



Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir

Assessment 1

SOCIOLOGY (Code:039)

Class: XI

Date:13/09/2026

Time: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The question paper is divided into four sections.
2. There are 35 questions in all. All questions are compulsory.
3. Section A includes question No. 1-16 of 1 mark each.
4. Section B includes question No.17-25. These are very short answer type questions carrying 2 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 150-200 words. There's an internal choice in question No.19. Write on any question.
5. Section C includes question No. 26-32. They are short answer type questions carrying 4 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 200-300 words. There's an internal choice in question No.29. Write on any question.
6. Section D includes question No. 33-35. They are long answer type questions carrying 6 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 400-500 words each.
7. There are 5 pages in this question paper.

	SECTION A	
1.	Which of the following best explains the significance of clock-time in the emergence of modern industrial societies? a. Work became primarily dependent on natural factors such as daylight and seasons. b. Factory production synchronised labour through fixed working hours, punctuality and a steady pace of work. c. Workers were given greater freedom to decide when and how long they would work. d. Agricultural and industrial work became less organised and more dependent on social duties.	1
2.	Assertion(A): Although human groups and collectivities are a universal feature of all human societies, they do not look the same everywhere Reason (R): The functionalist and historical perspective of society reveals that while groups exist in every ancient, feudal or modern society, the specific types of these groups differ everywhere. a. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. b. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. c. A is true, but R is false. d. A is false, but R is true.	

3.	Assertion (A): Functionalists argue that the family contributes to the maintenance of social order by performing important functions for society. Reason (R): Functionalists believe that in all modern industrial societies, including India, families necessarily become nuclear families. (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. (c) A is true, but R is false. (d) A is false, but R is true.	1
4.	According to Durkheim, 'organic solidarity' is characteristic of: a) Primitive societies with little division of labor. b) Modern industrial societies with high specialization. c) Societies where everyone performs the same tasks. d) Feudal societies based on land ownership.	1
5.	Revolutionary cultural change occurs when: a) Cultural practices remain unchanged b) Cultural elements are transmitted orally c) Only a few individuals modify their behaviour d) Culture is transformed rapidly and its values and meaning systems undergo radical change	1
6.	Assertion(A): Early western scholars and colonial officials often portrayed the Indian village as unchanging Reason(R): For many of the Western writers, the Indian society was in contrast to Western society a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. c) A is true, but R is false. d) A is false, but R is true.	1
7.	Assertion (A): The traditional class system in India was based on a hierarchy in which castes were ranked according to their relative purity and pollution. Reason (R): The traditional caste structure consisted only of the four varnas—Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras.	1

	a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. c) A is true, but R is false. d) A is false, but R is true.	
8.	Which of the following is an example of a social right? (a) The right to stand for public office (b) The right to freedom of religion (c) The right to own property (d) The right to receive unemployment allowance	1
9.	“An ideal type is not meant to describe reality in all its complexity, but serves as a tool for analysing and comparing social phenomena.” According to Max Weber, what is the primary purpose of an ideal type? a) To provide a perfect model that society should strive to achieve b) To represent the average behaviour of all members of society c) To provide a conceptual tool for understanding and comparing social reality d) To establish universal laws that explain all social behaviour	1
10.	Assertion (A): Modern cultures are necessarily superior to tribal cultures. Reason (R): Access to modern science and technology does not necessarily make one culture superior to another. a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A c) A is true, but R is false d) A is false, but R is true	1
11.	<i>“The group is able to differentiate itself from other groups and thereby create its own identity through the acceptance and recognition of the neighbourhood.”</i> Based on the above statement answer the question below: Which of the following best explains how a sub-cultural group develops its collective identity? a) By isolating its members from the wider society b) By preventing interaction with other groups c) By ensuring that all members have identical personal identities d) By establishing its distinctiveness and gaining recognition from the wider community	1

