

## Example Candidate Responses – Paper 2

# Cambridge International AS & A Level Sociology 9699

For examination from 2021



Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2021 v1

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of the Cambridge University Press & Assessment. Cambridge University Press & Assessment is a department of the University of Cambridge.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment retains the copyright on all its publications. Registered centres are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use. However, we cannot give permission to centres to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within a centre.

---

# Contents

---

Introduction.....	4
Question 1.....	6
Example Candidate Response – high.....	6
Example Candidate Response – middle.....	7
Example Candidate Response – low.....	7
Question 2(a).....	8
Example Candidate Response – high.....	8
Example Candidate Response – middle.....	9
Example Candidate Response – low.....	10
Question 2(b).....	12
Example Candidate Response – high.....	12
Example Candidate Response – middle.....	13
Example Candidate Response – low.....	14
Question 3(a).....	15
Example Candidate Response – high.....	15
Example Candidate Response – middle.....	16
Example Candidate Response – low.....	17
Question 3(b).....	18
Example Candidate Response – high.....	18
Example Candidate Response – middle.....	19
Example Candidate Response – low.....	19
Question 5.....	20
Example Candidate Response – high.....	20
Example Candidate Response – middle.....	24
Example Candidate Response – low.....	27

---

## Introduction

---

The main aim of this booklet is to exemplify standards for those teaching Cambridge International AS & A Level Sociology 9699, and to show how different levels of candidates' performance (high, middle and low) relate to the subject's curriculum and assessment objectives.

In this booklet, candidate responses have been chosen from the June 2021 series to exemplify a range of answers.

For each question, the response is annotated with a clear explanation of where and why marks were awarded or omitted. This is followed by examiner comments on how the answer could have been improved. In this way, it is possible for you to understand what candidates have done to gain their marks and what they could do to improve their answers. There is also a list of common mistakes candidates made in their answers for each question.

This document provides illustrative examples of candidate work with examiner commentary. These help teachers to assess the standard required to achieve marks beyond the guidance of the mark scheme. Therefore, in some circumstances, such as where exact answers are required, there will not be much comment.

The questions and mark schemes used here are available to download from the School Support Hub. These files are:

**9699 June 2021 Question Paper 23**

**9699 June 2021 Mark Scheme 23**

Past exam resources and other teaching and learning resources are available on the School Support Hub:

[www.cambridgeinternational.org/support](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/support)

## How to use this booklet

This booklet goes through the paper one question at a time, showing you the high- and middle-level response for each question. The candidate answers are set in a table. In the left-hand column are the candidate answers, and in the right-hand column are the examiner comments.

Example Candidate Response – high	Examiner comments
<p>Q1.</p> <p>The state may influence the type of family formed by designing policies such as tax allowance to married couples. This policy may encourage more people to marry because they can get financial benefit from it. Another example is the Divorce Act in 1969 which introduced "no fault" divorce, making divorce easier. Therefore influencing family as people can easily choose to divorce and no longer remain in their nuclear family.</p> <p>The state also influence family's functions. In the industrial</p>	<p>1 The first way is identified.</p> <p>2 The candidate goes on to explain / develop their point.</p> <p>3 The second way is identified.</p> <p>4 The second way is adequately explained / developed.</p>
<p><b>Answers</b> are by real candidates in exam conditions. These show you the types of answers for each level. Discuss and analyse the answers with your learners in the classroom to improve their skills.</p>	<p><b>Examiner comments</b> are alongside the answers. These explain where and why marks were awarded. This helps you to interpret the standard of Cambridge exams so you can help your learners to refine their exam technique.</p>

## How the candidate could have improved their answer

The candidate could have saved time by not providing an additional unnecessary point.

This section explains how the candidate could have improved each answer. This helps you to interpret the standard of Cambridge exams and helps your learners to refine their exam technique.

## Common mistakes candidates made in this answer

- Identifying a way / point but then not describing it for the additional mark.
- Not providing two points as required.
- Providing lengthy unnecessary introductions.
- Not making each point clearly identifiable. Candidates should bullet / number each point.
- Identifying more points than are required.

Often candidates were not awarded marks because they misread or misinterpreted the questions.

Lists the common mistakes candidates made in answering each question. This will help your learners to avoid these mistakes and give them the best chance of achieving the available marks.

## Question 1

### Example Candidate Response – high

### Examiner comments

Q1.	The state may influence the type of family formed by designing policies such as tax allowance to married couples. This policy may encourage more people to marry because they can get financial benefit from it. Another example is the Divorce Act in 1969 which introduced "no fault" divorce, making divorce easier. Therefore, influencing family as people can easily choose to divorce and no longer remain in nuclear family.
	The state also influence family's functions. In the industrialised society, government set up health care systems to take care of the health of people. However, in pre-industrialised society, the role of taking care of members of extended family is was the role one of the roles of extended family. In this case, family has been influenced by state on the roles that family perform.

- 1 The first way is identified.
- 2 The candidate goes on to explain / develop their point.
- 3 The second way is identified.
- 4 The second way is adequately explained / developed.
- 5 An additional point is made that is not required and thus is not awarded as full marks are already awarded.

**Total mark awarded = 4 out of 4**

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

The candidate could have saved time by not providing an additional unnecessary point.

Example Candidate Response – middle		Examiner comments
1	1	<p>one way is through the 'one child china' policy, whereby the government will give rewards to the family who only has one children or make the family to pay the government if they have more children. The other one would be in singapore where they hang up posters to convince them to have more children.</p>
	2	<p>The 'One child China policy' is identified as one way, with relevant explanation, i.e. 'give rewards to family...'. The second point is not awarded as it is a repetition of the first.</p> <p><b>Total mark awarded = 2 out of 4</b></p>

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

The response needed a second relevant way identified and then explained / developed to achieve the further 2 marks available.

Example Candidate Response – low		Examiner comments
1	1	<p>The state may influence families in two ways. The first one is the law of the state. Some family types cannot exist because of the law of the state. The second one is the religion of the state. Many types of families are influenced by religious thoughts in many parts of the world.</p>
		<p>The benefit of the doubt is given to 'some family types cannot exist because of the law' as no explanation is given. The reference to religion is too vague.</p> <p><b>Total mark awarded = 1 out of 4</b></p>

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

- The candidate needed to provide a relevant explanation of the identified way.
- The response needed a relevant second way identified and developed.

### Common mistakes candidates made in this question

- Identifying a way but then not describing it for the additional mark.
- Not providing two points as required.
- Providing lengthy unnecessary introductions.
- Not making each point clearly identifiable. Candidates should bullet or number each point.
- Identifying more points than the question required.

## Question 2(a)

Example Candidate Response – high		Examiner comments
<p>② Ca)</p> <p>① feminists is by doing emotion work. According to Frans Fran Ansley,</p> <p>③ a Marxist feminist, women are like sponges absorbing the emotional</p> <p>④ for frustration of men as they are seemingly powerless in a capitalist world and are not able to withdraw their labour. She uses the term takers-of</p> <p>⑤ suit to describe how women serves the benefits and interests of men by doing all these <del>un</del> unpaid emotion work. Another way the family</p> <p>⑥ supports the interests of men is through unpaid domestic labour. According to <del>Delphy and Leonard</del> many feminists such as Delphy and Leonard, the</p> <p>⑦ position of women at home is like the proletariat whereas men are like the bourgeoisie. Their domestic labour and responsibilities like rearing and feeding children and also the maintenance and well being of their husbands are unpaid and their contribution to the economy are all <del>un</del> unrecognised.</p> <p>⑧ Men women are expected to carry out these traditional roles and men return home with food prepared and carry out none of the domestic tasks. This clearly benefits men as they have the upper hand <del>are</del> and are seen as the head at home.</p> <p>⑨</p>	<p>① The candidate provides the first relevant way 'women do the emotion work'.</p> <p>② The candidate references relevant sociological material here.</p> <p>③ The candidate applies material in support of the way identified.</p> <p>④ The candidate provides a suitable explanation for this point.</p> <p>⑤ The candidate explains a second way.</p> <p>⑥ The candidate references relevant sociological material.</p> <p>⑦ The candidate applies material in support of the way identified.</p> <p>⑧ The candidate identifies a second way.</p> <p>⑨ The candidate's response identifies two correct ways, and each way contains all elements required to gain full marks</p> <p><b>Total mark awarded = 8 out of 8</b></p>	

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

Some repetition could have been avoided with full marks still being attained. However, the candidate may not have saved much time by pausing their flow to try to be more concise.



### Example Candidate Response – middle

### Examiner comments

2	a	The family supports the interests of men because it is another means to transmit patriarchal values and exploit women. This means that women are seen as inferior and is dominated by the men in the family. For example, women are seen as men's slave by doing domestic activities and provides "57 varieties of services". To add, a research from Bernard found that women are stereotyped in the family. They are seen as "good wives" when they obey their husbands and seen as "bossy" or "demanding" when they don't. This shows that the family supports women's inferior position as they prioritised men's interests. According to Feminists, Leonard and Delphy states that women are at a disadvantage due to them providing '57 varieties of services' for men. Thus, women's inferiority and male dominance adds on to why the family supports the interest of men.
		Secondly, the family supports the interest of men as it deteriorates women's health just by submitting to men. This means that women are not prioritised and seen as only a walking domestic service. For example, women faced

- 1 The candidate identifies the first point (transmits patriarchy).
- 2 The candidate explains a second way.
- 3 The candidate references relevant sociological material.
- 4 The candidate identifies how the material supports the way.

2	a	triple burden in which they have to take care of their domestic work, economic activity and psychological part of themselves when taking care of the family especially the husbands. This shows that women are oppressed due to the gender inequality in the family. A research by Oakley found no evidence to support the symmetrical thesis of the family as among 40 married women experienced oppression and exploitation from their husbands. According to Feminists, Duncombe and Marsden states that marriage is bad for women as they face triple burden. Hence, women's oppression and their health not being prioritised explains why the family supports the interests of men.
---	---	---

- 5 The candidate states a second way 'taking care of family especially the husbands'.
- 6 The candidate's answer focuses on women's oppression rather than on how men's interests are supported.

**Total mark awarded = 5 out of 8**

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

- The candidate needed to use a similar approach in the second point; the approach they had taken within the first as the first point achieved all 4 marks.
- The second point needed explaining, then relevant sociological material applied to support the point.
- Within the second point, the error the candidate made was that their response focused on how women are oppressed. What the candidate needed to do was explicitly link this material to how the family supports men's interests, as required by the question.

