

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
 BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – LEVEL V
 FINAL EXAMINATION – 2007/2008
 SSU 3207 - SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES AND RESEARCH METHODS



DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 21st September 2008

Time: 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Answer five (05) questions only. Each question carries 20 marks.

1. What is the basis for theoretical divisions in Sociology? Discuss.
2. Assess the contribution made by Emile Durkheim in developing the Functionalist Perspective.
3. What basic concepts used by Karl Marx paved the way for the Conflict Perspective? Describe.
4. How far can we use Dahrendorf's Conflict Perspective in understanding Sri Lankan conflicts? Discuss.
5. Is there a relationship between sociological theory and research methods? Explain giving examples.
6. The head of your organization requests you to plan a study to find out the impact of introducing finger print machines to mark the attendance of employees or the influence of recently introduced incentive system to increase the attendance of workers. Describe your research process in this context.
7. What is Comparative Research? Describe by citing examples.
8. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of two (02) research designs you are familiar with.
9. Write short notes on any four (04) of the following.
 - (i) Validity and reliability of a research
 - (ii) Independent variable and dependent variable
 - (iii) Sampling Techniques
 - (iv) Qualitative and quantitative research techniques
 - (v) Talcott Parsons
 - (vi) Middle Range Theories
 - (vii) Ethnomethodological Studies
 - (viii) Sociological concepts and principles put forward by Vilfredo Pareto