4.6 Streaming, Setting and Pupil Subcultures: Test Pack

AQA 8192 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Use sociological vocabulary and name sociologists where you can.

1 Stephen Ball's study of banding at 'Beachside Comprehensive' found pupils placed in the top band were disproportionately from which background?

- ☐ A) Middle-class backgrounds
- ☐ B) Working-class backgrounds
- ☐ C) Backgrounds were evenly spread with no pattern
- ☐ D) Only pupils with siblings already at the school

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

---

2 Sociologists use the term 'anti-school subculture' (or 'counter-school culture') to describe the opposite pupil response. Define anti-school subculture.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

---

3 State one alternative to streaming or setting that some UK schools use, and one reason a school might choose it.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

---

4 Explain one similarity between Ball's study of banding and Lacey's study of streaming.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk

5 The sociologist Stephen Ball studied a comprehensive school he called 'Beachside Comprehensive'.

(a) Explain what Ball's study investigated. **(2)**

(b) Explain one of Ball's findings about the effect of banding. **(2)**

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

---

6 State one criticism that is often made of Lacey's differentiation-polarisation model.

(Total for Question 6 is 2 marks)

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk

Mark scheme · 4.6 Streaming, Setting and Pupil Subcultures: Test Pack

Question 1

A (middle-class backgrounds) **B1**

Answer: A

Question 2

a group of pupils who reject the school's values and goals, e.g. by disrupting lessons or mocking pupils who work hard (oe) **B1**

development, e.g. often associated by Lacey with pupils placed in lower streams, and studied in depth by Willis **B1**

Answer: A group of pupils who reject the school's values and goals, e.g. by disrupting lessons or mocking pupils who work hard; Lacey often associated this with lower streams, and Willis studied it in depth.

Question 3

identifies a genuine alternative, e.g. mixed-ability teaching, where pupils of different abilities are taught together in the same class **B1**

brief accurate reason, e.g. to avoid the self-fulfilling prophecy and subculture effects linked to streaming, or to allow pupils to learn from and support one another **B1**

Answer: Mixed-ability teaching, where pupils of different abilities are taught together, is sometimes used to avoid the self-fulfilling prophecy and subculture effects linked to streaming, and to let pupils support one another.

Question 4

identifies a genuine similarity, e.g. both studies show that a school's own organisation, not just pupils' individual ability, helps shape achievement and pupil identity **B1**

development, e.g. both were based on close, in-depth research within a real UK secondary school rather than survey data alone **B1**

Answer: Both studies show that a school's own organisation, not just individual ability, shapes achievement and pupil identity, and both were based on close, in-depth research within a real UK secondary school.

Question 5

(a) identifies Ball studied a comprehensive school that grouped new pupils into bands based on ability soon after they arrived **B1**

(a) development, e.g. he then followed pupils over time to see the effect of this banding on their experience and achievement **B1**

(a) Answer: Ball studied a comprehensive school that banded new pupils by ability soon after arrival, and followed pupils over time to see the effect of this banding.

(b) finding, e.g. Ball found teachers tended to treat top-band pupils differently, for example with a faster pace and higher expectations **B1**

(b) development, e.g. this could reinforce the initial banding decision over time, an example of a self-fulfilling prophecy **B1**

(b) Answer: Ball found teachers tended to treat top-band pupils with a faster pace and higher expectations, which could reinforce the original banding decision over time, an example of a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Question 6

identifies a recognised criticism, e.g. it can oversimplify pupil responses into only two poles, when researchers such as Woods show a wider range of pupil adaptations exists **B1**

brief development **B1**

Answer: Lacey's model can oversimplify pupil responses into only two poles, when Woods and others show a wider range of adaptations, such as ritualism and retreatism, actually exists.

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk