

# ForumIAS

ACADEMY

## SOCIOLOGY (OPTIONAL)

Name Of Candidate	SRUTANJAY NARAYANAN		
Email Id.	[REDACTED]	Roll No.	
Mobile No.	[REDACTED]	Date:	5.9.2019

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION	
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile).</p> <p>2. There are EIGHT questions printed in ENGLISH.</p> <p>3. Question 1 and 5 are compulsory. You can attempt any THREE out of the remaining, Choosing at least ONE Question from each section.</p> <p>4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</p> <p>5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.</p> <p>6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.</p> <p>7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.</p>	
1				
2				
3				
4				
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7				
8				
<b>Total Marks:</b>				
<b>Remarks:</b>			<b>Start Time</b>   2:30	<b>End Time</b>
			<b>Mode Of Examination :</b>	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
			<b>ECN CODE:</b>	<b>Evaluation Date:</b>

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
Handwriting						
Content						
Attempt						

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Section A

Q.1) Write notes on the following in about 150 words each: (10 \* 5 = 50 Marks)

a. Critically analyze the androcentric bias in development of sociology.

(10 Marks, 150 words)

Androcentric Bias refers to focus on male gender and a patriarchal bias in development of sociology.

\* Initial Evolutionary theorists were conservative to the extent that sexual division of labour was defined as functional and the structure justified.

\* Many sociologists until early 20th century did not study, LGBTQI, women's movement until Jane Adams, scholars like Marx, Durkheim, Weber, Parsons were all male

\* Conflict theory also focused on economic power structure in class not in gender, women and man

\* Functionalists were statist- and 'pink collarization' was deemed functional for socialization. Women as a 'secondary sex' as Aristotle defined was not rebutted initially.

However Feminism under Mary Wolfsore and, Simone de Beauvoir, Participation of women like Komladi Unalopadyay has enriched social sciences with a more balanced perspective.

Feedback( For OFFICE use only )

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
<b>Total</b>	



b. Elaborate the central postulates of interpretive sociology.

(10 Marks, 150 words)

Weber was one of the pioneers of Interpretive school that was a bridge between Micro and Macro Sociology. Here motives, intentions of actor are considered along with its ramifications on society. 3 main postulates are

- (i) Value Freedom
- (ii) Value Reliance
- (iii) value Neutrality in order

to understand a social reality.

This according to Weber could be achieved through.

- (i) Verstehen - understand motives of social actor
- (ii) Causal plural approach -

which enables the sociologists to look at multiple reasons for a social occurrence.

(iii) Ideal Type - or a mental construct that is the Abstraction of social reality.

For Example, Bureaucracy is a legal / rational authority structure that is

- (i) hierarchical
- (ii) specialized
- (iii) with fixed salary and service conditions.

In society, the role and actions of an action could be understood using 'neutrality' rather than 'value' using 'neutrality' rather than Judgment or Reductionism.

Feedback( For OFFICE use only )

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
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<b>Total</b>	



c. What do you understand by 'fetishism of commodities'?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Commodity Fetishism refers to excessive importance given to 'product' or outcome of industrial labour as opposed to relevance of conscious labourer himself.

\* According to ~~Marx~~ Marx, in Capitalist society, the proletariat are alienated from the process of production due to alienation from - product, process, self and society.

\* For Example - Handloom looms are replaced by powerloom looms. Thus the role of Labour has reduced. On the other hand

Products have life of their own beyond the producer.

\* Veblen talks about conspicuous consumption that defines luxury products

\* Conflict theorists call this 'McDonaldization of Society' where products have a separate value, price and identity in 'Market Economy' whereas Proletariat is 'pauperized'

\* Functionalist like Davis and Moore argue this to be a feature of industrial world as technology evolves.

Feedback( For OFFICE use only )

Structure	
Question Interpretation	
Content	
<b>Total</b>	





d. 'Modernity is an unfinished project'. How far do you agree?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Modernity is an Enlightenment era concept that refers to new ways of thinking and living based

- on
- i) Humanism
  - ii) Reason
  - iii) Scientific Temper
  - iv) Tolerance and Secularism.

However, it does seem to be an unfinished project.

