



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

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**SOCIOLOGY**

**9699/01**

Paper 1 The Family

**For Examination from 2014**

SPECIMEN PAPER

**1 hour 30 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

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 **2** printed pages.



### Section A

Answer this question.

- 1 Functionalists argue that the family is a universal feature of all societies. They see the family as one of the sub-systems of society that help to ensure society's harmony and the achievement of shared goals through providing *basic and irreducible functions*. In this way the functionalist view is that the family is beneficial both for society and for all family members.

Marxists view society as based on unequal conflict between social classes based on their relationship to the means of production. They argue that the institutions of society, such as the family, help to maintain this inequality. Thus Marxists claim that functions of the family are performed for the benefit of the capitalist system.

This contrasts with the functionalist view that society is based on value consensus.

Many feminists regard the family from a patriarchal perspective, believing that the family benefits men more than women.

- (a) What is meant by the term *basic and irreducible functions*? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** ways in which the existence of family structures may benefit capitalism. [4]
- (c) Explain how the family may contribute to value consensus. [8]
- (d) Assess the view that the family exists more to benefit society rather than individual family members. [11]

### Section B

Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

- 2 'Marriage has less importance in modern industrial societies than it has in traditional societies.' Explain and assess this view. [25]
- 3 Explain and assess the view that in modern industrial societies family structures are becoming increasingly similar. [25]

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