Example Candidate Response – low

Examiner comments

2.	a)	<p>According to the feminists, the ways of family is supporting the interests of men, this is because despite what is said about the natural order of males being socialise and understand and the law of learning the ways of 'natural skills' and females being naturally thought to fit into the role of 'expressive skills' that will cost them somewhere. At a certain point this process of socialisation is somewhat the best way to create a harmonious and <del>united</del> <sup>put-together</sup> family. Without a doubt feminism would listed out tensions as why family supports the interests of men. This is because women are known to be oppressed even before having a family and this 'natural order' way of primary socialisation is allowing the oppression of women without them having the opportunity to build their own identity, identity in terms of what they want to associate themselves with and not just the prescribe qualities they are told to associate with such as knowing how to take care of children, being able to do house chores extraordinarily and so much more home based techniques. This shows how much being a family means supporting the interest more so of the men and conjugal roles they will soon be associated with.</p>
	2	<p>Moreover, the feminists argued that ways of the family is supporting the interest of men is because since the starting point of our childhood, the males primary socialisation that started at some is to learn to be the 'breadwinners' of the family and that includes having the choice to choose their prescribe status for themselves and explore their interests</p>
	3	<p>in life from the very beginning. On the other hand, like the point mentioned in previous paragraph, women are told and pushed the idea of learning home based techniques such as being able to do heavy cleaning, taking care of children and kitchen work. This idea limits the females from further examining their interest in life. They were not given the chance to explore what they are interested in, in life at first. Most females have to wait until their phase of adulthood until they can presume with their ascribe qualifications although with that they are still burdened or heavily dragged down with the pressure and task of holding the responsibility of keeping their home in check, which leads to women tend to giving up on their hopes and dreams, and just built</p>
	4	<p>a better life for their kids and supporting their economic supporting system (husbands). Hence, this shows how family ways are predominantly support the interests of men more so than women.</p>

1 This first paragraph is irrelevant and too vague, with some focus on how women are affected rather than how men's interests are supported, and subsequently has no awardable material.

2 The candidate identifies the first relevant way.

3 This focuses on the life/ limitations of the woman rather than on how the interests of men are supported and is therefore irrelevant.

4 The candidate identifies the second way as a benefit of the doubt, with 'supporting the economic supporting system (husband)'.

Total mark awarded = 2 out of 8

## How the candidate could have improved their answer

- The candidate identified two relevant ways. However, to improve, they needed to explain relevant sociological material used (e.g. concepts or case studies) and then give an explanation to show how this material supported the point made.
- The response needed to focus clearly on how men's interests are supported, rather than on how women may be suppressed and be more closely linked to the question that was set.

## Common mistakes candidates made in this question

- Not focusing on the question set.
- Not using sociological material to support the point/s made.
- Giving more than two points.
- Using different theoretical perspectives than that required or cited in the question.

## Question 2(b)

Example Candidate Response – high	Examiner comments
<p>(b) One of the limitations of radical feminist views of the family is that it ignores <del>other factors</del> the increasing diversity of family. In a postmodernist world, there are great choices for women to decide how their familial arrangements and lifestyle can be like. The subordination of <del>women is assumed</del> and exploitation of women are assumed. To fall under the monogamous nuclear family. In households like a lesbian household, there is greater equality and the relationship is more democratic and egalitarian due to their similar sexes and also shared roles. The diversity of family also means that women are given more opportunities to leave a relationship that does not benefit them and are given more chances in paid employment. This is because radical feminists only see <del>another</del> <del>view</del>.</p> <p>Radical feminists view the family as a source of exploitation due to their unpaid domestic labour and the dependence of women on men due to the power imbalance between them. However, they fail to explain the reason why women today still choose to get married and have a family. It is clear that even today, family is something a woman greatly yearns for.</p>	<p>1 The candidate identifies a limitation.</p> <p>2 The candidate explains why radical feminists have this as a limitation.</p> <p>3 The candidate explains why it is a limitation.</p> <p>4 The candidate explains why radical feminists have this as a limitation.</p> <p>5 The candidate identifies a limitation.</p> <p>6 The candidate explains why it is a limitation.</p> <p>7 The candidate's response clearly identifies each limitation through the use of words such as 'It ignores.... / It fails...'. <b>Total mark awarded = 6 out of 6</b></p>

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

Some repetition could have been avoided with full marks still being attained. However, the candidate may not have saved much time by pausing their flow to try to be more concise.

## Example Candidate Response – middle

## Examiner comments

2	b	The family does not support men's interests because the family is going towards 'partnership of equals'. This is also known as the symmetrical family which the traditional roles, men as the breadwinner and female as domestic worker is breaking down. For example, both the husbands and wife share the same task like paying rent and paying their children's school fees. According to Functionalist, Wilmoth and Yang emphasises how the family is going towards equality. Thus, the symmetrical family shows that the family does not supports the interests of men.
		The family does not support the interests of men because women and their position are getting the recognition they needed. This means that women's position are levelled as men. They also have their own rights and opinion in the family. For example, women do domestic work because they want to and not necessarily being exploited by men. They also have a high position if they are not happy with their
2	b	husband thus can take the first steps in terminating it. According to liberal Feminists, Catherine Hakim criticised radical feminists as they exaggerate women's inferior position because women are powerful. Hence, women's levelled position with men <del>does not</del> shows the limitation of radical feminist views.

- 1 The candidate is awarded benefit of doubt mark for this limitation. The candidate doesn't explicitly state 'A limitation of...' however, they imply that radical feminists have the belief that the family supports men's interests.
  - 2 The candidate gives an explanation of why it is a limitation.
  - 3 The candidate provides an explanation of why it is a limitation.
  - 4 The candidate identifies a second limitation, but needs to explain why it is a limitation.
- Total mark awarded = 4 out of 6**

## How the candidate could have improved their answer

- The candidate could have made their first limitation more explicit to remove any doubt over the point made.
- For each limitation, the response needed to explain why radical feminism has this as a limitation, i.e. what is it about the approach that leads to having this limitation?

## Example Candidate Response – low

## Examiner comments

2	b)	<p>Two limitations of radical feminist views of the family is that, unlike liberal feminist that wants equal treatment for both genders they wanted to gain power for as women individually. To relate this back to family; radical feminist overly explained how women can grow a family independantly without having any male companionship which explained the increase percentage of single mothers, especially in western countries. This is a limitation as men do have and serve purpose in a family. Moreover, radical feminist views family as an image of object that brings you down. They believe that family does not allow you to thrive successfully especially for women (due to inequality). This can be shown statistically in terms of women that decided to focus on career and work (unmarried) than to start a family. This can be seen as a limitation as family, despite its negative attributes comes with a lot of positive attributes as well, because they can not only provide you with financial support to built your own career and success but can give you free mental support as well, somewhere an individual can go straight too in times of need. Both of these points proves how much a radical feminist views towards families has lots of flaws and limitations which forgets to consider other factors but the power of rise for women.</p>
---	----	---

1 The response is not focused well to begin with, and it is unclear what the limitation is. It is rather more of a viewpoint.

2 The candidate identifies a relevant limitation.

3 The candidate gives an explanation as to why it is a limitation.

**Total mark awarded = 2 out of 6**

## How the candidate could have improved their answer

- The candidate needed to focus their response on identifying clear limitations. This got a little lost within the first point they were making.
- Where the limitation was clearly identified and it explained why it was a limitation, the candidate needed to explain what it is about radical feminism that leads it to have this limitation. For example: 'It has this limitation because it focuses on the oppression and negative experiences women face in the family due to patriarchy'.

## Common mistakes candidates made in this question

- Candidates not clearly identifying a limitation or strength, rather giving a lengthy preamble and examples.
- Writing about the theoretical position rather than identifying a relevant limitation or strength.
- Not addressing why the theoretical stance has the limitation or strength.

## Question 3(a)

### Example Candidate Response – high

### Examiner comments

3	(a)	<p>Social class is the major influence of family structure as the poorer and lower class are more likely to experience a single-parent family structure suggested by post-modernists. According to <del>Aspinwall</del> Murray, cohabitated mothers or married mothers are likely to be attracted to become single <del>mothers</del> <del>mothers</del> coming from poorer class are very likely to be attracted by generous state welfare to become single motherhood. The state benefit acts like a 'perverse incentive' for the poor mothers and they may develop a 'dependent culture' on the welfare. Moreover, Rector also suggests that lower class mother divorce with their husbands and choose to be a single-mother to claim the state welfare. <del>As</del> This is because they are usually <del>poor</del> in shortage of money <del>and</del> as <del>the</del> lower class and remain unmarried would reduce the money they can claim from the state; hence, they voluntarily change their family arrangements in hope of claiming <del>the</del> more money. Thus, the lower class who are eager to have social welfare will change family structures <del>to</del> through divorce, suggesting that the class they come from is an <del>influential</del> <del>factor</del> <del>of</del> <del>the</del> most significant influence on family structure.</p>
		<p>Besides, marxists' views also encourage the view that social class is the main influence on family structure. Zaretsky hold the idea that proletariats have a structure of nuclear family as <del>deliberately</del> deliberately encouraged and maintained by bourgeoisie. <del>The idea of extended structure of extended family</del> This is owing to the reason that nuclear family acts as a unit of consumption. The ideology of consumerism is passed down generations by generations. Children of working class are told that the true happiness lies in the pursuit of <del>material</del> <del>see</del> material. This encourage them to buy what capitalists produce and distract them from the</p>
		<p>inequality exists between capitalists and workers, <del>at</del> <del>the</del> <del>same</del> <del>time</del> <del>mean</del> <del>time</del> <del>remind</del> <del>to</del> the profitability of capitalists and consolidate and <del>the</del> <del>perpetuate</del> the inequality. <del>the</del> Further to this, the structure of extended <del>is</del> family is discouraged by capitalists as the ideas of extended family including mutual care and collective goals contradicted with the capitalist ideas of selfishness and competition. As a result, the working class have a nuclear family structure, <del>because of the</del> <del>the</del> which indicated that the family structure is mostly influenced by one's 'social class'.</p>

1 The candidate makes the point using relevant sociological material to support and develop the point (for example, Murray and Rector).

2 The candidate expands and engages the point for it to be developed.

3 The candidate makes the second required point here.

4 The candidate expands and supports the point with relevant sociological material (Marxist concepts) to be developed.

5 The point is disagreeing and is supported through reference to Brannen. This is enough to be awarded marks at the top of Level 2.

**Total mark awarded = 10 out of 10**

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

Perhaps the answer could have been given with less elaboration, saving time for later questions.

### Example Candidate Response – middle

### Examiner comments

3	(a)	<p>Social class is the main influence on family structure as it affects the conjugal roles in a family. Young and Willmott suggest that middle class families are more likely to have symmetrical conjugal roles <del>is</del> due to higher education level of the women in gaining economic independence and decision making power in the family. In working class family, there is more likely to be segregated conjugal roles which the male act as the breadwinner and the female takes the expressive role of focusing on taking care of the children and the family housework. This is due to the women's lack of economic independence and thus could be easily exploited by men in a family.</p>
		<p>Another reason why social class is the main influence on family structure is that the age of first marriage is different for different social classes. Bronnen suggests that working class women are more likely to marry earlier and have their first child at an earlier age, so it is very common to see four generations of working class family living in the same period. Thus, a beanpole family structure is common where the great-grandparents take care of the great-grandchildren due to the weak intra-generational link</p>

1 This paragraph is irrelevant as it does not discuss the specifics of the question.

2 The candidate references sociological material.

3 The candidate makes a relevant point and it is supported with sociological material.

**Total mark awarded = 5 out of 10**

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

The candidate needed to focus on the specifics of the question. To improve, the response needed to replicate the approach taken in the second paragraph and make a relevant focused point addressing the question and develop it through the application of sociological material.



### Example Candidate Response – low

### Examiner comments

3.	a.	<p>The powerful social class, Middle class are most likely to have nuclear family. In which they can easily travel or move to another place (geographically mobile).</p> <p>On the other hand, working class family lives in extended family to help each other to survive. Hence, working class family are less geographically mobile as there will be financial problem occurs because of the size of the family.</p> <p>Furthermore, Middle class children are more likely to be successful in school and in life in general. This is because they are taught middle class values that conform to the education system and hence and therefore, they will end up with a high paying job. Middle class children are also rely on their parents (particularly their father) to maintain and promote them to a high paying job. This helps middle class to maintain their family structure.</p> <p>How On the In contrast, working class <sup>children</sup> family are more likely to have a job at early age and drop out of school to help within the family and stay with them. In this family structure is where the 'sandwich generation' exists where the mother takes care of their children as well as their <del>pa</del> old parent. This working class family structure will likely to repeat its pattern because of the lack of financial.</p>
----	----	---

- 1 The candidate identifies a relevant point.
- 2 The candidate identifies another point.
- 3 This paragraph is irrelevant as it is not related to structure, which is what is required here.
- 4 This is a benefit of doubt point as it implies extended family.
- 5 This response has three simple undeveloped points (one of which is benefit of doubt).

**Total mark awarded = 3 out of 10**

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

- Where the candidate made some appropriate attempt to directly address the question set, this was basic and needed to develop these points made. This required the use of relevant sociological material, moving beyond simplistic unsupported statements.
- Additionally, the candidate needed to stay focused on the specifics of the question set and avoid drifting off.

### Common mistakes candidates made in this question

- Only providing one point.
- Not developing the points made using relevant sociological material.
- Providing an evaluation, which was not a requirement of the question.

## Question 3(b)

Example Candidate Response – high	Examiner comments
<p>3. (b) According to Functionalism, the main factor influencing family structure may be the functional need of society. The society is like a biological body, all institutions work together to maintain the work of it. As one of the main institutions, family will always function to help the society function. In this case, the functional needs are essential, as family will adjust to always fit the need. The Fit thesis proposed by Parsons and Goode is a good <del>proof</del> proof. In pre-industrial society, the dominant family structure is extended family, because extended family fits the society <del>is</del> which is land based and labor intensive. Extended family is functional in such society as there are enough labor in such a large family to cooperate to do the farming and land work. When the society evolves to modern industrial society, the functional need for family changes to geographic mobility, so the family structure changes to nuclear family to fit this need — nuclear family allows people to move freely and quickly to follow the factories' labour requirements. In this case, it's clear that family structures change because society needs different</p>	<p>1 The candidate identifies a relevant point against the argument that is made.</p> <p>2 The candidate uses relevant sociological material to support the point made, e.g. fit thesis and reference to Parsons.</p> <p>3 Here, it can be seen that the candidate develops the material provided and engages with the question being asked.</p> <p>4 The point is well supported and engaged with material enough to be considered a developed argument.</p>
<p>4 functions of it, rather than the social class influence it.</p>	<p><b>Total mark awarded = 6 out of 6</b></p>

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

Repetition could have been avoided to save time.

Example Candidate Response – middle	Examiner comments
<p>(b.) However, it can be also argue that life expectancy is the most important influence on family structure. Britain identifies the increase in life expectancy causes <del>the</del> what he calls as 'beanpole family', characterised by four generations living together, including <del>great</del> grandparents and grandchildren. <del>the</del> This combines with low birth rate in modern societies, resulting in wide inter-generational bonds and <del>intervals</del> few <del>few</del> aunt and uncles.</p>	<p>1 This paragraph is irrelevant as it does not discuss the specifics of the question.</p> <p>2 The candidate references sociological material.</p> <p>3 The candidate makes a relevant point and is supported with sociological material.</p> <p><b>Total mark awarded = 4 out of 6</b></p>

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

The candidate needed to do more with the point made, e.g. develop it by explaining in detail why life expectancy leads to the beanpole family, or how and why life expectancy can potentially lead to other family structures, such as singletons.

Example Candidate Response – low	Examiner comments
<p>3. b. <del>According to New Right, social class may not be the main influence on family.</del></p> <p>According to New Right, social class may not be the main influence on family. It may be the Welfare state that provides support and help to a lone parent <del>pa</del> family and hence encouraging them to be in a lone parent family.</p>	<p>1 The candidate makes a relevant point, with one point disagreeing with the view.</p> <p><b>Total mark awarded = 2 out of 6</b></p>

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

The response needed to apply relevant sociological material to engage the point made, developing it beyond a simple point of disagreement.

### Common mistakes candidates made in this question

- Not using sociological material to support (relying on common-sense / general knowledge).
- Making statements and not developing them sufficiently. The question awards a total of 6 marks for one point, thus indicating the level of quality / depth required.
- Providing unnecessary introductions and conclusions, where the question did not require this.

