

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD  
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA  
MATRICULATION EXAMINATION  
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL  
MAY 2014

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**SUBJECT:** SOCIOLOGY  
**DATE:** 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
**TIME:** 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

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**ANSWER 4 (FOUR) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**  
**Each question carries 25 marks.**

**Section A: Answer ONE Question from this Section**

1. Discuss Talcott Parsons' theory of Pattern Variables.
2. For Marx, classless society results from the increasing polarisation between classes. Discuss.
3. Weber claimed that the bureaucratic system is essential to society. Discuss.

**Section B: Answer ONE Question from this Section**

4. Describe the major issues involved in carrying out research.
5. Many of the debates about particular research methods focus on questions of reliability and validity. Discuss.
6. Sociologists today are increasingly combining both qualitative and quantitative research approaches and methods. Elaborate.

**Section C: Answer TWO questions from this Section.**

7. Discuss how religion contributes to the unity of society.
8. Religion can be an instrument of oppression and social control. Discuss.
9. The family contributes to maintaining male power. Discuss with reference to feminist perspectives.
10. Education is an important aspect of socialisation. Elaborate.