



IAS SOCIOLOGY (MAINS) – Questions Pattern & Trends Analysis

PAPER - I : FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIOLOGY

1. SOCIOLOGY - THE DISCIPLINE

1. Write short note: Sociology as an interpretative discipline. (97/20)
2. Write short note: Sociology as a by product of Industrial Revolution. (99/20)
3. Write short note: Sociology and social anthropology. (00/20)
4. Write short note: Sociology as an interpretative discipline. (0/20)
5. Write short note: Sociology and its relationship with economics and Political science. (05/20)
6. Write short note: Intellectual background for the emergence of sociology. (06/20)
7. How is emergence of sociology linked with modernization of Europe? (08/60)

2. SOCIOLOGY AS SCIENCE

1. Write short note: Methods of science and sociology. (95/20)
2. Write short note: Value-free sociology. (96/20)
3. Is it possible to study social phenomenon scientifically? Give a critical answer. (97/60)
4. Write short note: A good hypothesis. (97/20)
5. Write short note: Value neutrality in social science. (98/20)
6. Write short note: Problem of objectivity in social research. (00/20)
7. Write short note: Sociology as a science. (02/20)
8. Write short note: Theory and Fact. (02/20)
9. Highlight the problem of objectivity and value-neutrality in Social Research. Elaborate, with suitable examples, the limitations associated with the tools of measurement in Social Science Research. (03/60)
10. Objectivity and Value Neutrality in Social Research. (04/20)
11. Write short note: Social research design (05/20)
12. Write short note: Sociology as a science of society. (07/20)
13. Write short note: Role of values in sociological enquiry (08/20)

3. RESEARCH METHODS AND ANALYSIS

1. Write short note: Reliability of a sample (98/20)
2. Write short note: Limitations of questionnaire as a technique of data collection.(99/20)
3. What are the uses of Bogardus' social distance scale and of Likert scale ? Discuss (02/60)
4. Utility of Reliability and Validity in Social Research. (03/20)
5. What is the importance of sampling in sociological studies? Distinguish between simple random sampling and stratified random sampling. (08/60)
6. Write short note: Importance and sources of hypotheses in social research.(08/20)

4 . SOCIOLOGICAL THINKERS

(A). KARL MARK

1. "Subjective perception of the objective reality prepares the context for the articulation of class antagonism." Evaluate this statement with reference of Karl Marx's contribution.(95/60)
2. Write short note: Mode of production. (96//20)
3. Explain the concept of social change. Critically examine the contribution of Karl Marx's theory of social change. (97/60)
4. "It is not the consciousness of men that determines their being, but on the contrary it is their social being that determines their consciousness." Examine Karl Marx's notion of mode of production in the light of this statement. (98/60)
5. Write short note: Alienation. (00/20)
6. Explain Karl Marx's conception of class-antagonism. How have the functionalists reacted to his views? (01/60)
7. Write short note: Class-in-itself and class-for-itself. (03/20)
8. Analyze socio-cultural consequences of corruption and suggest remedial measures for curbing it. (04/60)
9. Write short note: Class struggle a conceived by Karl Marx. (05/20)
10. Explain Karl Marx's 'theory of social change'. What are the reactions of functionalists to his views ? (06/60)
11. Explain Karl Marx's analysis of capitalistic mode of production and class-struggle. What are the intellectual reactions to his views? (07/60)

(B). ERNILE DURKHEIM

1. Write short note: Social fact. (95/20)
2. Write short note: Anomie. (97/20)
3. Write short note: Division of labour and the differentiation of social structure.(99/20)
4. "Not all facts about human behavior are necessarily social facts." State the meaning of 'social facts' and the methods of studying them with reference to this statement. (96/60)
5. Write short note: Gemeinschaft and Gessellschaft types of communities. (99/20)
6. Emile Durkheim had argued that the function of division of labour in society is that of the promotion of social solidarity. Elaborate the statement and analyze the distinction between two forms of solidarity discussed by him. (00/60)
7. What is the focus of sociological analysis in the contributions of Emile Durkheim? Give your answer with the help of any one of his contributions. (01/60)
8. Examine the nature of social facts as understood by Durkheim. (02/60)
9. Write short note: The sacred and the profane. (02/20)
10. Give a Critical Review of Ernile Durkheim's Theory on Religion and Society. To what extent does it explain the contemporary scenario in Asia? (04//60)
11. What according to Emile Durkheim is the nature of relationship between the individual and society? Explain this with the help of his analysis of division of labour in society. (06/ 60)
12. Write short note: Social facts. (07/20)
13. Elaborate Emile Durkheim's analysis of the Elementary Forms of Religious Life and role of religion in society. How does the explain existence of religion in modern industrial societies ? (07/60)

