



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
 BA DEGREE IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – LEVEL 5
 FINAL EXAMINATION – 2008/2009
 SSU 3207 - SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES AND RESEARCH METHODS

DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 14th June 2009

Time: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

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

1. Describe the basic epistemological assumptions within conflict perspective.
2. What is social order? How is social order explained by the Functionalists?
3. Describe Merton's concepts of manifest and latent functions and deviance using examples from contemporary society.
4. Discuss the influence of Marx on Dahrendorf's approach to the conflict perspective.
5. Discuss the influence of the Frankfurt School on early critical theory.
6. Describe Weber's approach to explaining social action.
7. Describe the basic steps that you would have to follow when conducting research.
8. Discuss the differences between survey studies and ethnographic studies.
9. Write short notes on four (4) of the following:
 - (i) Voluntaristic Action
 - (ii) Mechanical and Organic Solidarity
 - (iii) The Circulation of Elites
 - (iv) Public Sphere
 - (v) Phenomenology
 - (vi) Sampling Techniques
 - (vii) Experimental Research

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