3.12 Reconstituted Families: Step-Parenting and Blended Family Life: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. For two extended questions (the 8-mark and 12-mark) write in full sentences. Use sociological terms and, where asked, refer to the short Item provided.

1 Using Item A above, explain one advantage and one disadvantage to the children of having a reconstituted family where both new partners work full time.

(Total for Question 1 is 4 marks)

2 Give one example of how public services, such as schools or health services, may need to adapt their records or practice to support reconstituted families in Britain today.

(Total for Question 2 is 3 marks)

3 State one research method sociologists might use to study everyday relationships in reconstituted families and one advantage of that method.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.12 Reconstituted Families: Step-Parenting and Blended Family Life: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies an advantage, e.g. more household income available	**B1**
develops the advantage, e.g. better finances can mean more resources, activities and material security for the children	**B1**
identifies a disadvantage, e.g. less adult time available for childcare and emotional support	**B1**
develops the disadvantage, e.g. children may feel less supported, have less time to bond with step-parents and depend more on external childcare	**B1**

Answer: An advantage is more household income, which can provide more resources, activities and material security; a disadvantage is less adult time for childcare and emotional support, which may reduce bonding with step-parents and increase reliance on external childcare.

Question 2

identifies an example, e.g. schools recording multiple parental contacts and legal responsibilities	**B1**
develops the example, e.g. ensuring both biological and step-parents can be contacted in an emergency or invited to meetings where appropriate	**B1**
further development, e.g. noting the need to respect confidentiality or legal custody arrangements	**B1**

Answer: One example is schools recording multiple parental contacts and legal responsibilities, ensuring both biological and step-parents can be contacted in an emergency or invited to meetings as appropriate, while respecting confidentiality and custody arrangements.

Question 3

identifies a method, e.g. qualitative interviews with family members	**B1**
gives an advantage, e.g. produces detailed, in-depth accounts of feelings and role negotiations that quantitative data might miss	**B1**

Answer: A method is qualitative interviews with family members, and an advantage is they produce detailed, in-depth accounts of feelings and role negotiation that quantitative data might miss.

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