2.3 The Personal Life Perspective and Late Modern Family Diversity: 10-minute Pack

AQA 7192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. For at least five questions you must write full sentences. Spend about 10 minutes on this pack.

1 Explain two limitations or criticisms made of the personal life perspective when applied to family research and policy.

(Total for Question 1 is 4 marks)

2 State one way in which Janet Finch's idea of 'displaying families' might help people in minority family forms gain social recognition.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Define what sociologists mean by the term 'family practices' in the context of David Morgan's work on families.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.3 The Personal Life Perspective and Late Modern Family Diversity: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies one limitation, e.g. it may underplay structural influences like economic class or patriarchy **B1**

develops this, e.g. critics say focusing on meanings can obscure how power and inequality shape choices **B1**

identifies second limitation, e.g. it can be hard to generalise from detailed qualitative studies to wider populations **B1**

develops this, e.g. this limits the perspective's usefulness for forming broad public policy **B1**

Answer: Limitations include underplaying structural factors such as class or patriarchy, since focusing on meanings can obscure how power shapes choices, and difficulty generalising from detailed qualitative work, which limits usefulness for broad policy-making.

Question 2

identifies a way, e.g. deliberate public displays like inviting friends to events or showing family photos to claim family status **B1**

brief development, e.g. this can reduce stigma and make their relationships visible and understood by others **B1**

Answer: By deliberately presenting relationships through public displays, such as inviting friends to family events or showing photographs, people in minority family forms can claim family status and reduce stigma by making their relationships visible and understood.

Question 3

identifies family practices as routine, everyday activities and interactions that create family relationships (oe) **B1**

development, e.g. these practices are how people 'do' family rather than being fixed roles or structures **B1**

Answer: Family practices are the routine, everyday activities and interactions through which people create and sustain family relationships; they are how people 'do' family rather than fixed roles or structures.

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