



IAS Gurukul

Sociology Optional For UPSC CSE



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STUDY MATERIAL

UPSC Sociology Optional 2019 Paper I Previous Year Questions

Previous Year Questions · Paper I · 2019

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UPSC Sociology Optional 2019 Paper I Previous Year Questions

Previous Year Questions · Paper I · 2019

SECTION—A

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

(a)

Discuss the historical antecedents of the emergence of sociology as a discipline.

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

(b)

Davis and Moore made it clear that social stratification is a functional necessity and also an unconscious device. Discuss.

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

(c)

What is the Marxist concept of 'Fetishism of Commodities'?

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

(d)

Present a sociological review on the 'new middle-class'.

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

(e)

Explain the probability sampling strategies with examples.

10 Marks · Research Methods & Analysis · Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability and validity

2.

(a)

20 marks

According to Mead, "We play a key role in our own socialisation." Explain. 1.

20 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Mead- Self and identity

(b)

20 marks

Bring out the significance of Ethnography in social research.

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

(c)

10 marks

What is 'reserve army of labour'? Present the position of feminist scholars on this.

10 Marks · Works and Economic Life · Labour and society

3.

(a)

20 marks

Discuss the importance of interpretative understanding of social phenomena and explain its limitations

.

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

(b)

20 marks

Are all world religious patriarchal Substantiate your answer with examples?

20 Marks · Religion and Society · Sociological Theories of religion

(c)

10 marks

What according to Merton, is the different between 'unanticipated consequences' and 'latent functions' ? Give examples to elaborate.

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

4.

(a)

20 marks

Modernisation presupposes class society however, caste, ethnicity and race are still predominant.
Explain.

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

(b) 20 marks

Compare and contrast the contributions of Marx and Weber on social stratification in capitalist society.

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

(c) 10 marks

What, according to Irawati Karve, are the major differences between North Indian and South Indian Kinship systems?

10 Marks · System of Kinship · Types and forms of family

18.

(b) 20 marks

How according to Merton, are deviant subcultures generated?

20 Marks · Sociological Thinkers · Robert K Merton

SECTION—B

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

(a)

Differentiate between 'Life-chances' and 'Life-style' with suitable examples.

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

(b)

Discuss the issues of access and exclusion in higher education in India.

10 Marks · Education System & Social change · "Education helps in perpetuating social and economic inequalities." Critically examine the

(c)

What is civil society? Present a note on civil society engagement with science and technology policy in India.

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

(d)

Criticize A.G. Frank's 'development of underdevelopment'.

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

(e)

How well do you think Tonnis, Durkheim, Weber and Max predicted the character of modern society? Critique.

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

6.

(a)

20 marks

Why is gender a dimension of social stratification? How does gender intersect other dimensions of inequality based on caste, class, race and ethnicity?

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

(b)

20 marks

What are the theoretical models of societal power? Which one of them is most applicable in advanced industrial societies?

20 Marks · Politics and Society · Sociological theories of Power

(c)

10 marks

What is affirmative action? Substantiate theoretical positions on affirmative actions with examples.

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

7.

(a)

20 marks

labour in the post-industrial society

20 Marks · Works and Economic Life · What is 'informal labour'? Discuss the need for and challenges in regulating informal

(b)

20 marks

Feminist scholars argue that 'New media' is masculine and hence reinforces structural hierarchies rather than reconfiguring them. Comment.

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

(c)

10 marks

Discuss the concept of circulation of elite.

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

8.

(a)

20 marks

In the light of judicial intervention on 'Live-in relationships', discuss the future of marriage and family in India.

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

(c)

10 marks

How is terrorism a new form of asymmetrical warfare? What are some of the challenges in trying to win the war on terrorism?

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