(i) Post Modernists like

Foucault argue that modernity goes against its own premise and complex society need pluralistic approaches to modern institutions like law, government and gender.

(ii) Francis Fukuyama announced end of history with rise of liberal capitalism. However rise

of protectionism, Fascism and authoritarianism shows a move back to Parochial mindset

(iii) Communalism and Religious Revivalism in most parts of the world like Theocracy in Iran, Communal violence in Israel show Sewler principles have not totally transformed society.

(iv) Inequality, Stalestatus - Refugees in Myanmar  
However, Comte, Spenser and Anthony Giddens show the merits of Modern thoughts that have given society Globalization, Technology Liberty and strive towards Social Justice.

Feedback( For OFFICE use only )

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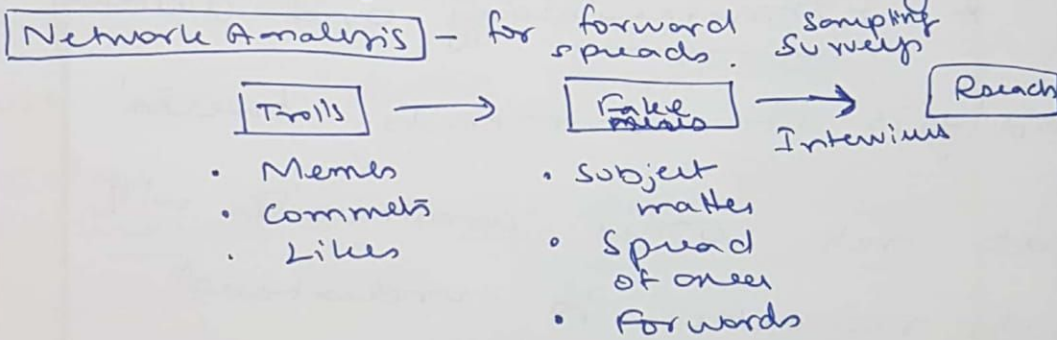
e. Which research technique would be most suitable for the study of trolling sub-cultures and production of fake news. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Fake news and Trolling of Subcultures are Modern manifestation of dissent, a search for alternate histories and an anxiety of identity on Social Media.

\* Ethnomethodology and discourse analysis of 'Comments', 'tweets' that troll other communities will help researcher to understand intentions, motives and underlying social contexts.

\* Symbolic Interactionism can be used to analyze symbols on visuals, gestures of 'Graphic Content' like GIF's that can explain the reasons.

\* Quantitative techniques like number of fake news, forwards of whatsapp and qualitative technique like interviews of fake news producers, victims of trolling would give a wholistic understanding of social reality.



Using social analysis techniques like Ethnomethodology can explain Lynching, forwarding culture, social patterns.

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Q.3) a. Capitalism is the 'unintended consequence' of the Reformation. Analyze  
(20 Marks)

Capitalism refers to an economic system built on ideas of

- (i) Profit Accumulation
- (ii) Private Property
- (iii) Risk taking ability

and this took root in 1750's as a consequence of mercantilism, colonialism and Industrial Revolution.

\* Max Weber created 'Ideal Types' or mental constructs that show an interaction between Protestant Ethics and a spirit of Capitalism.

\* Reformation, led by Martin Luther in 16<sup>th</sup> century Germany was a social movement against hegemony of the Catholic Church.

Reformation led to 'counter cultural ideas' as opposed to Orthodox

Catholicism :

### Sects

- (i) Lutheranism
- (ii) Calvinism
- (iii) Methodists
- (iv) Pentecostalism

### Ideas

- (i) Asceticism
- (ii) Freedom of Personal Interpretation
- (iii) Early Success
- (iv) Predestination
- (v) Ideals of Hardwork
- (vi) Banking

This was in stark contrast to

- Catholic ideas such as
- (i) Luxury
  - (ii) No lending money
  - (iii) God and Church dictating life
  - (iv) Concept of sins.

Hence Weber does a comparative analysis of major religions like Hinduism, Taoism, Catholicism and

Consciousness and understood that 'cultural ethos' impacted economic change. Like Hegel describes, the change in 'ideas' had manifestations in social reality.

