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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 the relationship (similarities and differences) between sociology and history in terms of their area of study and methodology? Discuss.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · 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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Idiographic versus nomothetic

Windelband's labels: history as the unique case, sociology as the search for types and regularities.

Weber's historical sociology

Ideal types built from historical cases of religion, domination and rationalisation, not from laboratory laws.

Mills on history and biography

Sociology needs history; history needs a sense of social structure, or each remains incomplete.

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