(C). MAX WEBER

1. Critically examine the role of formal and informal structures of bureaucracy in economic and social reconstruction of the developing societies. (95/60)
2. Explain the origin and characteristics of bureaucracy according to Max Weber. Illustrate the structural sources of dysfunctions of bureaucracy. (96/60)
3. Critically examine Max Weber's theory of social action and its limitations. (97/60)
4. State the meaning and characteristics of an ideal type. What, according to Max Weber, is the use and significance of the 'ideal type' in social science research? (01/60)
5. Critically examine Weber's theory of Protestant Ethic and Spirit of Capitalism.(02/60)
6. Discuss Max Weber's ideal types and the role of authority in bureaucracy. (05/60)
7. Write short note : Concept of Ideal Type and its limitations. (06/20)

8. What is the subject-matter of Sociology according to Max Weber? Which major methods did he suggest for social science research? Illustrate your answer with his sociological contributions. (07/60)
9. Using Max Weber's theory, discuss what ethical and religious ideas produced capitalism in certain societies and how? (08/60)

(D) TALCOTT PARSONS

1. Write short note : The idea of functional indispensability. (96/20)
2. Discuss Talcott Parsons' contribution to the analysis of social change. (96/60)
3. Discuss Talcott Parsons' contribution to the analysis of social system. (97/60)
4. Write short note : Functional problems of the social system. (99/20)
5. Write short note : Social system and the Pattern Variables. (03//20)
6. Bring out a comparative analysis of Marxian and Parsonian views of social change and examine the relevance of each view for social development in the contemporary India. (04/60)
7. Write short note : Talcott Parsons' concept of social system. (07/20)
8. Write short note : Relevance of pattern variables in the study of social change.(08/20)

(E).ROBERT K. MERTON

1. Bring out the strength and the weakness of Robert Merton's advancement over the classical functionalism. (95/60)
2. Write short note: Middle-range theories. (95/20)
3. Write short note: Pattern variables. (98/20)
4. Write short note: Social structure and Anomie. (99/20)
5. Write short note: Relative Deprivation. (00/20)
6. How does social structure produce a strain toward anomie and deviant behaviour? Examine it with reference to Robert K. Merton's contribution to this field of study. (00/60)
7. Write short note: Manifest and latent functions. (01/20)
8. Critically analyze the concept of Anomie. Elaborate, with suitable examples, the theoretical relationship between nature of Anomie and types of Social Deviations as have been formulated by R.K. Merton. (03/60)
9. Write short note: Primary and Reference groups. (03/20)
10. What are the reactions of Robert Merton to the functionalism pioneered by social anthropologists? Indicate the Limitations of his idea of latent functions. (06/60)
11. Write short note: Robert Merton's' views on manifest and latent functions. (07/20)
12. What is Merton's view of relationship between social structure and deviance? In what sense is a deviant also a conformist? (08/60)