### Capitalism and Protestant Ethics.

The ideas listed above helped in growth of:

(i) Material success - This was possible as Reformation gave people an incentive to focus on 'present life' rather than 'After life'

(ii) Banking - was a major reason why the British were pioneers in modern capitalism and they had Protestant virtues which allowed banking and lending.

(iii) Individualism - The rise of interpretation, humanism and role

extend to individuals propelled a Capitalist spirit.

However,

Veena Das shows how Hinduism had a Vaishya class that were capitalist in their own right

Neil Smelser also shows that States can dictate change.

Thus Weber's analysis is right in so far as multiple reasons like technology, colonialism, geography acted along with Reformation to produce capitalism and it was not an 'overly', 'intended' and directed consequence.

Feedback( For OFFICE use only )

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b. Sometimes the pressure of conforming to the norms, and not their absence, can create anomie. Analyze, keeping Merton's Sociology in perspective, how individuals deal with strain in such situations? (20 Marks)

Merton's theory on conformity and deviance explores multiple combinations of social actions that actors take to achieve social goals.

\* In this context, excessive pressure of conforming creates rebels, innovators, ~~to~~ delinquencies and detractors as opposed to lack of norms.

Ex: Cheating in Exams,  
Breaking Traffic rules

Merton describes deviance as an alternate means to achieve socially accepted goals in lack of direct means of achievement.

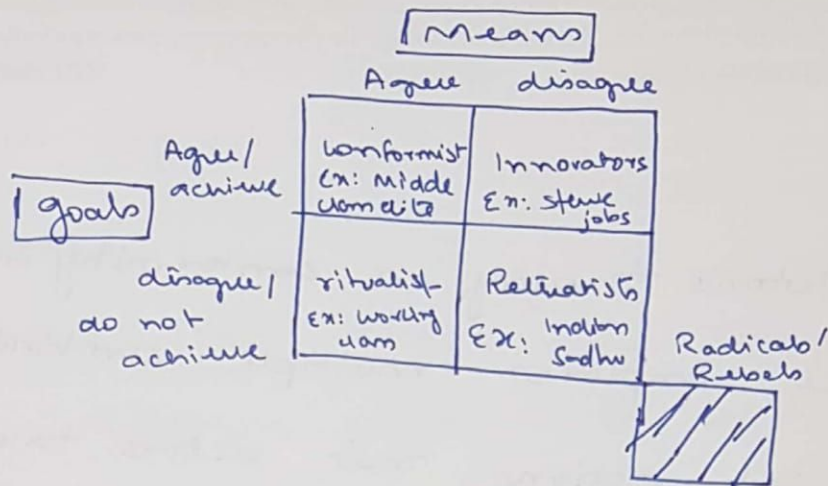


Fig: Merton's Model of Deviance

Now when executive rules, norms exist, the means is congested that leads to anomie or innovation

(i) Political Systems - Excessive red tapism, corruption and Bureaucracy creates an 'Iron cage of rationality' and the way out is 'Whistle Blowing' or Starting Social Movements  
Ex: Edward Snowden

(ii) Economic System - India ranks around 77 on the World

banks Ease of doing Business. The norms of compliance, economic responsiveness results →

- i) Low tax compliance
- ii) Bankruptcy
- iii) Non-paying Assets

(iii) Social systems - when LG/BTR or women are opposed under Patriarchal norms, there are many instances of 'Elopement', 'Suicides', 'mental health depression' and rise of protests from subaltern groups. Ex: Protests to repeal Section 377 Temple Entry - Sabarimala and Hajj: Aki

When Rules <sup>do not</sup> exist you have violations like Rape, traffic law violations by research like Economic Survey 2019 shows how excessive, difficult

or Bad customs as Alexis de  
Tocqueville puts it creates Anomie.

\* Richard Thaler's innovation  
to reduce anomie is by creating  
'nudges' and incentives via behavioral  
economics to ensure compliance  
in social systems.

\* The increase in Unemployment,  
De globalisation, Domestic violence  
is attributed to excessive policies,  
litigation and 'faulty policy' rather  
than its lack.

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