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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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Q1(b)

What is 'value-free sociology'? Clarify

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2016 · Sociology GS 1 · 10 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.

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Value-relevance

Weber: cultural values select what is worth knowing.

Value-freedom

Weber: demonstration must not substitute a party line for evidence.

Ideal type

A clarifying construct, not a moral ideal of how people should live.

Harding

Unnamed values are a bias; naming them can strengthen objectivity.

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