d) Comment on the trend of increasing numbers of sects and cults particularly in modern societies.

Sects and cults are quasi-religious organisations whose beliefs are different from the dominant religion. The rise in number of sects and cults can be seen due to following:

- ① Stark & Baumbach: Relative Deprivation is the cause of rise of sect and cult.
- ② Weber: Sects are likely to rise among groups who are marginalised in the society. The rise of the term Theodicy of disprivilege.

3. Peter Berger: increasing
secularisation and pluralisation
in society leading to
growth of sects and cults.

4. Andrew Dawson: Urbanisation
is causing rise in sects

5. Byron Wilson: Rapid
changes in society are
causing an increase in
the sects and cults.

Thus, sects and
cults highlight the decline
of our leader centric
and populism based power.

5. (e) Using Merton's concept of manifest and latent functions, explain the persistence of dowry in Indian Society?

Merton gave the concept of latent and manifest functions as part of his neo-functionalism.

Manifest function:

1. They are intended, recognized, desirable consequences of a social item.
2. They are subjective dispositions of an actor.

Latent function:

1. They are unintended, unrecognized, unconscious functions of a item.
2. They are objective dispositions of an actor.

It can be used to explain dowry in following way.

manifest function of dowry
is to compensate the bride.
As the bride may not
have any share in the
parental property. It is
referred as 'Steucham' also.
It can be used by bride
to meet her expenses.

Latent function:

- To compensate parents of
the bridegroom for money
they have spent on this
child.
 - To commoditise the benefits
that bride would draw
from bridegroom's earning or status.
- Thus, new concept is
helpful.

8. (a) Analyse the impact of feminist theories on the discipline of sociology. How have feminist theorists challenged traditional sociological concepts and methodologies, and what new insights have they offered into the study of gender and inequality? 20

Feminist theories arise from the assumption that society is seen differently by the different sides.

Feminist theories can be clubbed as under:

1. Radical Feminists: They blame men for the condition of women. They advocate radical changes in the different institutions.
2. Conservative Feminists: They advocate gradual changes in social and political life. They are ready to work with any one.

③ Marxist view: They see women's lack of control over means of production as a reason for their degradation.
From Alex and Margaret Benston are prominent.

④ Feminist theorie of Region.
Simone de Beauvoir, Karen Armstrong, many also have seen region as an instrument of exploitation of women by men.

⑤ Education feminist theories:
seen education causing the reproduction of gender roles.
Impact of gender theories are:

1. Deeped in better understanding of gender related issues
 2. Build a distinction between sex and gender.
 3. Reveal the instruments of exploitation been used to exploiting at women.
 4. Challenge the concept of paternity and biological basis of division of labor.
- Traditional concepts have been challenged in

following way:

1. value - neutrality is challenged as it is seen to maintain status quo.
2. Analysis from perspectives of various actors involved in a situation.

New insights offered are.

- ① Gender is an important basis of inequality.
- ② Gender is socially constructed.
- ③ Men and women have equal potential.
- ④ Promoted reforms in legislation.
- ⑤ Revealed the oppressive nature of institution like family.

Thus, gender perspective has been very crucial.

8. (b) No society treats all its members in exactly the same way under all conditions. The smooth functioning of society requires division of work and functions and people often enjoy different status and rewards on account of it. Discuss.

20

• Division of work is breaking down of work into simple parts which different persons are giving different parts of work.

Work is specialised in nature.

Reasons of division of work:

1. To meet the growing needs of society.
2. To make productive use of resources.

Functions of division

of work:

- ① Durkheim: It helps to maintain organic solidarity in society.

① New Innovation in society -
But people are
often enjoying different
status and reward based
on this:

① Davis and Moore: They
saw some functions in
society more important
than others. It is necessary
that these functions are
performed by the
most talented individuals.
So higher rewards are
accorded to these
positions to attract
individuals to these.

② Parsons: Value consensus is required for integration in the society. Those who perform their roles in consonance with the values of society would be rewarded. They would be given higher status as they personify and exemplify the society's values. But this differential reward and work has been criticized also:

① Rohwendt has said that differences are due to power, sanctions and norms

② Tumin has said that objective criteria to determine the importance of a particular position is not there.

③ caste system and division of labour based on caste can not be explained.

Thus, the division of work is both functional and dysfunctional.

8. (c) "Civil society is the oxygen of democracy, and without it, democracy suffocates." Comment. 10

° Civil society is the
non-market, non-hm,
non-state part of
the society.

Civil society includes
political parties, NGOs, etc.
[Civil society] is the
oxygen of democracy in
following way:

1. It helps in functioning
of the government. Ex:
political parties contest
elections and form government.
2. They help in keeping
the government accountable.

Ex: NGOs have been involved in social aspects of government schemes.

③ They bring reforms in governance. Ex: Pressure groups have brought changes in economy, political and environment policy. For ex: Greenpeace, PETA, ASSCHOM, ADR etc.

④ Bring awareness among people about their rights and

⑤ Public education and empowerment regarding government

Thus, Antonio Gramsci has seen as a sphere where hegemony is built and it is a sphere of particularist attainment