6.3 Poverty and Wealth: Test Pack

AQA 8192 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Show your understanding by using sociological vocabulary and, where asked, your own examples.

1 Which term describes not having enough income to afford the minimum needed for physical survival, such as food, clothing and shelter?

- ☐ A) Relative poverty
- ☐ B) Absolute poverty
- ☐ C) Wealth inequality
- ☐ D) Social exclusion

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Explain one way poverty can affect a child's educational life chances.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 State one strength of Townsend's relative approach to measuring poverty.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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4 Define the term 'relative poverty'.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

5 Explain the difference between poverty and wealth inequality.

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 6.3 Poverty and Wealth: Test Pack

Question 1

B (absolute poverty) **B1**

Answer: B

Question 2

identifies, e.g. a household in poverty may struggle to afford school trips, equipment or a quiet space to study **B1**

development, e.g. this can put a child at a disadvantage in some aspects of school life, though it does not determine their ability or effort **B1**

Answer: A household in poverty may struggle to afford school trips, equipment or a quiet study space, which can be a disadvantage in some aspects of school life without determining ability or effort.

Question 3

identifies a genuine strength, e.g. it reflects that being unable to participate in normal social life, such as affording a child's school trip, is a genuine form of disadvantage, not just a lack of basic survival needs **B1**

brief development **B1**

Answer: Townsend's relative approach reflects that being unable to participate in normal social life is a genuine form of disadvantage, not just a lack of basic survival needs.

Question 4

identifies relative poverty as lacking the income or resources needed to reach the standard of living considered normal or customary in the society a person lives in (oe) **B1**

development, e.g. this means the poverty line can differ between societies and change over time, unlike absolute poverty **B1**

Answer: Relative poverty is lacking the income or resources needed to reach the standard of living considered normal in the society a person lives in, so the poverty line can differ between societies and change over time.

Question 5

identifies poverty as lacking sufficient resources to meet a minimum (absolute) or socially expected (relative) standard of living **B1**

identifies wealth inequality as the unequal distribution of assets, such as property, savings and investments, across society, which can exist even among people who are not in poverty **B1**

development, e.g. a society could have low absolute poverty but still have very unequal wealth if assets are concentrated among a small group **B1**

further development, e.g. sociologists study both because they capture different aspects of economic inequality **B1**

Answer: Poverty is lacking sufficient resources to meet a minimum or socially expected standard of living; wealth inequality is the unequal distribution of assets across society, which can exist even without widespread poverty.

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