## Question 5

### Example Candidate Response – high

### Examiner comments

5.	<p>Marxist would argue that the role of the family is to enforce capitalist ideology that serves the need of capitalism. In contrary, Functionalist argue that family is based on consensus and mutual agreement, which is both functional and fit for an everchanging economy. Likewise, feminist would argue that family reproduces patriarchal ideologies, while Post modernist and even Interactionist found <del>increase in choice and freedom provided the development of individual achievement.</del> Thus, Marxist explanations of the role of the family, and the counter-argument provided by other perspectives shall be elaborated.</p>
3	<p>Marxist such as Engels argue that ruling class often practiced monogamous nuclear family. This allows ruling class to perform social closure in order to reproduce class inequality and hierarchy, in which ruling class remains the highest strata. <del>(Ruling class)</del> Monogamous <del>nuclear</del> nuclear family also enables ruling class to pass down their wealth to their inheritance, sustaining their wealth, and allowing class reproduction. Thus, through this class reproduction, it <del>also</del> endures that ruling class remain the top strata, and reproduce ruling class ideology which benefit ruling class, keeping the lower classes such as working class in a state of false class consciousness.</p>
6	<p>However, Functionalists argue that the role of family is balanced and functional. Functionalists argue that Marxist, fail to realise that practising nuclear</p>

1 The introduction is just setting up the response and points here are addressed in the body of response.

2 The candidate references sociological material.

3 The candidate makes a relevant point, supported with relevant sociological material (Engels, ruling class ideology, false class consciousness).

4 Throughout this essay, the candidate makes very good reference to relevant sociological material.

5 The candidate sufficiently develops this point.

6 Good examples of relevant sociological material are used.

7 The candidate explicitly evaluates the point above (AO3).

7

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

Examiner comments

	family is beneficial for all its members not just the economy. Murdock <del>asserted</del> <sup>asserted</sup> that out of the 250 societies he had studied, it was nuclear family that fulfilled the four essential functions. Although including the economic function which Marxist <sup>often</sup> emphasise, it also included other functions such as socialisation of young <del>to</del> ; education function. In which Parson, further elaborated, parents acted as 'personality factory' <b>8</b> mould children with the correct norms and values of society. Thus, Functionalist argue that what Marxist fail to realise is that, there are other functions such as education, that family provides, not just economic function, which usually serves the needs of capitalism – <b>9</b> what Marxist argue.
	In addition, <sup>Feminist</sup> Marxist <del>Zaretsky</del> <sup>Zaretsky</sup> argues that <b>10</b> family allows <del>to</del> proletariat men an illusion of control within the family through the idea of being 'king of the castle'. This therefore allows a significant amount of control for <b>11</b> proletariat men, therefore producing obedient workforce, as proletariat men, are unable to achieve a higher level of control at their workplace. Not only that but since Ansley <sup>suggested</sup> <del>argued</del> that women tolerated men's actions, 'takers of shit' as what Ansley refer women, this enabled proletariat men to release their pent up frustration <del>to</del> <del>from</del> and stress from work within the family. Thus, Marxist argue that family enables proletariat men, illusion of control, in order to reproduce conforming workforce, <b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	which serves the need of capitalism.

- 8** The candidate uses further good examples of relevant sociological material.
- 9** The candidate develops the evaluation, applying sociological material to engage the point made.
- 10** Good examples of relevant sociological material are used.
- 11** The candidate makes a second relevant point in support of the question.
- 12** The candidate continues to use relevant sociological material throughout the essay to support their points.
- 13** The candidate develops the point.

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

Examiner comments

	On the other hand, functionalist would argue that family allowed a stable and relaxing environment for <del>the</del> men. Parson argued that family provides 'warm bath theory' where	14
	men are allowed to <del>play</del> a steady ventilation of stressed and strained from their daily work activities, which allows for the <del>stabilisation</del> <sup>stabilisation</sup> of adult personalities. However, unlike Marxists, where <del>Marxist</del> <sup>Zaretsky</sup> argues it gives an illusion of control	15
	for proletarian men, functionalist argues that it allows for a healthy and stable family, which is beneficial for all family member not just men, which therefore differentiated Functionalism from Marxist, as it showcases how family is beneficial for all members.	
	Similarly, Benston argues that family continues to serve the capitalist society, as he argues	16
	that family pays 'two labour for the price of one'. Often times, men are paid more, while women are paid less or hardly at all. Even though women contribute more, men gain the most, which is especially true as women give birth and would have to take care of the children, while men performed their role of breadwinners to serve the needs of capitalism and were often free	17
	to do as they please, after working hours.	
	Althusser also suggests the idea of family acting as ideological state of apparatus, which reinforces the notion of capitalist values such as acceptance to hierarchy as Bowyer and Gintis would.	18

14 Good examples of relevant sociological material are used.

15 The candidate provides an evaluation of the points made.

16 The candidate makes a third relevant point in support of the question.

17 This point needs further development.

18 The candidate makes a further AO1 point supporting the question.

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

Examiner comments

19	emphasise. Thus, Marxist would argue that family reinforces capitalist values by acting as an ideological state of apparatus.
20	Nonetheless, Feminist argue that Marxist overemphasise on <del>capitalist</del> capitalist ideologies and overlooks how family reinforces patriarchal ideology.
21	Radical feminists would argue that family relationships results in further gender exploitation on women. In contrast to what Bowles and Gintis would argue although family reinforces hierarchy, in family it is <del>the</del> <sup>rather than the idea</sup> that men occupies the highest position in both private and public spheres: patriarchal hierarchy, rather than class hierarchy as what Marxist would deliberately argue. Not only that but, family often exacerbates women with housework, work and <del>and</del> even emotional work as what Duncombe and Marsden had initially argued. Likewise, Oakley and Elton's study on doctors help to illustrate how women are performing double shift often leading to dual burden of performing both work and housework. Thus, although both Feminist and Marxist argue that family reinforces ideology, Marxist emphasise on how family reinforces capitalist ideology, while
22	Feminist on patriarchal ideology which further exploits women.
23	In short, Marxist would <del>argue that</del> insinuate that family serves the needs of capitalism through capitalist ideologies such as acceptance to hierarchy. Nevertheless, functionalists would argue that family is balanced and <del>is</del> functional for all
24	family members, while Feminist would argue that family reinforced patriarchal ideology which further establishes gender exploitation on women.

