5.1 Formal and Informal Social Control: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Use sociological vocabulary and give clear examples where asked.

1 Which of the following would sociologists usually describe as an agent of informal, rather than formal, social control?

- ☐ A) The police
- ☐ B) A school's peer group
- ☐ C) The Crown Prosecution Service
- ☐ D) A prison

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

---

2 Formal and informal agencies both use sanctions to encourage conformity.

(a) State one formal sanction a court could use for a criminal offence. **(2)**

(b) State one informal sanction a community might use for deviant, non-criminal behaviour. **(2)**

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk

3 Norms are the everyday building blocks of social order. Define norms.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

4 Explain one reason why what counts as deviant behaviour can change over time.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk

Mark scheme · 5.1 Formal and Informal Social Control: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

B (a school's peer group) **B1**

Answer: B

Question 2

(a) names a genuine sanction, e.g. a fine, a prison sentence or a community order **B1**

(a) brief accurate description **B1**

(a) Answer: A fine: the court orders the offender to pay a set sum of money as a punishment.

(b) names a genuine informal sanction, e.g. gossip, social exclusion or disapproving looks **B1**

(b) brief accurate description **B1**

(b) Answer: Gossip or disapproval: members of a community might talk about or openly disapprove of someone's behaviour, without any legal penalty.

Question 3

a specific, generally accepted standard of behaviour within a particular social group or situation (oe) **B1**

a correct example, e.g. queuing in an orderly line at a bus stop **B1**

Answer: A specific, generally accepted standard of behaviour within a particular social group or situation; for example, queuing in an orderly line at a bus stop.

Question 4

identifies that social attitudes and norms themselves can change over time **B1**

a correct example, e.g. openly discussing mental health in the UK was once unusual but is now much more widely accepted **B1**

Answer: Social attitudes and norms change over time; for example, openly discussing mental health in the UK was once unusual but is now widely accepted, showing how the boundary of what counts as deviant can shift.

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk