

# **PiXL Independence:**

## **Sociology - Student Booklet**

### **KS5**

#### **Topic: Beliefs in Society**

Support for: Paper 2 Q13-15

#### **Contents:**

- I. Multiple Choice Questions – 10 credits
- II. Independent Research – 80 credits per question
- III. Academic Reading – 50 credits per chapter, 150 per book
- IV. Extended Exam Style Questions Part One – 60 credits each plus 20 additional credits for marking your own.
- V. Extended Exam Style Questions Part Two – 60 credits each plus 20 additional credits for marking your own.
- VI. Extended Exam Style Questions Part Three– 100 credits each plus 20 additional credits for marking your own.
- VII. Mark Scheme for Extended Exam Style Questions Part One
- VIII. Mark Scheme for Extended Exam Style Questions Part Two
- IX. Mark Scheme for Extended Exam Style Questions Part Three

### **i. Multiple Choice Questions**

*Answer the question below that explore the themes of this unit.*

**10 credits.**

1. In relation to the substantive and exclusivist definition, religions usually include three of the four features below - which is the odd one out?
  - a. Belief
  - b. Monopoly of truth
  - c. Practice
  - d. Institutions
  
2. True/False – People that belong to cults are permitted to carry on with their own religious beliefs and do not have to show deep levels of commitment to the cult.
  
3. What type of feminists desire more equality in religion, such as campaigning for female priests?
  - a. Marxist feminists
  - b. Radical feminists
  - c. Liberal feminists
  
4. Who studied the aboriginal tribe practice of totemism and argued that when communities worship a totem, they are really worshipping society?
  - a. Durkheim
  - b. Malinowski
  - c. Bellah
  - d. Parsons
  
5. Stark and Bainbridge argue that religion is which of the following options?
  - a. Compensator
  - b. Sacred canopy
  - c. Universe of meaning
  - d. Vacuum of meaning

6. Evidence of patriarchy in religion can be seen in which three of the following aspects of religion?
- Religious organisations
  - Sacred texts
  - Places of worship
  - Secularisation
7. Who famously studied 'The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism' to demonstrate how religion can cause social change?
- Marx
  - Berger
  - Weber
  - Bruce
8. True/False – Disenchantment can be defined as the loss of magic and mystery in explaining the world which is replaced by science and rational thought processes.
9. Merton identified four norms known as 'CUDOS' that encourage scientists to work in certain ways. Which norm below is not part of the CUDOS system?
- Communism
  - Disinterestedness
  - Unconditional
  - Organised scepticism
10. Which two of these statements, regarding world-rejecting NRMs are correct?
- Most are cults.
  - They are extremely critical of the outside world.
  - Members are highly controlled and have little contact with the outside world.
  - They are tolerant of other religions.
11. True/False – Karl Marx discussed 'free-floating intelligentsia' as part of his ideology.

12. Which of the statements below, regarding secularisation, is not true?

- a. More baptisms
- b. A decline in people going to church
- c. Less people getting married in church
- d. A decline in people affiliating with traditional religions

13. Who argued that having a 'technological worldview' has replaced religious explanations as to why things happen?

- a. Parsons
- b. Davie
- c. Wilson
- d. Bruce

14. Which one of the following terms does NOT apply to Weber's explanation of secularisation?

- a. Disenchantment
- b. Consumption
- c. Rationalisation
- d. Disengagement

15. Which three of the following concepts are associated with a postmodern view of religion?

- a. Spiritual shopping
- b. Religious consumerism
- c. Re-enchantment
- d. Collective conscience

## ii. Hyperlinks for Independent Research

*Each research task has a strong link to the unit of Beliefs in Society, but may also focus on wider sociological themes. Remember to try to view sociology as holistically as possibly.*

### 80 credits per task

#### 1. **Brazil police arrest sect members for enslavement**

Read the article and answer the question below.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-42969747>

**Question:** Using your knowledge of sects, why do you think people join sects like the one discussed in the article?

#### 2. **Religion in England and Wales 2011**

Read the article and answer the question below.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/religion/articles/religioninenglandandwales2011/2012-12-11>

**Question:** What does the census tell you about religion in 2011? What are the key findings? Does any of the data surprise you? Why?

#### 3. **Inside Scientology**

Read the article and complete the task.

<https://www.rollingstone.com/culture/culture-news/inside-scientology-103288/>

**Task:** Write down six things you have discovered about scientology from reading the article. Write down two essay topics you could include scientology in.

#### 4. **The relationship between religion and racism: the evidence**

Read the article and answer the question below.

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/religion-does-not-cause-racism-deprivation-and-insecurity-do/>

**Question:** Outline the three main findings of the research and note down three key points about the research.

#### 5. **New Religious Movement**

Read the article and complete the task.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/new-religious-movement>

**Task:** Choose an area of the world, East or West, from the left-hand side of the page. Then choose a particular country you are interested in researching from the left-hand side of the page. Write five bullet points about NRM's in that part of the world. Do the task again, focusing on a different country.

### iii. Recommended Academic Reading for Beliefs in Society

**50 credits for each chapter summary completed (either 300 – 500 words or a one-page bullet-point summary)**

**150 credits for book summaries (either 700-1,000 words or a two-page bullet-point summary)**

**Title:** *AQA A Level Sociology Book Two*

**Author(s):** Rob Webb, Hal Westergaard, Keith Trobe, Annie Townend

**Description:** Written by an experienced team of authors, it provides students with everything they need to know for success in their Sociology A Level studies.

**Recommended reading:** Chapter on Beliefs in Society

**Title:** *Sociology for AQA Volume 2*

**Author:** Ken Browne

**Description:** The book's combination of sociological rigour and accessibility remains one of its hallmarks. Key sociological terms are systematically highlighted throughout the text and are included in a thorough glossary, with thoughtful questions and activities at important points within the chapters to develop and test students' understanding further. Pitched at the right level for the new AQA Sociology specification, the book provides the tools necessary to help students and encourage them to take their study of Sociology further.

**Recommended reading:** Chapter on Beliefs in Society

**Title:** *Sociology, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition*

**Author:** Anthony Giddens

**Description:** This is an indispensable guide to understanding the world we make and the lives we lead. Revised and updated throughout, it remains unrivalled in its vibrant, engaging and authoritative introduction to sociology. The authors provide a commanding overview of recent global developments and new ideas in sociology. Classic debates are also given careful coverage, with even the most complex ideas explained in an engaging way.

**Recommended reading:** Chapter on Beliefs in Society

**Title:** *Religion in Britain since 1945: Believing Without Belonging*

**Author:** Grace Davie

**Description:** This book aims to detail the religious context of Britain at the end of the twentieth century and includes a useful evaluation of the topic.

**Recommended reading:** The whole book!

**Title:** *God is dead: Secularization in the West*

**Author:** Steve Bruce

**Description:** This book focuses on the secularisation debate and argues powerfully that secularisation is happening. Bruce uses many examples to solidify his ideas and some of the topics included are the impact of science, religion in the USA and the direction of religion in the future.

**Recommended reading:** The whole book!

**Title:** *Haralambos and Holborn - Sociology Themes and Perspectives [Eighth edition]*

**Authors:** Michael Haralambos, Martin Holborn

**Description:** An excellent extensive textbook for sociology courses in schools, colleges and higher education. A great starting point for anyone wanting to do some extra reading with clear headings and guidance.

**Recommended reading:** Chapter on Beliefs in Society

**Title:** *The Sociology Book (Big Ideas)*

**Author(s):** Alexandra Beeden and Miezán Van Zyl

**Description:** It is a fantastic book to engage anyone and everyone in sociology. It includes great visuals.

**Recommended reading:** All of it!

#### iv. Extended Exam Questions Part One

##### **Paper 2: Beliefs in Society**

10 marker – ‘outline 2’

**60 credits for each 10 mark question (plus 20 for marking and reviewing)**

**Practise 10 mark exam questions on Beliefs in Society:**

1. Outline and explain **two** characteristics of different religious organisations.
2. Outline and explain **two** reasons why people from some ethnic minorities seem to have a higher participation rate in religion than other social groups.
3. Outline and explain **two** functions that religion has for contemporary society.
4. Outline and explain **two** ways that religion is changing and appearing in new forms.



## v. Extended Exam Questions Part Two

### Paper 2: Beliefs in Society

10 marker- 'analyse two'

**60 credits for each 10 mark question (plus 20 for marking and reviewing)**

**Practise 10 mark exam questions on Beliefs in Society:**

#### Item A

Globalisation refers to the interconnectedness of the world. Davie argues that recently society has witnessed secular forms of fundamentalism that are having an impact on religious worldviews. In addition to this, Bruce suggests that society has seen the development of a technological world view that influences societal opinion.

1. Applying material from **Item A**, analyse **two** reasons that globalisation might threaten traditional religious belief.

#### Item A

Marx saw religion in society as a collection of myths that legitimate the exploitation and oppression of the working classes and keep the bourgeoisie in power. Religion maintains the existing system of exploitation and reinforces class relationships.

Feminists argue that religion can oppress women and see religion as benefiting men at the expense of women. They look at religious practices and religious beliefs when arguing that religion is patriarchal.

2. Applying material from **Item A**, analyse **two** reasons why religion is a source of social control in society today.

#### Item A

There are many things in the world that can't be explained and science hasn't provided the answers to all of these questions. However, the scientific method has challenged the idea of religion as a belief system. The decline of traditional religious thinking has been replaced by meta-narratives from other ideologies and belief systems.

3. Applying material from **Item A**, analyse **two** ways that science has replaced religion as the main influence in contemporary society.

## vi. Extended Exam Questions Part Three

### Paper 2: Beliefs in Society

20 marker – 'evaluate'

**100 credits for each 20 mark question (plus 20 for marking and reviewing)**

**Practise 20 mark exam questions on Beliefs in Society:**

#### Item B

According to functionalists, religion acts as a conservative force in society by reinforcing value consensus and creating social stability. Durkheim made a distinction between aspects of society that were 'sacred' and 'profane' and religion is defined within the 'sacred' element. In contrast to this, Weber strongly believed that religion could be a catalyst for social change.

1. Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations that religion is a conservative force in society.

#### Item B

There is strong evidence to suggest that secularisation is occurring when church attendance is analysed. In the 1851 census, 40 percent of the adult population attended church. This fell to just 5.4 percent between 2010 and 2015. Bruce argues that religion is in serious decline in the West. However, other sociologists argue religion is undergoing a revival and is now more privatised in nature.

2. Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate the view that religion has less significance in society today.

#### Item B

Despite the patriarchal nature of many religions, women as a social group remain actively involved in religion. Sociologists argue this may be due to socialisation and status frustration. In addition to this, evidence suggests that people become more religious or spiritual, as they grow older. However, there is not much reliable evidence to detail the patterns of religious belief among different social classes.

3. Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate the relationship between different social groups and their religious beliefs and practice.

### vii. Extended Questions Mark Schemes- 10 mark outline questions

For each question give yourself a mark out of 10, identify a strength and a target for future improvement.

Marks	Level descriptors
8-10	Answers in this band will show very good knowledge and understanding of two areas in beliefs in society that the question asks about. There will be two applications of relevant material. There will be appropriate analysis.
4-7	Answers in this band will show a reasonable to good knowledge and understanding of two areas in beliefs in society that the question asks about. There will be one or two applications of relevant material. There will be some basic analysis.
1-3	Answers in this band will show limited knowledge and little or no understanding of the question or the material. There will be limited focus on the question. There will be limited or no analysis.
0	No relevant points.

**Q1. Mark out of 10:**

**Strength:**

**Target:**

**Q2. Mark out of 10:**

**Strength:**

**Target:**

**Q3. Mark out of 10:**

**Strength:**

**Target:**

**Q4. Mark out of 10:**

**Strength:**

**Target:**

**viii. Extended Questions Mark Schemes- 10 mark apply questions**

For each question give yourself a mark out of 10, identify a strength and a target for future improvement.

