6.6 Inequality by Gender, Ethnicity and Age: 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 a system of social structures and practices in which men as a group hold more power, authority or advantage than women as a group, as identified by feminist sociologists such as Sylvia Walby?

- ☐ A) Patriarchy
- ☐ B) Meritocracy
- ☐ C) Ethnic penalty
- ☐ D) Structured dependency

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

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2 Explain one reason equality legislation, such as laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, is significant to sociologists studying inequality.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

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3 State one strength of the concept of 'institutional racism' for sociologists studying ethnic inequality.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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4 Define the term 'patriarchy' as used by feminist sociologists.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

5 Explain what sociologists mean by 'institutional racism', with reference to the Macpherson Report (1999).

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 6.6 Inequality by Gender, Ethnicity and Age: Test Pack

Question 1

A (patriarchy) **B1**

Answer: A

Question 2

identifies, e.g. it represents a formal, structural attempt to reduce unequal treatment based on characteristics such as gender, ethnicity or age **B1**

development, e.g. sociologists study how far such laws succeed in practice, since formal rules do not automatically remove informal or institutional patterns of disadvantage **B1**

Answer: Equality legislation is a formal, structural attempt to reduce unequal treatment; sociologists study how far it succeeds in practice, since formal rules do not automatically remove informal or institutional disadvantage.

Question 3

identifies a genuine strength, e.g. it draws attention to how an organisation's systems and culture can produce unequal outcomes, even where no individual intends discrimination, widening the focus beyond individual prejudice **B1**

brief development **B1**

Answer: It draws attention to how an organisation's systems and culture can produce unequal outcomes even without individual intent, widening the focus beyond individual prejudice.

Question 4

identifies patriarchy as a system of social structures and practices in which men as a group hold more power, authority or advantage than women as a group (oe) **B1**

development, e.g. feminist sociologists such as Sylvia Walby argue this operates across several areas of life, not just in one place **B1**

Answer: Patriarchy is a system of social structures and practices in which men as a group hold more power, authority or advantage than women as a group, operating across several areas of life.

Question 5

identifies institutional racism as when an organisation's collective failures, procedures or culture result in poorer treatment of people because of their ethnicity, even without individual staff intending to discriminate (oe) **B1**

development, e.g. the Macpherson Report (1999), the official inquiry into the murder of Stephen Lawrence, defined institutional racism along these lines and found it present within the Metropolitan Police at the time **B1**

identifies that this concept shifted attention from only individual acts of racism to how an organisation's systems, procedures and culture can produce unequal outcomes **B1**

development, e.g. sociologists use the concept to study institutions more widely, not only the specific case the report examined **B1**

Answer: Institutional racism is when an organisation's collective failures or culture result in poorer treatment of people by ethnicity, even without individual intent; the Macpherson Report (1999) defined it this way, finding it present in the Metropolitan Police.

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