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Questions only**UPSC Mains 2026 Sociology Paper 1**

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Answer key at the end of this PDF

Attempt the paper first. After the last question, this pack closes with a compiled answer key: official letters in boxed exam order, then a question-wise list with Solution links to WRAP Exams.

Q1(a) • 10 marks

In what ways do class and caste intersect and overlap in shaping social structure?

Topic • Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx

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Q1(b) • 10 marks

Critically examine the position of women in the informal economy.

Topic • Sociology

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Q1(c) • 10 marks

Discuss the role of geographical factors in social change and development.

Topic • Social Change in Modern Society

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Q1(d) • 10 marks

Although sociology, as a subject of study, overarches all disciplines in social sciences yet it maintains its distinctiveness. Comment.

Topic • Sociology

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Q1(e) • 10 marks

Explain in brief the relationship between social movement, collective action and revolution in bringing about social and political changes.

Topic • Politics and Society

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Q2(a) • 20 marks

Describe the impact of capitalist mode of production on society

Topic · Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx

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Q2(b) · 20 marks

Differentiate between social hierarchy and social exclusion and substantiate your answer with reference to the caste system

Topic · Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx

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Q2(c) · 10 marks

"Data without theory is blind and theory without data is empty." Comment

Topic · Sociology

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Q3(a) · 20 marks

Discuss the relationship between religion and science in modern society. Do they necessarily remain in conflict?

Topic · Religion and Society

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Q3(b) · 20 marks

Is 'interpretativism' more effective than 'positivism' in analysing social reality? Discuss

Topic · Sociology

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Q3(c) · 10 marks

How does Emile Durkheim conceptualize religion as a 'social fact'? Explain

Topic · Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx

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Q4(a) · 20 marks

Elaborate major sociological theories of power. How does power shape political process in modern societies?

Topic · Politics and Society

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Q4(b) · 20 marks

Evaluate the socio-economic impacts of migration on rural households

Topic · Sociology

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Q4(c) · 10 marks

"The methods of natural sciences are inadequate in understanding the complex social phenomena." Discuss

Topic · Sociology

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Q5(a) · 10 marks

The major challenge for sociology researchers is to analyze social reality objectively. Critically analyze.

Topic · Sociology

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Q5(b) · 10 marks

Explain the concept of "definition of the situation" and its significance in sociology.

Topic · Sociology

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Q5(c) · 10 marks

In what way can the concept of 'patriarchal bargain' be applied to the institution of marriage? Comment.

Topic · Sociology

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Q5(d) · 10 marks

How does Max Weber's 'theory of authority' shape bureaucracy? Analyse.

Topic · Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx

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Q5(e) · 10 marks

How do different theories explain social dimensions of social movements? Discuss.

Topic · Stratification and Mobility: Concepts

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Q6(a) · 20 marks

Discuss the intellectual origins of sociology and its evolution as a distinct field of study

Topic · Sociology

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q6(b) · 20 marks

Critically analyse the nature-nurture debate from different perspectives

Topic · Sociology

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q6(c) · 10 marks

How does the rise of new 'cults' and 'sects' influence intercaste relations?

Topic · Religion and Society

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Q7(a) · 20 marks

Compare and critically assess 'the grounded theory' with 'theory-driven research method' in sociology

Topic · Sociology as Science

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Q7(b) · 20 marks

According to Weber how do class, status and power interact to produce and sustain social inequality?

Topic · Stratification and Mobility: Concepts

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q7(c) · 10 marks

Compare the social organisation of work in industrial capitalism and platform capitalism

Topic · Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx

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Q8(a) · 20 marks

How are the concepts of nation, state and citizenship interrelated in a democracy? Elaborate

Topic · Politics and Society

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Q8(b) · 20 marks

Critically evaluate the relevance of the cyclical theory of social change in understanding contemporary societies

Topic · Social Change in Modern Society

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q8(c) · 10 marks

Discuss the significance and limitations of 'intersectionality' in social research

Topic · Sociology

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WRAP Exams

Compiled answer key

Last pages of this pack. Each question links to the WRAP model answer on wrapexams.com.

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Q1(a) 10 marks	Q1(b) 10 marks	Q1(c) 10 marks	Q1(d) 10 marks
Q1(e) 10 marks	Q2(a) 20 marks	Q2(b) 20 marks	Q2(c) 10 marks
Q3(a) 20 marks	Q3(b) 20 marks	Q3(c) 10 marks	Q4(a) 20 marks
Q4(b) 20 marks	Q4(c) 10 marks	Q5(a) 10 marks	Q5(b) 10 marks
Q5(c) 10 marks	Q5(d) 10 marks	Q5(e) 10 marks	Q6(a) 20 marks
Q6(b) 20 marks	Q6(c) 10 marks	Q7(a) 20 marks	Q7(b) 20 marks
Q7(c) 10 marks	Q8(a) 20 marks	Q8(b) 20 marks	Q8(c) 10 marks

Question-wise key

Q1(a) · 10 marks Solution

Q1(b) · 10 marks Solution

Q1(c) · 10 marks Solution

Q1(d) · 10 marks Solution

Q1(e) · 10 marks Solution

Q2(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q2(b) · 20 marks Solution

Q2(c) · 10 marks Solution

Q3(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q3(b) · 20 marks Solution

Q3(c) · 10 marks Solution

Q4(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q4(b) · 20 marks Solution

Q4(c) · 10 marks Solution

Q5(a) · 10 marks Solution

Q5(b) · 10 marks Solution

Q5(c) · 10 marks Solution

Q5(d) · 10 marks Solution

Q5(e) · 10 marks Solution

Q6(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q6(b) · 20 marks Solution

Q6(c) · 10 marks Solution

Q7(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q7(b) · 20 marks Solution

Q7(c) · 10 marks Solution

Q8(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q8(b) · 20 marks Solution

Q8(c) · 10 marks Solution

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