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Social and cultural anthropology

Higher level

Paper 2

12 November 2025

Zone A morning | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** morning

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Section A: answer the question.
- Section B: answer two questions.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[45 marks]**.

Section A

Answer the question.

1. With reference to ethnographic material from **one** area of inquiry you have studied, discuss how **either** identity **or** materiality **or** social relations helps you to understand **one** of the following real-world issues that is grounded in a contemporary example:
 - environment
 - human rights
 - inequality
 - poverty
 - violence.

[15]

Section B

Answer **two** questions from the three remaining areas of inquiry you have studied. Each question must be from a **different** area of inquiry. You must use specific and clearly identified ethnographic illustrations. Each question is worth [15 marks].

Belonging

2. Examine **either** society **or** culture in relation to community.
3. Examine belonging in relation to **one** of the following:
 - community
 - family
 - discourses of childhood/youth/ageing (choose **one**)
 - the study of emotions.

Classifying the world

4. Compare and contrast systems of classification in relation to **either** belief and knowledge **or** symbolism in **two** societies that you have studied.
5. Examine **either** power **or** identity in relation to **one** of the following:
 - boundaries
 - morality
 - systems of stratification
 - ritual and religion.

Communication, expression and technology

6. Compare and contrast how globalization has altered **either** social relations **or** materiality in **two** societies that you have studied.
7. Examine **either** hybridity **or** commodification in relation to **one** of the following:
 - exchange
 - technology
 - media and popular culture
 - forms of symbolic production.

Conflict

8. Discuss the role of **either** power **or** belief and knowledge in relation to ideology.
9. Examine the role of **either** hegemony **or** resistance in relation to **one** of the following:
 - social control
 - authority
 - social movements
 - systems of inequality.

Development

10. Discuss **either** social relations **or** culture in relation to neo-colonialism.
11. Evaluate the role of development in relation to **one** of the following:
 - exchange
 - environment
 - local and global social movements
 - development and health.

Health, illness and healing

12. Compare and contrast ways in which **either** identity **or** belief and knowledge contribute to an understanding of embodiment in **two** societies that you have studied.
13. Examine **either** inequality **or** materiality in relation to **one** of the following:
 - global health politics
 - the body
 - biomedicine
 - illness.

Movement, time and space

14. Discuss **either** change **or** symbolism in relation to liminality.
15. Examine the relationship between power and space in relation to **one** of the following:
 - local and global movement
 - urban anthropology
 - inclusion
 - boundaries.

Production, exchange and consumption

16. Compare and contrast ways in which **either** social relations **or** materiality influence exchange in **two** societies you have studied.
17. Discuss **either** labour **or** capitalism in relation to **one** of the following:
 - globalization
 - colonialism
 - commodification
 - production.

The body

18. Discuss **either** change **or** power in relation to the body.
 19. Evaluate the relevance of **either** personhood **or** embodiment in relation to **one** of the following:
 - the Other
 - subjectivity
 - marginalized bodies
 - bodily practices.
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