



Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir

Assessment 1 (Answer Key)

SOCIOLOGY (Code:039)

Class: XI

Date:16/09/2025

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 statements best describes the influence of Darwin's ideas on early sociological thought? a) Society was ignored as a living system and studied purely through statistics. b) Darwin's ideas led sociologists to focus exclusively on social conflicts. c) Early sociology rejected the use of biological analogies in studying social institutions. d) Society was compared to living organisms, with parts functioning together like organs in a body.	1
2.	Assertion (A): Sociology is marked by different ways of understanding society and dramatic social changes. Reason (R): Concepts and ideas in sociology are uniform and uncontested. 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

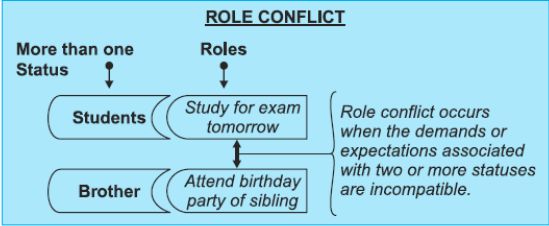
3.	According to the conflict view, “<i>All social institutions whether familial, religious, political, economic, legal or educational will operate in the interest of the dominant sections of society.</i>” What does this imply? a) Social institutions function to serve the general needs of society b) Institutions are neutral and benefit all individuals equally c) Institutions work in favour of the ruling or dominant sections such as class, caste, tribe, or gender d) Institutions are independent of social power and conflict	1
4.	Sociology is sometimes called: a) The child of philosophy b) The child of the age of revolution c) The parent of natural sciences d) The cousin of psychology	1
5.	Assertion (A): The sociological imagination helps individuals understand their personal troubles by linking them to broader public issues in society. Reason (R): Personal troubles are isolated from the social structure and only reflect individual failings without connection to the larger historical context. 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
6.	Assertion (A): Structural functionalists viewed society as essentially harmonious. Reason (R): They compared society to an organism where different parts maintain the whole. 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.	With regard to marriage customs in India, the folk songs reflect the social practices where <i>the daughter says: “Father, my palanquin cannot pass through your palace, (because the door is too small). To which the father replies: Daughter, I shall remove a brick (to enlarge the passage for your palanquin), You must go to your home.”</i> What does this symbolize? a) The bride’s unwillingness to leave her natal home b) The physical difficulty of transporting the bride c) The father’s refusal to let the daughter marry far away d) The pain of separation and transition from her natal home to her marital home	1
8.	Assertion (A): The Enlightenment period emphasized the centrality of nature and divine acts in understanding society. Reason (R): Enlightenment thinkers displaced religious explanations in favour of rational thought.	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.	
9.	Based on your understanding of the relation between Sociology and Economics in chapter 1, read the <i>italicised</i> text and choose the correct option: <i>Pierre Bourdieu (1998) argued that “A true economic science would look at all the costs of the economy—not only at the costs that corporations are concerned with, but also at crimes, suicides, and so on.”</i> What does Bourdieu emphasize through this statement? a) The importance of maximizing corporate profits b) The need to consider broader social and human costs in economics c) That sociology provides direct technical solutions to economic problems d) The irrelevance of symbolic factors in economic analysis	1
10.	In Sociology, the term ‘community’ refers to: a) Highly personal, intimate, and enduring human relationships b) Impersonal, superficial, and transitory relationships c) Rational and calculating dealings based on contracts d) Relationships found mainly in commerce and industry	1
11.	Assertion (A): One of the main features of modern societies is the enormous expansion of economic interdependence. Reason (R): With few exceptions, most people in modern societies do not produce the food they eat, the houses they live in, or the material goods they consume. 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
12.	Karl Marx’s concept of the ‘mode of production’ includes: a) Economic base and superstructure b) Religion and culture c) Literature and art d) Only means of production such as tools and machines	1
13.	Assertion (A): The study of sociology often begins with European society of the 18th and 19th centuries because many sociological issues originated during that period. Reason (R): The history of British capitalism and colonialism closely connects Indian society’s past to European developments, making the European context relevant for understanding Indian sociology.	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.	
14.	With regard to caste as a system of social stratification unique to the Indian society, Parmar observed, <i>“They will not even drink water from our hands and they sometimes use abusive language when dealing with us. This is because they feel and believe they are superior.”</i> What does this observation highlight? a) The complete disappearance of caste-based discrimination in mills b) The persistence of caste discrimination despite changes in workplace settings c) The equality and acceptance among different castes in modern industry d) The role of caste only in rural areas and not in urban spaces	1
15.	With regard to Education as a Social Institution, the Pratiche study observed: <i>“If you come during the cultivation season you may see almost zero attendance from the SC and ST children.”</i> What was the main reason for this? a) They preferred working in privileged schools b) They were provided free coaching at home c) They migrated to urban areas for better education d) They took household responsibilities while parents were out working	1
16.	The ‘ideal type’ in Weber’s methodology is: a) A historical fact b) A religious belief c) An exact description of reality d) A heuristic conceptual tool exaggerating important features to aid understanding	1
	SECTION B	
17.	List any two consequences of urbanization Ans: Urbanization involved an increase in the proportion of people living in towns and cities. Urbanization occurs because people move from rural areas (countryside) to urban areas (towns and cities). In many parts of the world, industrialization resulted in urbanization. Two of its consequences were: - poor living conditions of people who had migrated to cities in search of jobs and - new significance of clock time as the basis of social organization	2
18.	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 new members must be socialised according to which those who fail to comply with group norms may be ostracized.	2

