



# IAS Gurukul

**Sociology Optional For UPSC CSE**



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**STUDY MATERIAL**

## **UPSC Sociology Optional 2018 Paper I Previous Year Questions**

**Previous Year Questions · Paper I · 2018**

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## UPSC Sociology Optional 2018 Paper I Previous Year Questions

Previous Year Questions · Paper I · 2018

### SECTION—A

0.

(1e)

10 marks

What are the new forms of family in developed societies? Discuss.

10 Marks · System of Kinship · Family, household, marriage

### 1. Answer the following questions in about 150 words each (10x4=40)

(a)

The focal point of Sociology rests on interaction. How do you distinguish it from common sense?

10 Marks · Sociology the Discipline · Sociology and common sense

(b)

Distinguish between fact and value in Weber's Protestant Ethic and spirit of Capitalism.

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

(c)

Do you think 'I' and 'Me' are central terms in Mead's work?

10 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Mead- Self and identity

(d)

What is the difference between natural and social inequality? Give examples from caste and class dimensions.

10 Marks · Stratification and Mobility · Concepts- equality, inequality, hierarchy, exclusion, poverty and deprivation

2.

(a)

20 marks

Is non-positivism methodology scientific? Illustrate.

20 Marks · Sociology As Science · Non-positivist methodologies

(b)

20 marks

Explain Durkheim's basic arguments on suicide. Can you analyse high suicide rates of contemporary Indian society with Durkheim's theory?

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

(c)

10 marks

What is the Difference between the anomia in Merton and Durkheim? Explain.

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

(c)

10 marks

Evaluate if social stratification is functional for society.

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

3.

(a)

20 marks

Does collapse of functionalism and bankruptcy of Marxism coincide with the rupture of modernity? Discuss.

20 Marks · Education System & Social change · Critically examine the roles of science and technology in social change. What is your

(b)

20 marks

Define patriarchy. How does patriarchy manifest in interpersonal relations?

20 Marks · System of Kinship · Patriarchy and sexual division of labour

4.

(a)

20 marks

According to Marx, how are human beings alienated from their human potential and what does he suggest to change this?

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

(c)

20 marks

Discuss the challenges thrown by religious revivalism to a secular nation- state.

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

## SECTION—B

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

(a)

Is the theory of cultural lag valid in present times? Discuss.

10 Marks · Education System & Social change · Critically examine the roles of science and technology in social change. What is your

(b)

Are social movements primordial in means and progressive in agenda? Explain.

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

(c)

Does scientific method make Sociology a science? Illustrate your answer with Durkheim's method.

10 Marks · Sociology As Science · Science, scientific method and critique.

(d)

Distinguish between quantitative and qualitative techniques of data collection with suitable examples from Indian society.

10 Marks · Research Methods & Analysis · Qualitative and quantitative methods

(e)

Is social mobility possible in closed systems of stratification? Illustrate from research work.

10 Marks · Stratification and Mobility · What is social mobility? Critically examine the classification of 'closed' and 'open' models

6.

(a)

20 marks

Discuss the nature of social organisation of work in capitalist society with reference to the 'Limits of the working day'.

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

(b)

20 marks

Distinguish between family and household with reference to the concept of development of the household.

20 Marks · System of Kinship · Family, household, marriage

(c)

10 marks

In what way 'Interpretative' method is different from the 'positivist' approach in the study of social phenomena? Explain with examples, the explanatory and exploratory designs of Social research.

10 Marks · Sociology As Science · Major theoretical strands of research methodology

7.

(a)

20 marks

How can Parsons AGIL framework be used to analyse key problems in a society? Discuss

20 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Talcott Parsons- Social system, pattern variables

(b)

20 marks

What is labour commitment? Discuss it with reference to studies of manufacturing industry.

20 Marks · Works and Economic Life · Labour and society

(c) 10 marks

What, according to Pareto, are the basic characteristics of elites? Discuss.

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

8.

(a) 20 marks

Sociological imagination enables us to grasp history and biography and the relationship between the two in a society. C.W. Mills. Explain.

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

(a) 20 marks

Schooling does not ensure upward mobility of all members of the society. Discuss with reference to class societies.

20 Marks · Education System & Social change · Education and social change

(b) 20 marks

What are sects? Discuss the role in multi-religious societies with empirical examples.

20 Marks · Religion and Society · Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults.

(c) 10 marks

In what way did Durkheim perceive religion as functional to society?

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