19 This point is underdeveloped, and further explanation is required.

20 The candidate provides a clear and explicit evaluation (AO3).

21 The candidate provides references to sociological material which supports the evaluation.

22 The candidate develops the evaluative point.

23 The candidate is repeating points made previously in the essay.

24 There is further repetition here, earning the candidate no extra marks.

AO1: 7 out of 8  
AO2: 7 out of 8  
AO3: 10 out of 10

**Total marks awarded = 24 out of 26**

How the candidate could have improved their answer

- One of the two underdeveloped points (AO1) needed to be developed more as they were rather brief.
- The repetitious summary at the end could have been replaced with a conclusion that gave some judgement in weighing up the opposing arguments.

### Example Candidate Response – middle

### Examiner comments

5 In Marxist perspective, family serves capital is an institution serving capitalism in a variety of ways. Family serves the interest of the ruling class to help stabilize the proletarian for not to start revolution.

1 Firstly, Althusser proposes that family is an ideological apparatus to convince the masses that capitalism is inevitable and the only way things can work. The media constantly delivering message that is controlled by the ruling class such as consumerism. Because of the nature of capitalism is to let workers make the product and sell to them, therefore the bourgeoisie earning the surplus value of labor, the ruling class has to convince the mass to consume to make the system work.

3 As the media, the literature is all shaped by the ruling class. Inside the family, the socialisation of + Therefore one of the function of family is to a unit of consumption through peer power of children and pressure of neighbors for newest edition of the product.

4 Ideology is also reinforced by the structure of the family. There is an 'Age Hierarchy' within the family suggested by Gintis where the children are socialised into conforming the authority. This is to prepare the children entering the labor market in the future.

5

- 1 The candidate makes a relevant point with some supporting sociological material.
- 2 The candidate references supporting sociological material.
- 3 The candidate references sociological material to support their points.
- 4 This point is underdeveloped. There is a lack of focus, as whilst consumerism is the role of the family and has some explanation, this isn't developed as much as it could be.
- 5 The candidate makes a further relevant but underdeveloped point about the role of the family.



Example Candidate Response – middle, continued

Examiner comments

	Especially in family farm where the young are doing unpaid labor for their father and conform to their father's order. The existence of hierarchy in the family reinforce individuals belief that capitalism is nature.
6	However, this view ignores the free will of individual conforming to capitalist ideology. In some working class culture, the family rejects mainstream ideology and starts their own, such as deviant culture and ignorance of consumerism.
7	Engels believe that nuclear family serves the function of producing legitimate heir. He suggests that before humans are living in 'promiscuous horde' where the bloodline of children cannot be identify. With the emergence of surplus value, the male wants to find his heir for passing down his property, therefore continuing the class differences, reproducing inequality. This is supported by Kathleen Gough who uses the example of chimpanzees to justify the 'promiscuous horde' stated by Engels. As such, family is used to justify bloodline and reproduce inequality.
8	Feminists argues that this view ignores patriarchal exploitation on women and purely setting focus on the capitalist system. Marxist feminist cooper propose ideological conditioning on both patriarchal and capitalist values. Benston suggests that the support of family is a hidden tax for male workers to endure their unsatisfactory work. As such, capitalism benefits from the sex bck of mobility of workers.
9	Moreover, one of the deficiency of Marxist's view is that it is outdated. It does not take account of female's working opportunities and the variety of family structure. In contemporary society children are more protected by state law such as the Child Protection Act and the parents are spending considerable time and energy on them for 'concerted cultivation' of children instead of regarding them as free labor or subservient to them.

6 The candidate needs to further develop this evaluation.

7 The candidate makes a further AO1 point but it is underdeveloped.

8 The candidate attempts to show a juxtaposition in their argument, but this could be developed further in order to be awarded more marks.

9 This paragraph has the counterpoint that Marxist views are outdated then states, 'does not take account of female's working opportunities and the variety of family structure'. These points are not explicitly focused on the role of the family (more general points of family) and are undeveloped. It then provides some challenge to the view that the children are subservient to parents. However, this is not explicitly linked to the point made previously that children are socialised into conformity to authority. Therefore, the juxtaposition is underdeveloped.

## Example Candidate Response – middle, continued

## Examiner comments

The ideology is also challenged in contemporary ~~social~~ society.

10 Giddens and Beck propose the idea of individualism where people are free to choose their identity and what they believe in because of social changes and technological revolution. The family is no longer bounded by so many rules as there are increasing acceptance of divorce and increasing diversity of households. The boundaries between class is also blurring according to Peale. Class distinction is ~~no~~ less important today than the past decades.

In conclusion, Marxist perspective provide a broad view regarding family's function to serve capitalism. However, ~~the role of this~~ view ignores variations between gender <sup>and</sup> ethnicity or different household types and ~~operation~~ <sup>exercise</sup> of patriarchal control over women.

