



Cambridge International Examinations  
Cambridge Ordinary Level

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**SOCIOLOGY**

**2251/12**

Paper 1

**May/June 2015**

**2 hours (including 15 minutes' reading time)**

No Additional Materials are required.

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer Question 1 and **one** question from Sections **B** or **C**.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.



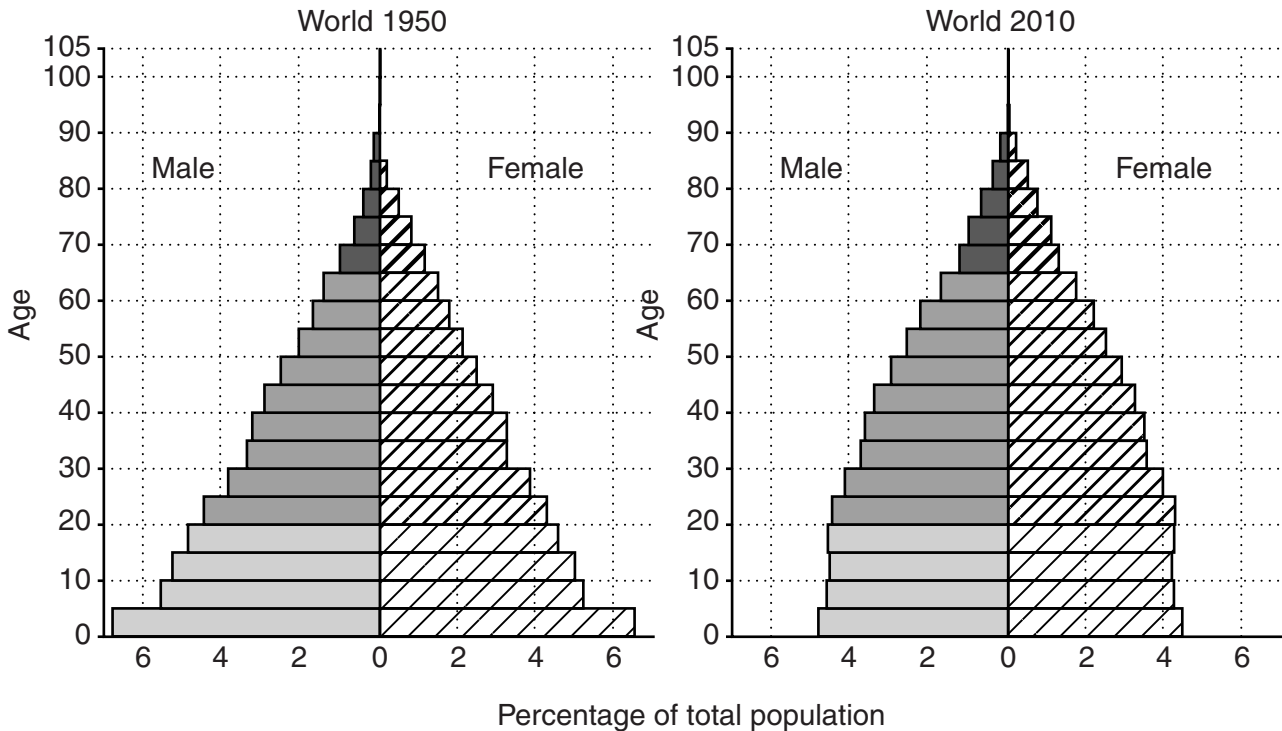
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This document consists of **3** printed pages, **1** blank page and **1** insert.

## Section A: Theory and methods

1

Population by age groups and sex (percentage of total population)



Source A

Data found at:

[http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/population-pyramids/population-pyramids\\_percentage.htm](http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/population-pyramids/population-pyramids_percentage.htm)

- (a) From the evidence in Source A, identify **two** trends in population growth since 1950. [2]
- (b) Identify **two** methods that could be used to collect population data. [2]
- (c) Using information from Source A, describe **two** reasons why quantitative data can be used to make generalisations. [4]
- (d) Describe **two** strengths of using field experiments in sociological research. [4]
- (e) Describe **two** strengths and **two** limitations of using primary data in sociological research. [8]
- (f) Explain why quantitative research methods are thought to be more reliable than qualitative research methods. [10]
- (g) To what extent should sociological research be scientific? [15]

### Section B: Culture, identity and socialisation

- 2 Gender identity is not only formed in early childhood during primary socialisation but also shaped by the peer group, school and work place.
- (a) What is meant by 'identity'? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** ways in which gender identity can be reinforced. [4]
  - (c) Explain how the peer group contributes to secondary socialisation. [6]
  - (d) Explain why inadequate socialisation can be a problem for society. [8]
  - (e) To what extent is human behaviour learned through the processes of socialisation? [15]

### Section C: Social inequality

- 3 Gender is one form of social stratification where a person's status is ascribed, not achieved. Those who do not have high status or power in society may suffer from discrimination and poor life chances. Some feminists claim that patriarchy exists in most societies and this leads to discrimination against women.
- (a) What is meant by 'achieved status'? [2]
  - (b) Describe **two** forms of social stratification other than gender. [4]
  - (c) Explain how people born with higher ascribed status can have better life chances than other social groups. [6]
  - (d) Explain why lack of power may lead to discrimination. [8]
  - (e) To what extent is patriarchy still a major feature of modern industrial society? [15]

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