



Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir

Final Examination – Answer Key

SOCIOLOGY (Code:039)

Class: XI
Date:22/02/2026

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.18. 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 how industrialization transformed social life in Europe? a) It strengthened rural economies and reduced migration to cities b) It eliminated poverty by providing high wages and safe working conditions c) It reduced the role of the state in health, sanitation, and governance d) It led to urban dominance, migration from rural areas, and the emergence of social inequalities	1
2.	Which of the following best describes the transformation of work under modern industrial production? a) Work became less organised and relied mainly on skilled craftsmen b) Production shifted to small-scale units with minimal monitoring of workers c) Industrial work was divided into simple, timed tasks, with later shifts towards flexible and decentralised production d) Industrial production eliminated competition between firms and countries	1
3.	Assertion (A): A crowd of people waiting at a bus stop cannot be strictly defined as a "social group" in sociological terms.	1

	<p>Reason (R): A social group requires persistent interaction, a stable pattern of relations, and a shared sense of belonging among its members.</p> <p>a) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).</p> <p>b) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is NOT the correct explanation of (A).</p> <p>c) (A) is true, but (R) is false.</p> <p>d) (A) is false, but (R) is true.</p>	
4.	<p>Assertion (A): Social order in stateless societies is maintained through a decentralized network of kinship, alliances, and shared rituals rather than a formal governmental apparatus.</p> <p>Reason (R): Informal mechanisms of order, such as cross-cutting alliances and ceremonies, are exclusive to stateless societies unlike fixed structures in modern states.</p> <p>a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.</p> <p>b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.</p> <p>c) A is true, but R is false.</p> <p>d) A is false, but R is true.</p>	1
5.	<p>Which of the following best describes the relationship between "cosmopolitanism" and "cultural enrichment"?</p> <p>a) Cosmopolitanism prevents cultural enrichment by encouraging people to judge others based on their own values.</p> <p>b) Cultural enrichment occurs through the isolation of a culture from foreign influences and "propensities."</p> <p>c) Cosmopolitanism facilitates cultural enrichment by embracing differences and incorporating elements from other traditions.</p> <p>d) Cultural enrichment is the opposite of cosmopolitanism because it focuses strictly on international communication.</p>	1
6.	<p>Assertion (A): In capitalist society, workers are alienated from the products of their labour.</p> <p>Reason (R): Workers do not own what they produce and have little or no control over the work process, which is decided by management.</p> <p>a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A</p> <p>b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A</p>	1

	<p>c) A is true, but R is false d) A is false, but R is true</p>	
7.	<p>Which of the following is a defining characteristic of the sociological study of religion that distinguishes it from a religious or theological study?</p> <p>a) It focuses primarily on the divine origins of religious texts.</p> <p>b) It uses empirical studies to examine how religions function within society and relate to other institutions.</p> <p>c) It avoids comparing different religious practices to maintain the uniqueness of each faith.</p> <p>d) It prioritizes religious reflection over the investigation of cultural aspects.</p>	1
8.	<p>Sociology differs from economics primarily because sociology:</p> <p>a) focuses on providing technical solutions to economic problems b) discourages questioning of basic social assumptions c) promotes a critical perspective that examines the social desirability of goals d) deals only with factual knowledge and avoids theoretical explanations</p>	1
9.	<p>Modern societies are characterised by organic solidarity, which is based on interdependence and differentiation rather than similarity. Choose which of the following features best reflect organic solidarity.</p> <p>i) Individuals perform specialised roles and functions ii) Social cohesion is based on similarity of beliefs and lifestyles iii) Greater tolerance for differences among individuals iv) Laws aim to restore social relationships rather than punish deviation</p> <p>OPTIONS:</p> <p>a) i, ii, iii b) ii, iii, iv c) i, iii, iv d) i, ii, iv</p>	1
10.	<p>Assertion (A): The emergence of the new social order led to a decline in the status of both common labourers and skilled craftsmen.</p> <p>Reason (R): Work was removed from traditional protective institutions such as guilds, villages, and families, leading to the degradation of labour.</p> <p>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.</p>	1

	<p>c) A is true, but R is false. d) A is false, but R is true.</p>	
	<p><i>While norms are implicit rules, laws are explicit rules. Pierre Bourdieu, the French sociologists has reminded us that when we try to understand another culture's norms, we must remember that there are certain implicit understandings. For example, if a person wants to show gratitude for something s/he has been given, s/he should not offer a return-gift too quickly, or it seems like an attempt to get rid of a debt, not a friendly gesture.</i></p> <p><i>Based on the passage Answer Qs 11 & 12.</i></p>	
11.	<p>Assertion (A): Laws are formal rules defined by the government that apply to the entire society and carry penalties for violations.</p> <p>Reason (R): Like norms, which are specific to particular groups or families, laws are explicit, universally accepted rules that ensure order and justice in society.</p> <p>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.</p>	1
12.	<p>Which among these is part of the normative dimension of culture:</p> <p>a) Folkways b) Mores c) Customs d) Laws e) Conventions</p> <p>OPTIONS</p> <p>i) a,b,c ii) c,d,e iii) a,b,c,d,e iv) a,d,c,d</p>	1

SECTION B		
17.	<p><i>‘For reason to become the defining feature 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 ways of understanding the world.’</i></p> <p>What is period in the European history is this a reference to? What are the key features of this period and what attitudes did it develop which were relevant in relation to the birth of Sociology?</p> <p>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. Enlightenment helped to develop attitudes of mind that we refer to today as secular, scientific and humanistic.</p>	2
18.	<p>What do you mean by norms in sociology? Answer: Norms are unwritten rules. <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted criteria developed by individuals, groups and society so that everyone behaves in an acceptable way. <input type="checkbox"/> They are present to regulate the behaviour of members in a society. <input type="checkbox"/> They are as important as written rules. <input type="checkbox"/> They are prescriptions which have to be followed by society. <input type="checkbox"/> If they aren't followed it can lead to chaos and disorder in society.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Explain sub-cultures. In a culture there can be many subcultures, like that of the elite and working-class youth. Sub- cultures are marked by style, taste and association. Particular sub-cultures are identifiable by their speech, dress codes, preference for particular kind of music or the manner in which they interact with their group members. Sub-cultural groups can also function as cohesive units which imparts an identity to all group members.</p>	2
19.	<p>Explain the phenomenon of ‘gated communities’ found in Indian cities.</p> <p>The worldwide phenomenon of ‘gated communities’ is also found in Indian cities. This refers to the creation of affluent neighbourhoods that are separated from their surroundings by walls and gates, with controlled entry and exit. Such communities also have their own parallel civic facilities, such as water and electricity supply, policing and security.</p>	2
20.	<p>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:</p>	2

	<p>- poor living conditions of people who had migrated to cities in search of jobs and</p> <p>- new significance of clock time as the basis of social organization</p>	
21.	<p>Define in-group Ans: The groups having ‘we’ feeling are called ‘in-groups’. Members perceive positive characteristics for each other. The group maintains mutual dependence, trust, solidarity, harmony and sacrifice. Members are cooperative with each other and a lot of communication occurs.</p>	2
22.	<p><i>‘Status is occupied, but roles are played’</i>. Explain this sentence by explaining the concepts of ‘role’ and ‘status’.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Social status refers to the position that a person occupies in the social structure, such as a teacher or priest. It is often combined with the notion of social role.</p> <p>Status, which an individual gets by birth or due to nominations is known as ‘Ascribed Status.’ e.g. Brahmins higher status in Hindu society is simply ‘ascribed’. An individual acquires ‘Achieved Status’ because of his intelligence, aptitude, efforts, diligence, skills and personality characterization.</p>	2
23.	<p>What is capitalism?</p> <p>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.</p>	2
24.	<p>Explain why urban areas can be a site for communal tensions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential areas in cities all over the world are almost always segregated by class, and often also by race, ethnicity, religion and other such variables. Tension between such identities cause these segregation patterns and are also a consequence. 	2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example, in India, communal tensions between religious communities, most commonly Hindus and Muslims, results in the conversion of mixed neighbourhoods into single-community ones. 	
25.	What is culture? A: It is a complex whole which includes our life styles, behaviour patterns, religion, education, customs, traditions, beliefs, art etc. that an individual acquires as a member of the society .	2
	SECTION C	
26.	<p>Describe some kinds of environment -related social changes Answer: 1. Nature, ecology and physical environment have always had a significant influence on the structure and shape of society.</p> <p>2. This was particularly true in the past when human beings were unable to control or overcome the effects of nature. For example, people living in a desert environment were unable to practice settled agriculture of the sort that was possible in the plains, near rivers and so on. So, the kind of food they ate or the clothes they wore, the way they earned their livelihood, their patterns of social interaction were all determined to a large extent by the physical and climatic conditions of their environment.</p> <p>3. Sudden and catastrophic events such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, floods, or tidal waves (like the tsunami that hit Indonesia, Sri Lanka, the Andaman Islands and parts of Tamil Nadu in December 2004) can change societies quite drastically. These changes are often irreversible, that is, they are permanent and don't allow a return to the way things were.</p> <p>4. There are numerous instances of natural disasters leading to total transformation and sometimes total destruction of societies in history. Environmental or ecological factors need not only be destructive to cause change, they can be constructive as well. For example- the discovery of oil in countries of the middle east.</p>	4
27.	<p>Discuss school as an agency of socialization</p> <p>School</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> School is another important socializing agent. Since children spend a long time in schools, which provide them with a fairly organized set up for interaction with <input type="checkbox"/> teachers and peers.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nowadays school is being viewed as a more important agent of child socialization than parents and family. Children learn not only cognitive skills (e.g., reading, <input type="checkbox"/> writing, doing mathematics) but also many social skills (e.g., ways of behaving with elders and age mates, accepting roles, fulfilling responsibilities).</p>	4

	<input type="checkbox"/> They also learn and internalize the norms and rules of society. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Several other positive qualities, such as self-initiative, self-control, responsibility and creativity are encouraged in schools. <input type="checkbox"/>	
28.	<p>What are the basic features of bureaucracy according to Weber? Answer:</p> <p>Functioning of Officials: Officials have fixed areas of official jurisdiction governed by rules, laws and administrative regulations. Commands are issued by higher authorities for implementation by subordinates in a stable way, but the responsibilities of officials are strictly delimited by the authority available to them.</p> <p>Office management: Official positions in a bureaucracy are independent.</p> <p>Hierarchical Ordering of Positions: Authority and office are placed on a graded hierarchy where the higher officials supervise the lower ones.</p> <p>Reliance on written document: Management of a bureaucratic organization is carried out on the basis of written documents (the files) which are preserved as records.</p> <p>Conduct in office: Full time attention of officials irrespective of her/his delimited hours in office, hence an official's conduct in office is governed by exhaustive rules and regulations.</p>	4
29.	<p>Work can be categorised into which sectors?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal sector: Here the idea of paid employment functions. • Informal sector: It refers to an economy which, involves the direct exchange of goods or services. Informal economy refers to transaction outside the sphere of regular employment. • Service sector: In service sector most of the work is being provided to people in communication, health, education, hotel, aviation, I.T, transportations, computer etc. • Public sector: Employment generated by the government is called public sector work e.g. Railways, Heavy Industries. They are part of public sector. India being a welfare state many areas like transport is managed by the government only. • Private sector: The work which is regulated by private owners. This is basically profit-making business field e.g. TCS, Infosys etc. • PPP: It is a new concept in which public sector i.e. government and private sector coordinate each other for the development of economy <p>OR</p> <p>Explain the different kinds of authority according to Weber</p>	4

	<p>There are three main types of authorities or three main sources of legitimization of power</p> <p>1. Traditional authority: It is accepted by people out of habit. People accept the power of someone simply because it has been done so in the past. Traditional authority, therefore, rests on customs. It is not based on written laws. This authority is irrational and personal. For example, the authority of a king in a monarchy.</p> <p>2. Charismatic authority: Here people accept the authority of a person due to extraordinary qualities of that individual. For example, Gandhiji. This authority is neither customary nor is it based on written laws.</p> <p>3. Legal rational authority: Here the power and privileges are clearly defined and limited by written rules or law. The actual power lies not in the person who wields it, but in the position that he/ she occupies. E.g. the authority of the Prime Minister in democracy.</p>	
30.	<p>What are some criteria that A.R Desai has suggested to check the performance of a welfare state?</p> <p>A.R. Desai suggests some test criteria against which the performance of the welfare state can be measured. These are:</p> <p>Freedom from poverty, discrimination and security for all: The welfare state ensures freedom from poverty, social discrimination and security for all its citizens.</p> <p>Equality of income: The welfare state removes inequalities of income through measures to redistribute income from the rich to the poor, and by preventing the concentration of wealth.</p> <p>Preference to real needs of community: The welfare state transforms the economy in such a way that the capitalist profit motive is made subservient to the real needs of the community.</p> <p>Stable development: The welfare state ensures stable development free from the cycle of economic booms and depressions.</p> <p>Employment: It provides employment for all.</p>	4
31.	<p>What is the sociological imagination? Explain with an example</p> <p>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.</p>	4

	<p>Example: Imagine someone loses their job and feels like a personal failure. Using the sociological imagination, we would ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.	<p>What does D.P. Mukerji mean by a 'living tradition'? Why did he insist that Indian sociologists must be rooted in this tradition?</p> <p>Answer: According to D.P. Mukherji, this is a tradition which maintains links with the past by retaining something from it, and at the same time incorporates new things.</p> <p>A living tradition thus includes some old elements but also some new ones.</p> <p>What D.P. Mukherji insisted Indian sociologists should be rooted in living tradition to get a better and more concrete sense of what this means.</p> <p>First duty of an Indian sociologist is to study and to know the social traditions of India. For Mr. Mukherji, this study of tradition was not oriented only towards the past, but also included sensitivity to change. An Indian sociologist he insisted must be an Indian first, i.e., he is to share in the folk-ways, mores, customs and traditions, for the purpose of understanding his social system and what lies beneath it and beyond it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D.P. Mukerji argued that Indian culture and society are not individualistic in the western sense. • Indian social system is basically oriented towards group, sect or caste-action, not voluntaristic individual action. 	4
SECTION D		
33.	<p>Explain the types of social control with examples</p> <p>Ans: Social control refers to the various means used by a society to bring its recalcitrant or unruly members back into line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is the social process, techniques and strategies by which the behaviours or individuals or a group are regulated. - It can be the use of force to regulate the behavior of the individuals or enforcement of values in the individual to maintain order in society. <p>Social Control can be of two types- formal and informal.</p>	6

	<p>-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.</p> <p>- 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.</p>	
34.	<p>Summarize the social anthropological definition of caste according to Ghurye. Answer: Social anthropological definition of caste is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caste is based on segmental division: Caste is an institution based on segmental division. This means that caste society is divided into a number of closed, mutually exclusive segments or compartments. • Caste is based on hierarchical division: Caste society is based on hierarchical division. Each caste is strictly unequal to every other caste. • Caste imposes restriction on social interaction: The institution of caste necessarily imposes restrictions on social interaction, especially the sharing of food. • Differential rights and duties for different castes: Following the principles of hierarchy and restricted social interaction, caste also involves differential rights and duties of different castes. • Restriction on the choice of occupation: Caste restricts the choice of occupation, which, like caste itself, is decided by birth and is hereditary. • It Imposes strict restrictions on marriage: Caste involves strict restrictions on marriage. ‘Caste endogamy’, or marriage only within the caste, is often accompanied by rules about ‘exogamy’, or whom one may not marry. 	6
35.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are some features of social order in rural areas? Villages are small in size so they usually permit more personalized relationships; it is not unusual for members of a village to know all or most other members by sight. • The social structure in villages tends to follow a more traditional pattern: institutions like caste, religion, and other forms of customary or traditional social practices are stronger here. • For these reasons, unless there are special circumstances that make for an exception, change is slower to arrive in villages than in towns. • The subordinate sections of society have much less scope for expressing themselves in rural areas than their counterparts in cities. The lack of anonymity and distance in the village makes it difficult for people to 	6

dissent because they can be easily identified and ‘taught a lesson’ by the dominant sections.

- The **relative power of the dominant sections** is much more because they control most avenues of employment, and most resources of all kinds, so the poor have to depend on the dominant sections since there are no alternative sources of employment.
- If there is a **strong power structure** already in place in a village, it is **very difficult to dislodge it**. Change in the sense of shifts in power are thus slow and late to arrive in rural areas because the social order is stronger and more resilient.
- Change of other sorts is also slow to come because **villages are scattered** and not as well connected to the rest of the world as cities and towns are.
- **Communication links** of other sorts (road, rail) have also generally **improved** over time so that a few villages can really claim to be ‘isolated’ or ‘remote’.