5. STRATIFICATION AND MOBILITY

1. Write short note: Social class and social status. (95/20)
2. Write short note: Role-Conflict and its resolution. (96/20)
3. Write short note: Types of mobility. (97/20)
4. Write short note: Vertical and horizontal mobility. (98/20)
5. Write short note: Caste as a class. (98/20)
6. Analyze critically the functional theory of social stratification. (98/60)
7. Write short note: Role conflict as a source of deviation. (99/20)
8. How would you distinguish between the stratified and the unstratified social Positions? What explanation would you prefer for the universal existence of the social stratification in human society? (99/60)
9. Discuss the nature and characteristics of social mobility. Can the nature and the rate of social mobility be treated as an index of economic development ? Comment.(99/ 60)
10. Write short note : Role conflict. (00/20)
11. Write short note : Inter-generational mobility. (00/20)
12. Write short note: Social Mobility and social change. (02/20)
13. Explain Melvin Tumin's critique related to the theory of social stratification. (02/60)
14. Examine the conceptual distinction between social inequality and social Stratification. How do the nature and forms of the social stratification system determine the Patterns of social mobility? (03/60)
15. Briefly discuss the Conflict Perspective on social stratification and examine the View that social inequality in India is the function of rigid social stratification System. (04/60)
16. Write short note: Class within Caste and Caste within Class. (04/20)
17. 'Socialisation and social control are complementary to each other in maintaining social Order.' - Elucidate you answer with appropriate illustrations. (04/60)
18. How is vertical and horizontal social mobility problematic in society? Suggest solutions. (05/60)
19. Write short note: Vertical social mobility. (06/20)|
20. Write short note: Caste-system as a principle of social stratification. (06/20)
21. Write short note: Role-conflict and its resolution. (07/20)
22. Write short note: Social mobility in open and closed systems (08/20)
23. How does hierarchy get built into the systems of natural and social inequalities? (08/60)

6. WORKS AND ECONOMIC LIFE

1. Write short note: Social consequences of economic development (95/20)
2. Write short note: Types of exchange. (96/20)
3. Write short note: Industrialization and social change. (97/20)
4. Write short note: Features of pre - industrial economic system. (98/20)
5. Write short note: Social determinants of economic development. (00/20)
6. Write short note: Emerging pattern of sex-roles in modern society. (01/20)
7. Write short note:-Types of Exchange. (01/20)
8. Write short note: Industrialization and social change. (02/20)
9. Write short note: Social determinants of Economic Development. (03/20)
10. Examine in detail the impact of new global economy on work organization and family structure in India. (04/60)
11. Write short note: Social determinants of economic development (05/20)
12. Write short note: Features of Pre -Industrial economic system. (07/20)
13. Indicate social determinants of economic development. Discuss any one sociological perspective analyzing backwardness and poverty in the developing societies. (07/60)

7. POLITICS AND SOCIETY

1. Write short note: Social disorganization. (95/20)
2. Discuss the meaning and role of voluntary organizations in the efforts of transformation of society through state-action. (96/60)
3. Explain the concept of power. Distinguish between power and authority. (98/60)
4. Impact of the democratic political system on the traditional social structure. (99/20)
5. Write short note: Role of pressure groups in democracy. (00/20)
6. Write short note: Sources of legitimacy of power. (01/20)
7. Write short note: Informal structure of Bureaucracy. (01/20)
8. Write short note: Community Power. (02/20)
9. Write short note: Social Structure and Political Participation. (03/20)
10. Write short note: Bureaucracy in New Capitalist Economy. (04/20)
11. Write short note: Authority and Legitimacy. (04/20)
12. Write short note: Power elite in society and the emergence of new elite in power Structure. (05/20)
13. Discuss modes of political participation and voting behaviour in India. (05/60)
14. Explain the meaning and modes of political participation. What are the factors preventing people's participation in politics in India? (07/60)
15. Write short note: Social movement as an expression of protest (08/20)

8. RELIGION AND SOCIETY

1. Write short note: Fundamentals of religion. (97/20)
2. Write short note: Religious pluralism. (98/20)
3. Elaborate on the social necessity of religion. Discuss the relationship between religion and science. (99/60)
4. Critically examine functional and dysfunctional aspects of religion (00/60)
5. Write short note: Religion and Science. (01/20)
6. Examine the functional as well as dysfunctional aspects of religion in a pluralistic Society taking India and the United States of America as illustrative models. (04/60)
7. Write short note: Origins of religious beliefs and practices in premodern societies.(05/20)
8. Write short note: Religion and Science. (06/20)
9. In what important ways can religion be a force both for social stability and social change? Discuss. (08/60)

