

**MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD**  
**UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA**  
**MATRICULATION EXAMINATION**  
**ADVANCED LEVEL**  
**MAY 2015**

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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	SOCIOLOGY
<b>PAPER NUMBER:</b>	I
<b>DATE:</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2015
<b>TIME:</b>	9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

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**ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS: Questions carry equal marks.**

1. In a capitalist system people find themselves incapable of finding fulfilment and satisfaction in the labour they perform and in the products they make. Discuss.
2. Emile Durkheim was rather pessimistic about the direction industrial society was taking as a result of rapid social change. Discuss.
3. For Ralph Dahrendorf, the differential distribution of authority is the cause of systematic social conflict. Discuss.
4. Bureaucracy is the most rational means of exercising authority over human beings. Elaborate.
5. Outline and assess Erving Goffman's contribution to sociological theory.

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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	SOCIOLOGY
<b>PAPER NUMBER:</b>	II
<b>DATE:</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
<b>TIME:</b>	4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

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**ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS: ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION AND ANY OTHER QUESTION.**

**Questions carry equal marks.**

**PART 1: METHODOLOGY**

1. There are sociologists who prefer to locate their fieldwork in natural settings. Elaborate on the advantages and drawbacks of participant observation.
2. Although using secondary sources is a practical way to collect data, it is still characterised by a number of limitations. Discuss.
3. Qualitative researchers tend to be concerned with words rather than numbers. Elaborate.

**PART 2: SUBSTANTIVE AREAS**

1. Colonisation has led to underdevelopment. Discuss.
2. In what ways does Talcott Parsons see social stratification as both inevitable and functional for society?

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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	SOCIOLOGY
<b>PAPER NUMBER:</b>	III
<b>DATE:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
<b>TIME:</b>	4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

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**ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS: Questions carry equal marks.**

1. The family is the backbone of society. Discuss.
2. Identify and explain the different solutions for the eradication of poverty and social exclusion from society.
3. In contemporary society marital breakdown can be traced to a number of factors. Elaborate.
4. Education is based on meritocracy. Discuss with reference to two sociologists of your choice.
5. Religion leads to social change. Discuss.