11 Even though the theory is outdated, it could still be used as a valuable source assessing the role of family as it provides a critical view of the relation between family and the economic system.

12

10 The juxtaposition is underdeveloped, and would benefit from a more indepth explanation here.

11 The candidate repeats points that have already been made.

12 This response contains a narrow range of underdeveloped points, with some development of relevant material and some analysis with juxtaposition of different arguments.

AO1: 5 out of 7  
AO2: 4 out of 7  
AO3: 6 out of 10

**Total marks awarded =  
15 out of 26**

## How the candidate could have improved their answer

- The candidate needed to provide more supporting material (AO1), whilst the ones provided needed to be developed beyond explanation, engaging more with the point made.
- Whilst some counterarguments were made (AO3), these were largely juxtaposition rather than explicit evaluation. They were somewhat brief and not always clearly focused on the role of the family.

Example Candidate Response – low

Examiner comments

5	<p>According to <del>Marxist</del> Marxist, the role of the family is only to support supports the interest of higher ruling class as it benefits them more than the lower working class class in a capitalist society.</p>
1	<p>According to Engels, family benefits the bourgeoisie as it helps them to maintain their wealth and power in society where they pass down down their land and inheritance to their true offspring, hence reasons why most bourgeoisie practices a more monogamous nuclear family. Having a monogamous nuclear family ensures the bourgeoisie that they are passing down their wealth to their true offspring. Hence it benefits However this leads to inc inequality in social class as it ensures the bourgeoisie children wealth and power, where as the proletariat remains poor and powerless. Hence <del>family</del> family benefits the bourgeoisie more than the <del>proletariat</del> proletariat in a capitalist society.</p>
2	<p>However, due to changing of <del>policy</del> policies and rising of new policies, there might be a rise in conflict on <del>who</del> who to pass down the inheritance to. For <del>an</del> example, due to the 1969 <del>divorce</del> Divorce Act in industrial society, this might increase a new form of family type, <del>the</del> a reconstituted family. In which there might be a new born in the new family and hence raises conflict between the step children on who the wealth should be passed down to. Hence rising of conflict within the family due to wealth <del>inheritance</del> inheritance might occur.</p>
3	<p>Another Marxist explains how the family support interest of the capitalist society and interest of <del>men</del> men. According to Zaretsky, he talks about <del>the</del> the cushioning effect, in which the family provides comfort for the alienated worker in the family, the <del>for</del> husband. This comfort in the family helps to stabilize the adult personalities of the men and in return helps them to</p>

- 1 The candidate makes a relevant point with some relevant sociological material used to support it, e.g. Engels, bourgeoisie, proletariat.
- 2 Here, the point moves beyond a simple statement, however, there is some repetition and some lack of focus towards the end, so it is underdeveloped.
- 3 This paragraph contains irrelevant material.
- 4 The candidate makes a second relevant point with the use of Zaretsky as the supporting sociological material.

Example Candidate Response – low, continued	Examiner comments
<p>5 continue on working and being exploited and alienated in the workforce. As they have to keep on working and selling their labour to the bourgeoisie and in return are given wage to support their family's finance. Hence, this shows that the family supports the interest of men and the means of production, bourgeoisie.</p>	<p>5 Here, the candidate's response moves beyond the simple point made, but it is not developed enough.</p>
<p>6 Marxist also conclude that the family is a basic unit of consumption, in which this helps the bourgeoisie to gain profit from the family spending money and buying their production for their family. This in turn makes the bourgeoisie to exploit the proletariat more to produce more products, for their benefit. Hence, benefits to</p>	<p>6 The candidate makes a third relevant point, but it is too simplistic and does not contain enough depth or explanation. Further development is required.</p>
<p>7 According to Althusser, family socializes children in to be new generation of obedient workers in the workforce by socializing them through the ideological state apparatus apparatus. This ideological state apparatus helps to create obedient set of new workers for the bourgeoisie to exploit. Hence it is in the favour of the ruling class more.</p>	<p>7 The candidate makes a fourth relevant point. While it contains reference to some relevant sociological material, it does not move beyond being a statement as it lacks explanation (and has repetition) so is undeveloped.</p>
<p>In conclusion, according to Marxist sociologist, the role of the family is in the interest of the ruling class more than the working class in a capitalist society.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>8 The candidate's response contains a narrow range of underdeveloped points (AO1), with some relevant material (lacking development) (AO2) which is required in this type of question. However, it has no assessment / evaluation (AO3). There is some irrelevance and repetition.</p> <p>AO1: 5 out of 8 AO2: 4 out of 8 AO3: 0 out of 10</p> <p><b>Total mark awarded = 9 out of 26</b></p>

### How the candidate could have improved their answer

- The most noticeable way for the candidate to improve this response is by providing an assessment / evaluation; examining counterarguments (AO3) which is a requirement of essays on this unit.
- Where the candidate provided supporting material (AO1), this needed to be developed to move beyond simple information, engaging more with the point made. The sociological material referenced needed to be relevant and clearly focused on the question set (AO2).

### Common mistakes candidates made in this question

- Providing a one-sided argument only.
- Not using relevant sociological material to support points made.
- Not reflecting the question set.
- Juxtaposing points to counter claims made in question rather than explicit evaluation.
- Not providing a sufficient number of points or writing responses that are too short.

Cambridge Assessment International Education  
The Triangle Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge, CB2 8EA, United Kingdom  
t: +44 1223 553554  
e: [info@cambridgeinternational.org](mailto:info@cambridgeinternational.org) [www.cambridgeinternational.org](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org)

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2021 v1