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Q6(a)**Discuss the intellectual origins of sociology and its evolution as a distinct field of study**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · Sociology GS 1 · 20 marks · Sociology

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Sociology - The Discipline: Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology; Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences; Sociology and common sense.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round.

The Division of Labour in Society

Published by **Émile Durkheim** in 1893, establishing mechanical and organic solidarity as core sociological concepts.

The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism

Authored by **Max Weber** in 1905, linking cultural belief systems to the development of modern economic structures.

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