9. SYSTEM OF KINSHIP

1. Write short note: Role of culture. (95/20)
2. Write short note: Primary group. (95/20)
3. What has been the impact of industrialization on family and kinship organization? Illustrate the significance of kinship organization in the industrial societies. (95/60)
4. Write short note: Impact of changes in sex-role on family. (96/20)
5. Compare the role of custom as an agency of social control in primitive and modern Industrial societies. (96/60)
6. 'Socialization is a process by which all of us acquire the culture that we transmit to the next generation'. Elaborate the statement and discuss its various stages(98/60)
7. Social control is more a matter of conviction than that of coercion. Comment. Discuss the role of ideology in social control. (99/60)
8. Discuss the factors responsible for the changing structure of family in modern Societies. (00/60)
9. Write short note: Incest taboo. (01/20)
10. In what way is the process of socialization helpful in the development of personality? Explain with suitable examples (02/60)
11. Distinguish between Sex and Gender issues with suitable examples. (02/60)
12. Elaborate on the concepts of Family and Lineage. Discuss the relationship between Rules of descent and inheritance of property. (03/60)
13. Discuss the meanings and significance of culture in Human Society. Critically bring out the role of Culture in the Development of personality. (03/60)
14. Write short note: Gender Roles in Changing Structure of Family. (04/20)
15. Write short note: Role of Family in Social Control (05/20)

16. Elucidate changing structure of family and marriage in modern society. (05/60)
17. Write short note: Nuclear family and industrial society. (06/20)
18. Write short note: Changing structure of family. (07/20)
19. Write short note: New trends in the types and forms of family in contemporary India. (08/20)

10. SOCIAL CHANGE IN MODERN SOCIETY AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Explain the classical concept of social change and critically examine the contribution of the linear theories of social change. (95/60)
2. Elaborate the meaning of the term 'equality' of educational opportunity'. Discuss education as a medium of cultural reproduction and social transformation. (95/60)
3. Critically examine the impact of traditional social structures on the development and functioning of a democratic policy. (96/60)
4. Write short note: Education and social inequalities. (96 /20)
5. Write short note: Rate of education in social development (97/20)
6. What are the problems of universalisation of primary education? Discuss fully.(97/60)
7. "Education is an instrument of social control and social change". Critically examine the statement. (97/60).
8. Write short note: Education and culture. (97/20)
9. Examine social consequences of changes in technology. Illustrate your answer with examples from new productive processes and equipment. (98/60)
10. Elaborate on the concept of structural change. Discuss the endogenic factors of structural change in a society, with suitable examples. (99/60)
11. Pit rim A. Sorokin sees the course of history as a continuous but irregular fluctuation between two basically different kinds of culture. While explaining this stand of Sorokin, analyze whether it is appropriate to characterize such a notion of change as a cyclical theory of social change. (00/60)
12. Define 'social policy'. Evaluate the performance of social policy in modernization of developing societies. (01/60)
13. Distinguish between the process of formal education and socialization. Examine effectivity in formal education as an instrument of social change. (01/60)
14. Write short note: Ethos of Science. (02/20)
15. Write short note: Social Impact of New Technologies in India. (03/20)
16. Write short note: Education and Social Development (03/20)
17. Bring out a comparative analysis of Marxian and Parsonian views of social change and examine the relevance of each view for social development in the contemporary India. (04/60)
18. Write short note: Privatization of Education and Equality of Opportunity. (04//20)
19. Discuss in detail impact of mass media and education on India Society. (04/60)

20. Write short note : Science and Social Responsibility. (04/20)
21. Write short note: Social consequence of science and technology in India (05/20)
22. Discuss mass education as an instrument of social change and modernization.(05/60)
23. Discuss mass education as an instrument of social change and modernization.(05/60)
24. Human factors involved in directed social change. (06/20)
24. "Education is one of the basic activities for the continued existence and development of a society". Elaborate this statement. (06/60)
26. State significance of social policy in social development. Under what conditions a social policy fails to be effective in its performance? (06/60)
27. Explain the idea of social responsibility of science. Analyze the social consequences of development of science and technology in the context of removal of backwardness in development societies. (06/60)
28. Write short note: Education as an instrument of social change. (07/20)
29. Write short note social change. Education as an agent of social change. (08/20)

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