<b>Marks</b>	<b>Level descriptors</b>
8-10	Answers in this band will show good knowledge and understanding of relevant material on two areas in beliefs in society that the question asks about. There will be two developed applications of material from the item. There will be appropriate analysis/evaluation of two areas in beliefs in society that the question asks about.
4-7	Answers in this band will show basic to reasonable knowledge and understanding of one or two areas in beliefs in society that the question asks about. There will be some successful application of material from the item. There will be some analysis/evaluation.
1-3	Answers in this band will show limited knowledge of one to two areas of beliefs in society. There will be limited application of material from the item. There will be limited or no analysis/evaluation.
0	No relevant points.

**Q1. Mark out of 10:**

**Strength:**

**Target:**

**Q2. Mark out of 10:**

**Strength:**

**Target:**

**Q3. Mark out of 10:**

**Strength:**

**Target:**

### ix. Extended Questions Mark Schemes Part Two

For each question give yourself a mark out of 20, identify a strength and a target for future improvement.

Marks	Level descriptors
17-20	<p>Answers in this band will show sound, conceptually detailed knowledge of a range of relevant material on beliefs in society. Sophisticated understanding of the question and of the presented material will be shown.</p> <p>Appropriate material will be applied accurately and with sensitivity to the issues raised by the question. Analysis and evaluation will be explicit and relevant. Evaluation may be developed. Analysis will show clear explanation. Appropriate conclusions will be drawn.</p>
13-16	<p>Answers in this band will show accurate, broad and/or deep but incomplete knowledge on beliefs in society. Understands a number of significant aspects of the question; good understanding of the presented material.</p> <p>Application of material is largely explicitly relevant to the question, though some material may be inadequately focused. Some limited explicit evaluation. Clear explanations of some of the presented material.</p>
9-12	<p>Answers in this band will show largely accurate knowledge but limited range and depth, e.g. broadly accurate, if basic. Understands some limited but significant aspects of the question; superficial understanding of the presented material.</p> <p>Applying listed material from the general topic area but with limited regard for its relevance to the issues raised by the question, or applying a narrow range of more relevant material. Evaluation will take the form of juxtaposition of competing positions or to one or two isolated stated points. Analysis will be limited, with answers tending towards the descriptive.</p>
5-8	<p>Answers in this band will show limited undeveloped knowledge, e.g. two to three insubstantial points about beliefs in society. Understands only limited aspects of the question; simplistic understanding of the presented material.</p> <p>Limited application of suitable material, and/or material often at a tangent to the demands of the question. Very limited or no evaluation. Attempts at analysis, if any, are thin and disjointed.</p>
1-4	<p>Answers in this band will show very limited knowledge, e.g. one to two very insubstantial points about beliefs in society in general. Very little/no understanding of the question and of the presented material.</p> <p>Significant errors and/or omissions in application of material. No analysis or evaluation.</p>
0	No relevant points.

**Q1.**

**Mark out of 20:**

**Strength:**

**Target:**

**Q2.**

**Mark out of 20:**

**Strength:**

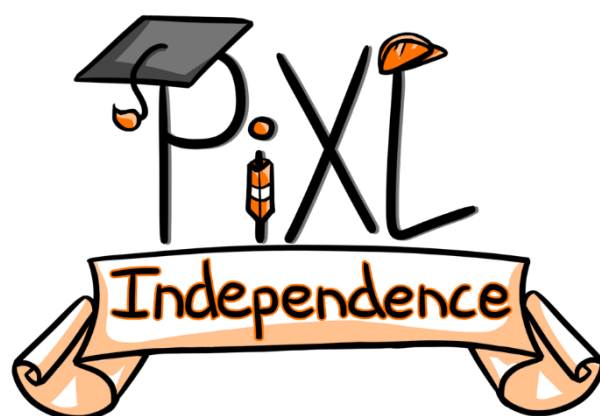
**Target:**

**Q3.**

**Mark out of 20:**

**Strength:**

**Target:**



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