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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q3(b)

Describe the basic postulates of scientific method. How far are these followed in sociological research?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2016 · Sociology GS 1 · 15 marks · Sociology as Science

Sociology as Science: Science, scientific method and critique; Major theoretical strands of research methodology; Positivism and its critique; Fact value and objectivity; Non-positivist methodologies.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/sociology-gs-1/2016/describe-the-basic-postulates-of-scientific-method-how-far-are-these-followed-in-sociological-research/>

Popper

Emphasised falsifiability and conjectures against dogmatic verification.

Merton's ethos

Communism, universalism, disinterestedness, organised scepticism as institutional norms of science.

Durkheim's Rules

A sociological attempt to state scientific method for social facts.

Ideal type

Weber's device for clear, comparable concepts rather than blurred common sense.

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