



IAS Gurukul

Sociology Optional For UPSC CSE



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STUDY MATERIAL

UPSC Sociology Optional 2014 Paper I Previous Year Questions

Previous Year Questions · Paper I · 2014

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UPSC Sociology Optional 2014 Paper I Previous Year Questions

Previous Year Questions · Paper I · 2014

SECTION—A

1. Answer the following questions in about 150 words each (10x5=50)

(a)

How is objectivity different from value neutrality? Discuss with reference to Weber's views on methodology.

10 Marks · Sociology As Science · Fact value and objectivity

(b)

Write a short answer of the following in about 150 words: How did the emergence of industrial society change family life in Western Europe?

10 Marks · Sociology the Discipline · Modernity and social changes in Europe and the emergence of sociology.

(c)

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

10 Marks · Sociology the Discipline · Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences

(d)

In what ways biographies could be used to study social life? Explain.

10 Marks · Research Methods & Analysis · Techniques of data collection

(e)

How can we use reference group theory to understand the fashion in Society?

10 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Using Merton's Concept of 'manifest' and latent functions, explain the persistence of

2.

(a)

20 marks

Which research technique would be most suitable for the study of consumer behaviour and its social correlates? Explain.

20 Marks · Research Methods & Analysis · Techniques of data collection

(b)

20 marks

Identify the similarities and differences between Marx's theory of 'alienation' and Durkheim's theory of 'anomie'.

20 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Karl Marx- Historical Materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle.

(c)

10 marks

How could one use Merton's concept of deviance to understand the traffic problems in urban area?

10 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Robert K Merton

3.

(a)

20 marks

What do you understand by gender? How does it shape 'male identity'?

20 Marks · Stratification and Mobility · Dimensions- Social stratification of class, status groups, gender, ethnicity, and race.

(b)

20 marks

"According to Max Weber, 'class' and 'status' are two different dimensions of power." Discuss.

20 Marks · Stratification and Mobility · Theories of social stratification- Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory.

(c)

10 marks

corruption in India Society?

10 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Using Merton's Concept of 'manifest' and latent functions, explain the persistence of

4.

(a)

20 marks

How does Weber use the notion of 'ideal types' in his theory of bureaucracy?

20 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Max Weber- Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism

(c)

10 marks

Using Mead's theory of symbolic interactionism, discuss the stages in the formation of gender identity.

10 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Mead- Self and identity

SECTION—B

5. Answer the following questions in about 150 words each (10x5=50)

(a)

For Marx, class divisions are outcomes of 'exploitation'. Discuss. (in about 150 words)

10 Marks · Stratification and Mobility · Theories of social stratification- Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory.

(b)

What are the distinctive features of social organization of work in slave society? How is it different from feudal society? (In about 150 words)

10 Marks · Works and Economic Life · Social organisation of work in different types of society- slave society, feudal society, industrial/capitalist society

(c)

Discuss T. H. Marshall's views on citizenship.

10 Marks · Politics and Society · Explain democracy as an order of society. What are the factors preventing people's

(d)

Distinguish between Political Parties and Pressure Groups.

10 Marks · Politics and Society · Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, and political parties.

(e)

"According to Durkheim, the essence of religion in modern society is the same as religion in primitive society." Comment.

10 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Emile Durkheim- Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society.

6.

(a)

20 marks

"Power is not a zero-sum game". Discuss with reference to Weber's and Parsons's views.

20 Marks · Politics and Society · Sociological theories of Power

(b)

20 marks

Critically examine the functionalist views on the institution of family. How do those help us in understanding family in the present times?

20 Marks · System of Kinship · Contemporary Trends

7.

(a)

20 marks

How is religious revivalism different from communalism? Elaborate with Suitable examples from the Indian context?

20 Marks · Religion and Society · Religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious revivalism, fundamentalism.

(c)

10 marks

According to Marx, capitalism transforms even the personal relationship between men and women. Critically examine with illustrations from the contemporary Indian context.

10 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Karl Marx- Historical Materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle.

8.

(a)

20 marks

How is the increasing use of technology changing the status of women in Indian society?

20 Marks · Education System & Social change · Science, Technology and Social change

(b)

20 marks

Write a short essay on the Latin American perspective on 'dependency'.

20 Marks · Education System & Social change · Development and dependency

(c)

10 marks

What do you understand by social movement? How has the mobilization by Scheduled Castes helped them in constructing a new identity?

10 Marks · Politics and Society · Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution.