19.	How is the joint family different from nuclear family? Ans: 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. OR State any two functions of marriage. Ans: • Marriage sustains society by developing kinship bonds. • Marriage facilitates and strengthens social status.	2
20.	Explain secondary groups and state its characteristics Ans: Secondary groups are relatively large in size, maintain formal and impersonal relationships e.g. schools, government offices are examples of secondary groups. Characteristic of secondary group: (1) Large size (2) Indirect relationship (3) Fulfilment of special interest (4) Limited responsibility (5) Impersonal relationship	2
21.	Explain briefly social fact as interpreted by Durkheim Ans: Durkheim writes, “Social facts are those ways of working, thinking and feeling which are exterior to man and which controls the man by their power of constraint”. These social facts could be observed via social behavior, and specially aggregated patterns of social behaviour.	2
22.	What is social stratification? Ans: Social stratification refers to division of members of a society into different social categories or strata which are ranked into hierarchy, according to their relative power, prestige and wealth. It is not an individual fact, it is rather a social fact. Examples of social stratification systems include slavery, feudalism, caste and class.	2
23.	Explain the main features of Industrial Revolution Ans: The foundations of modern industry were laid by the Industrial Revolution, which began in Britain in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. It had two major aspects: 1) The first was the systematic application of science and technology to industrial production, particularly the invention of new machines e.g. Spinning Jenny and the harnessing of new sources of power e.g. Steam. 2) Secondly, the industrial revolution also evolved new ways of organizing labour and markets on a scale larger than anything in the past.	2
24.	What do you mean by role? Ans: A Role refers to the expected behaviour of an individual who holds a certain status and it is the status which determines the behaviour pattern, obligations and privileges. Role is the dynamic aspect of status. The functions which an individual performs in society are referred to as ‘Role taking’ and the functions that he/she is expected to perform are known as ‘Role expectations’.	2

25.	Write a short note on the French Revolution Ans: The French Revolution (1789) announced the arrival of political sovereignty at the level of individuals as well as nation-states. -The Declaration of Human Rights asserted the equality of all citizens and questioned the legitimacy of privileges inherited by birth. - It signalled the emancipation of the individual from the oppressive rule of the religious and feudal institutions that dominated France before the Revolution.	2
	SECTION C	
26.	Discuss the relationship between Sociology and History Answer: Sociology tries to understand the social life of particular times only on the basis of historical influences whereas History is a compilation of the events of the past. • History focuses on the study of the past, whereas Sociology shows interest in contemporary or recent past. • Historians delineate actual events to establish how things actually happened while in sociology the focus is on establishing causal relationships. • In the past, history was about history of kings and wars. Today however, history is far more sociological as social history is the stuff of history where it looks at social patterns, gender relations, customs and important institutions other than the acts of rules, wars and monarchy.	4
27.	Differentiate between caste and class as a form of social stratification ↓ Caste • Individual's position totally depends on the status attributes ascribed by birth rather than achieved. • Each position in the caste structure was defined in terms of its purity or pollution relative to others. The Brahmin priestly castes, are superior to all others and the Panchamas. • The traditional system is generally conceptualised in terms of the four fold varna of Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishnavas and Shudra. In reality there are innumerable occupation-based caste groups, called Jatis. • The caste system in India has undergone considerable changes. → Class • It is not dependent on birth, but it depends on profession, ability, skill, education etc. • It is open ended. • An individual can change his/her class & can acquire high status. • Types of class — High class, Middle class. Lower class, Agricultural class.	4
28.	Explain the different types of economic systems in which work gets manifested There are various economic systems in which the work gets manifestation: (b) Agrarian Economy: This was second stage of economic system which ensured continuous food supply for workers. The occupation became caste based and barter system and jajmani system prevailed. (c) Industrial Economy: This is present day economic system that began with industrialization in England in 18th century. Capitalism and socialism emerged as two basic systems of industrialized society. This society is based on tools and machines for the production. These economic systems regulate the work with a fixed currency.	4