12.	Assertion (A): The working class under capitalism is alienated from the products they produce. Reason (R): Workers in a factory system do not own the means of production or the final goods. a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A c) A is true, but R is false d) A is false, but R is true	1
13.	Which of the following best explains why religion is of sociological interest beyond being a matter of individual belief? (a) Religion is concerned only with personal spiritual experiences. (b) Religion has a public character and influences institutions such as politics and power. (c) Religion has become completely irrelevant in modern societies. (d) Religion is separate from social movements and social change.	1
14.	Marx argued that 'material life shapes ideas.' This means: a) People are free to think whatever they want regardless of their job. b) How humans earn their livelihood determines how they think. c) Religious beliefs are the foundation of the economic system. d) Scientific inventions are the only things that change society.	1
15.	Which of the following best illustrates informal social control in everyday life? (a) A court imposing a fine for violating a law (b) Police arresting a person for committing an offence (c) Friends ridiculing a person for behaving in a socially unacceptable manner (d) The government introducing a new law to regulate public behaviour	1
16.	Assertion (A): Ethnocentrism promotes appreciation of cultural differences without judging them. Reason (R): Ethnocentrism involves evaluating the behaviour and beliefs of other cultures using one's own cultural values.	1

	a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. c) A is true, but R is false. d) A is false, but R is true.	
	SECTION B	
17.	What do you understand by sanctions? Answer: Sanctions are rewards and punishments. They come into play in regard to norms. Sanctions are the rewards and punishments for following or not following a norm. • Rewards or Punishment: Both help the individual to confer/follow the norms. • Children learn cultural norms not only through clear instructions given by the family, but also by observing others and mixing with them. • For adults, abiding or following the norm becomes part of their behaviour pattern.	2
18.	Explain ideal types according to Weber Ans: Apart from empathetic understanding, Weber also suggested another methodological tool for doing sociology- the 'ideal type'. Ideal types may exaggerate some features of phenomenon that are considered analytically important, and ignore or downplay others. Weber used the ideal type to illustrate the three types of authority that he defined as traditional, charismatic and rational-legal.	2
19.	Explain the meaning of the term Social Institution & state examples of Formal and Informal Social Institutions Ans: A social institution in the broadest sense is something that works according to the rules established or at least acknowledged by law or by custom. And whose regular continuous operation cannot be understood without taking those rules into account. Institutions impose constraint on individuals. They also provide them with opportunities. Institutions such as family and religion are examples of informal social institutions while law and formal education are examples of formal social institutions. OR Explain Division of Labour Ans: Division of Labour is the specialization of work tasks, by means of which different occupations are combined within a production system. All societies have at least some rudimentary form of division of labour. With the development of industrialization, however, the division of labour becomes vastly more complex than in any prior type of production system. In the modern world, the division of labour is international in scope.	2

20.	Explain secondary groups and state its characteristics (2mk) Ans: Secondary groups are relatively large in size, maintain formal and impersonal relationships e.g. schools, government offices are examples of secondary groups. Characteristics of secondary group: - Large size - Indirect relationship - Fulfillment of special interest - Limited responsibility - Impersonal responsibility	2
21.	What is capitalism? Ans: Capitalism is a system of economic enterprise based on market exchange. 'Capital' refers to any asset, including money, property and machines, which can be used to produce commodities for sale or invested in a market with the hope of achieving a profit. This system rests on the private ownership of assets and the means of production.	2
22.	What is Enlightenment or the 'Age of Reason'? Ans: During the late 17th and 18th centuries, Western Europe saw the emergence of radically new ways of thinking about the world. Referred to as the Enlightenment, these policies established the human being at the center of the universe, and rational thought as the central feature of the human being.	2
23.	State the differences between community, nation and state: (2mks) • Community: No political aspirations to form a state. • Nation: A community with political aspirations but not yet a state, not sovereign. • State: A state is a politically organized community, sovereign and internationally recognized.	2
24.	Explain what is a Peer group Ans: A set of individuals who share certain common characteristics such as age, ethnicity or occupation, perceive themselves and are recognised by others as a distinct social collectivity. The group is seen to have its own culture, symbols, sanctions and rituals, into which the	2

