



GCE A LEVEL – NEW

A200U20-1



S17-A200U20-1



SOCIOLOGY – A level component 2
Methods of Sociological Enquiry

THURSDAY, 15 JUNE 2017 – AFTERNOON

1 hour 45 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC 16-page pink answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided.

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 60 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You are advised to divide your time accordingly.

Answer all questions.

Read the item and answer each part of the following questions.

Lad culture in Higher Education

The University of Sussex conducted qualitative research with 40 women students in higher education on their experiences of lad culture. Nineteen of the women participated in four focus groups. There were four to six women in each group. The women in these groups came from four major cities, three English and one Scottish. The remaining 21 women took part in semi-structured interviews. Five of the interviews were in person, ten by Skype and the remaining six by email. The sample was small and self-selecting but attempts were made to achieve some diversity. The majority of the women were white British and the rest were from a range of other ethnicities. All but two were between the ages of 18 and 25. Most were heterosexual and middle class. Six participants identified themselves as disabled.

Adapted from 'The University of Sussex (2013) That's what she said: Women students experiences of 'lad culture' in higher education

1. (a) Using material from the item and sociological knowledge, explain one possible weakness of this research. [5]
- (b) Explain one possible reason why the researchers chose to use focus groups. [5]
- (c) With reference to the item and sociological studies, discuss the issues sociologists need to consider when choosing sampling techniques for social research. [20]
2. As an A level Sociology student you have been asked to design a research project to collect data on the career aspirations of young people in your local area.
 - Describe each stage of your research design, justifying the reasons for your choices at each stage.
 - Discuss problems that may occur and the impact of these problems on the quality of the data collected. [30]

END OF PAPER