	Division of labour, factory system, interdependence for production and specialization of task are the main features of present-day economy.	
29.	Why do we need to use special terms and concepts in Sociology? Ans: As opposed to commonsensical knowledge, sociology like any other science has its own body of concepts and methods of data collection. As a social science, sociology does need to have certain agreed upon meanings of social realities and processes in studying. Each subject is required to have a standard vocabulary, terminology, language and concepts through which professionals can converse and maintain the different identity of its subject. It becomes all the more important to discuss sociological terms so as to distinguish what they mean from commonsensical usage which may have varied meanings and connotations. OR Explain Role conflict with an example Role Conflict: - When a person has many role-sets, performance of one role may be in conflict with another role. This situation is called as role conflict. - When a person has many role-sets and performance of one role may be in conflict with another role. - It occurs when different expectations arise from two or more roles.  - Example 1. A teacher on invigilation duty might find the son/daughter of a friend cheating OR a middle class working woman who has to manage her role as mother and wife at home and that of a professional.	4
30.	Why is the Enlightenment important for the development of sociology? Ans: □ During the late 17th and 18th centuries, Western Europe saw the emergence of radically new ways of thinking about the world. It is referred to 'The Enlightenment'. □ The ability to think rationally and critically transformed the individual human being into both the producer and the user of all knowledge, the 'knowing subject'. □ Only persons who could think and reason could be considered as a complete human being. □ To define features of the human world, it was necessary to displace nature, religion and the divine acts of gods from the central position they had in earlier days of understanding the world. The Enlightenment thus became the backdrop for the emergence of social sciences, and sociology in particular.	4
31.	What is the sociological imagination? Explain with an example	4

	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? • Are certain industries or groups more affected? • How do education, race, gender, or geography play into job opportunities?	
32.	Discuss the kind of rights that exist in society Answer: India a largest democracy in the world and being a welfare state has given above rights to her citizens mentioned below. Kinds of Rights -Civil rights: Right to information, right to education, freedom of speech, freedom to follow religion, food security are several civil rights which all the people of a democratic India enjoy. -Social rights: All Indian citizens have right to enjoy a minimum standard of welfare and security such as health benefits. Minimum level of wages, old age benefits or employment allowance particularly for people below poverty line (BPL). -Political rights: Right to vote and freedom of expression are political rights. -Welfare rights: Social security in developed western countries	4
	SECTION D	
33.	Explain in detail Karl Marx's theory of class struggle and also state the reasons why it has been criticized Ans: 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. Karl Marx's theory of class struggle has been criticized because he has absolutely ignored the middle class. Middle class has a great importance in modern society especially that society which can be called the supreme capitalist society. The class	6

	struggle cannot be accepted as constructive. Hence, it is always destructive and it leads to fascism which any society is unable to bear.	
34.	How Sociology is related with Social Anthropology? Answer: Relationship between Sociology and Social Anthropology - Types of Society: Sociology emerged as the study of modern, industrial complex societies while Social Anthropology emerged as the study of primitive, simple and small-scale societies. The anthropologists of the past documented the details of simple societies apparently in a neutral scientific fashion. In practice, however, they were constantly comparing those societies with the model of the western modern societies as a benchmark. - Scale of study: Social anthropology tended to study society (simple societies) in all their aspects, as a whole. In so far, as they specialized, it was on the basis of area. For example, the Andaman Islands. Sociologists study complex societies and would therefore often focus on parts of society like the bureaucracy or religion or caste or a process such as social mobility. - Methods of Study: Social Anthropology has been associated with the ethnographic methods of participant observation. It is characterized by long field work tradition, living in and with the community being studied for a long time and learning their language. Sociologists have often relied on survey methods and quantitative data using statistics and the questionnaire mode. - Convergence of Sociology and Social Anthropology: Today the distinction between a simple society and a complex one itself needs major rethinking. India itself is a complex mix of tradition and modernity, of the village and the city, of caste and tribe, of class and community.	6
35.	Describe the 'Transformations in work' that occurred in modern society Ans: One of the main features of modern societies is an enormous expansion of economic interdependence. We are all dependent on an immense number of other workers -stretching right across the world- for the products and services that sustain our lives. Industrial operations are broken down into simple operations that could be precisely times, organized and monitored. Mass production demanded mass markets. One of the most significant innovations was the construction of moving assembly line. Modern industrial production needed expensive equipment and continuous monitoring of employees through surveillance system. Over the last decades there has been a shift to what is often called 'flexible production' and 'decentralization of work'. It is argued that in this period of globalization, it is the growing competition between firms and countries that makes it essential for firms to organize production suiting the changing market conditions.	6