	new members must be socialised according to which those who fail to comply with group norms may be ostracized.	
25.	How did Darwin's ideas influence early sociological thought? Ans: Darwin's ideas of organic evolution influenced early sociology by encouraging scholars to view society as a system of interrelated parts, similar to a living organism. Each part was seen as performing a specific function, which shaped the study of social institutions and structures like family, school, and stratification.	2
	SECTION C	
26.	What is a social group? State some of its characteristics. Also explain out-groups Ans: A social groups refers to a collection of continuously interacting persons who share common interests, culture, values and norms within a given society. Characteristics of social groups are as follows: 1. Persistent interaction to provide continuity 2. A stable pattern of these interactions 3. A sense of belonging 4. Shared interest 5. Acceptance of common norms and values 6. A definable structure Out groups are 'they' groups. Members of 'in-group' perceive them with negative characteristics, competition, hostility, lack of communication. For the Congress Party members, the BJP members are Out-group and vice-versa.	4
27.	What is the sociological imagination? Explain with an example The sociological imagination is a concept developed by sociologist C. Wright Mills. It refers to the ability to see the connection between personal experiences and larger social structures or historical forces. In simple terms, it's about understanding how your personal life is shaped by broader societal patterns. Example: Imagine someone loses their job and feels like a personal failure. Using the sociological imagination, we would ask: • Is this person the only one losing a job right now? • Is there a trend in the economy that's causing job losses?	4

	• Are certain industries or groups more affected? • How do education, race, gender, or geography play into job opportunities?	
28.	What is family? How is the joint family different from nuclear family? Answer: A family is a group of persons directly linked by kin connections, the adult members of which assume responsibility of caring for children. Answer: In joint family, husband, wife, children and close relations live together and contribute to family income as per their capabilities whereas nuclear family is basically a small family in which husband, wife and their unmarried children live. State any 4 functions of a family Answer. Functions of a family include: • Reproductive function • Maintenance of family members • Social placement of individuals • Socialization of the young • Social control • Economic functions • Educational functions • Affective functions • Religious functions • Recreational functions • Protective functions.	4
29.	How was the Industrial Revolution responsible for giving rise to sociology? (4mks) Ans: The massive changes in the production system brought about by Industrial Revolution also led to major changes in social life. • The factories set up in urban areas were manned by workers who were uprooted from the rural areas and came to the cities in search of work. • Low wages at the factory meant that men, women and even children had to work long hours in hazardous circumstances to eke out a living. • Cities and towns became the dominant forms of human settlement, housing large and unequal populations in small, densely populated urban areas. The rich and powerful lived in cities, but also did the working classes who lived in slums amidst poverty and squalor. • Modern forms of governance, with the state assuming control of health, sanitation, crime control and general development. The social sciences and particularly sociology emerged partly as a response to this need. OR	4

	Explain in detail Karl Marx’s theory of class struggle (4mks) Answer: Karl Marx was of the view that: • Human society passed through different stages of development viz primitive communism, slavery, feudalism and capitalism. Each stage is defined by a mode of production. • Marx argued that people’s ideas and beliefs originated from the economic system of which they were part. • Marx laid great emphasis on economic structure and processes because he believed that they formed the foundation of every social system throughout human history. • Marx believed that class struggle was the major driving force of change in society. • The modes of production are in the hands of the “oppressors”, they control them; the “oppressed” are deprived of them. There is a conflict between the “haves” and the “have-nots”. • When the proletariat becomes conscious and acquires revolutionary character, there is an overthrow of those in power or the bourgeoisie.	
30.	Explain Culture Lag The concept of cultural lag was propounded by Ogde and Nimkof. This concerns the difference that arose between material and non-material aspects of cultures. Things like tools, utensils, machines, manufactured goods, transport belong to the material culture. On the other hand, values, beliefs, norms, education come under non-material culture. When change occurs in society due to rapid advancements and new inventions, the change in material aspects of culture is fast and quick in comparison to the speed of change in non-material culture. Due to this there is a ‘Lag’ between these two. This phenomenon is called cultural lag. For example- The fear of vaccinations during COVID indicated culture lag as medical advancement and use of technology aided the creation of vaccines. However non-material culture which includes values and beliefs of people didn’t advance enough to readily accept these vaccines.	4
31.	Discuss the relationship between Sociology and Economics The points below explain the relationship between Sociology & Economics: • Scope of Study: Sociology studies society as a whole, including all social relationships and institutions, whereas Economics focuses specifically on the economic aspects of human behavior such as production, distribution, and consumption.	4

