

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD  
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA  
MATRICULATION EXAMINATION  
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL  
SEPTEMBER 2014

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**SUBJECT:** SOCIOLOGY  
**DATE:** 5th September 2014  
**TIME:** 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

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**ANSWER 4 (FOUR) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**  
**Each question carries 25 marks.**

**Section A: Answer ONE Question from this Section**

1. The concept of social equilibrium is central to Parsons' theory of social change. Discuss.
2. The history of mankind is the history of class struggle. Discuss with reference to Marxist theory.
3. According to Durkheim, normlessness leads to an anomic society. Elaborate.

**Section B: Answer ONE Question from this Section**

4. The stages of participant observation can be summed up in terms of *getting in*, *staying* and *getting out* of the group concerned. Discuss.
5. Researchers must always remain respectful of participants and mindful of their well-being. Elaborate.
6. Compare and contrast the advantages and disadvantages of qualitative and quantitative methods in sociological research.

**Section C: Answer TWO questions from this Section.**

7. According to Karl Marx, religion is an illusion. Discuss.
8. The family has become a vital unit of consumption in modern capitalist society. Elaborate.
9. A major theme in the sociology of the family is the relationship between the structure of the family and the process of industrialisation. Discuss.
10. Conflict analysis is a major approach to studying education. Elaborate.