	• Nature of Discipline: Sociology is a broad and general social science, while Economics is a specialized science dealing with economic activities of individuals and societies. • Approach to Study: Sociology adopts a collectivistic approach, studying groups, communities, and social systems. In contrast, Economics generally follows an individualistic approach, focusing on individual choices and decision-making. • Methods Used: Economics relies heavily on quantitative and statistical methods. Sociology uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods, including inductive and deductive reasoning. • Interdependence: Economic phenomena are deeply influenced by social factors such as culture, norms, and values. At the same time, economic activities shape and transform social structures, relationships, and needs. Thus, both disciplines are closely interrelated and interdependent.	
32.	What is social control? Explain its two types with examples Ans: Social control refers to the social process, techniques and strategies by which the behaviours of individual or a group are regulated. It refers both to the use of force to regulate the behaviour of the individual and groups and also refers to the enforcing of values and patterns for maintaining order in society. Social Control can be of two types- formal and informal. -Formal means of social control: When the codified, systematic and other formal mechanisms of control are used, it is known as formal social control. There are agencies and mechanisms of formal social control e.g. law and the state. In the modern society formal mechanisms and agencies of social control are emphasized. - Informal means of social control: In every society there is another type of social control that is known as informal social control It is personal, unofficial and uncodified. They include smiles, making faces, body language, frowns, criticism, ridicule and laughter etc. However, in some cases informal methods of social control may not be adequate in enforcing conformity or obedience. There are various agencies of informal social control such as family, religion, kinship etc.	4
	SECTION D	
33.	State the defining features of Durkheim's vision of sociology Durkheim's vision of sociology as a new scientific discipline was characterized by two defining features:	6

	First, the subject matter of sociology- the study of social facts was different from the other sciences. Sociology concerned itself exclusively with what he called the ‘emergent’ level, that is, the level of complex collective life where social phenomena can emerge. These phenomena – e.g. social institutions like religion or the family, or social values like friendship or patriotism. These were only possible in a complex whole which was larger than (and different from) its constituent parts. The second empirical discipline -like most of the natural sciences, it was an empirical discipline. This was actually a difficult claim to make because social phenomena are by their very nature abstract. e.g. we cannot see a collective entity like the Jain community or Bengali speaking community. One of Durkheim’s most significant achievements is his demonstration that sociology, a discipline that dealt with abstract entities like social facts, could nevertheless be a science founded on observable, empirically verifiable evidence. Although not directly observable, social facts were indirectly observable through patterns of behavior.	
34.	What are Political Institutions? Ans: Political Institutions are institutions of formal social control. They are mechanism or agencies related to the exercise of legitimate power for maintaining order within a society. Other key points in the answer- - Power and Authority - Elements that a sociological study of politics would include - 3 Types of Authority according to Weber with examples - Also any other subjective understanding of role of political institutions in society is acceptable.	6
35.	Define Culture and explain its various dimensions. Culture- Literally, the human-made part of the environment. In its simplest definition, it refers to the products of socialisation within any organized group, society or nation and involves a set of rules, norms and customs that are agreed by the members of that group. Major characteristics of Culture: • Culture is learned. It is an acquired behaviour. • It is shared (cannot be possessed by an individual in isolation) and transmitted amongst the members of a society. It binds the members of a society. • Culture is dynamic. It constantly changes. It makes each society and group unique or distinct.	6

	Major components of Culture: 1. Non-material (Cognitive and Normative) 2. Material Non-material Culture: It refers to the abstract or intangible elements of culture, such as the ways of thinking and patterns of behaviour. It includes the normative and cognitive dimensions of culture. (A) Normative: This dimension includes social rules and social expectations, i.e. the norms and values of a society. Norms are socially approved guidelines which direct behaviours of members of a society or a social group. In other words, they are the social expectations of proper behaviour. Norms usually vary across societies and even within the same society across different social groups. There are different types of norms, depending on how strict they are e.g. mores, folkways, customs and laws. (B) Cognitive Dimension: The cognitive dimension of culture refers to ideas which include beliefs, knowledge, myths, superstitions etc. of a society. • In literate society, ideas are transcribed in books and documents. • But in non-literate societies ideas are in the form of legends and myths which are committed to memory and transmitted orally. • In the contemporary world ideas are also reflected in audio-visual media [ads, films] Material aspect of Culture: It refers to the tangible, concrete products that members of society possess and make use of; e.g.-machines, buildings, jewellery, modes of transportation, technological gadgets. We need material culture for survival (clothes, food) etc. Material culture refers to the basic conditions which generally include material culture that the members of the society have and are car, science, technology, food etc. as they are instruments of production, communication and transportation. All the above-mentioned components i.e. material and non-material culture are complementary to each other and coordinate to function as a whole.	
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