



THE COPPERBELT UNIVERSITY
in association with the
TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TEACHERS'
COLLEGE



AUGUST 2018 FINAL EXAMINATIONS
ICT and BBSTE

SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION
Code: ED 131

Duration: THREE (03) HOURS

Total marks: 100

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Ensure that you write your computer number, and not your name on the answer booklet provided to you.
2. This paper has four distinct sections, and four (04) pages long.
3. Answer all questions in Sections A, B and C.
4. Finally in Section D, Q38 is compulsory, and then Q39 allows you to select any three of the five options available.
5. Take special note of the additional instructions associated with the conduct of examinations.

Section A: TRUE OR FALSE (1x15= 15 marks)

Depending on what you think of each statement listed below (1-15) you have to clearly write the word True, or False beside the respective question numbers.

1. One feature of truly bureaucratic organisations, including higher institutions of learning such as a university, is that they are very subjective in their staff recruitment process, promotion prospects for serving officers, and during admission of new students.
2. The Marxist perspective has probably the most vivid support for the view that education is the greatest equalizer of life-chances.
3. Social movements are widely considered among 'collective behaviours' because they use strategies typical of mainstream behaviour such as mass demonstrations, and boycotts.
4. Ms Miti is an Agricultural Extension Officer and was recently involved in a Farmers' Workshop in Chibombo for five days. That is a good example of formal education.
5. Functions of education include imparting of vital skills, apart from selection and placement of suitable candidates on more specialized training positions. These are manifest functions.
6. When the House Master in a secondary school performs roles that are also officially part of the Boarding Master's duties, that situation often leads to role conflict.
7. The social process known as competition, manifests within school environments during inter-house games. One benefit is the consequential tendency to inspire excellence.
8. In keeping with Amitai Etzioni's view, an applicant who is eventually granted an offer to commence training in an institution like TVTC joins under coercive circumstances.
9. Riots, especially on school campuses are specific examples of social movements.
10. Primary schools are the main agency for delivering primary socialization.
11. In all honesty, a learner's family rarely impacts on his/her chances of completing formal education successfully.
12. In spite of major advances made in medical research over the last two decades, effects of HIV and AIDS on the education system have remained.
13. While the education system is a crucial channel for transmitting society's cultural heritage, it stimulates social change in very obvious ways.
14. As a teacher delivers lessons in biology on personal hygiene, that is an example of formal socialization.
15. On account of what it is, sociometry can effectively serve well in efforts to objectively create learner groups that integrate easily.

Section B: MATCHING TYPE (15 marks)

Match the statements 16-30 with some of the items A-V but respond only with the representative single letter, as though it was multiple-choice:

A -Integration	H -Herbert Blumer	O -Social Exchange
B -Social sciences	I -Storming	P -Primary
C -Performing	J -Vertical mobility	R -Xenocentrism
D -Collective behaviour	K -Secondary	S -Sanctions
E -Erving Goffman	M -Legitimation	T -Tribalism
G -Group	N -Max Weber	U -Ferals

16. Some students despise their peers mainly on account of prejudices over ethnicity, especially one's area of origin in the country. The relevant concept here is....

17. He is credited with naming four types of crowds including 'acting crowds'.

18. In a bid to explain socialization in institutions such as the military, he coined 'total institutions' and 'de-individuation'.

19. A mass activity, it involves people trying to find solutions to unclear situations.

20. This is a set of attitudes and related behaviours of treating aliens, foreign products and cultures as superior to one's own.

21. People that had extremely poor primary socialization mainly due to confinement are classified as thus, and exhibit very low social and communication skills.

22. Sometimes known as 'social networks' this concept refers to a number of people who periodically enjoy social interaction among themselves.

23. Two appropriate examples are anthropology, and economics.

24. Among major social processes, it can manifest where a teacher actively encourages formation of ethnically diverse, study groups to promote unity.

25. In Tuckman's model, this is the fourth stage.

26. With reference to school contexts, a.....group may be the institution's football team.

27. A teacher may publicly praise or hug the student who has excelled, thus demonstrating the element of culture called....

28. A teacher promoted as District Education Board Secretary, is a good example of...

29. This is a popular theory on social interaction, attributed to George Homans.

30. To this scholar, is attributed the concepts 'verstehen' and 'Ideal Bureaucracy'

Section C: SHORT-ANSWER TYPE (30 marks)

Your responses here may consist of short single, two-words, or short phrases but NO explanations! The lists may even appear in point form:

- 31.** List down **five** vital steps in the scientific method, which sociologists also follow during their conduct of research.
- 32.** Offer any **five** key functions of education specifically at national level.
- 33.** State **five** significant school factors that positively influence learners' chances of excelling in their academic pursuits.
- 34.** Among the major reasons which justify the inclusion of sociology in teacher education programs, are the following **five**:
- 35.** List down **four** frequently-mentioned categories of social movements.
- 36.** Cite **four** distinct points of contention which Marxists present against Functionalists on the functions of education in society.
- 37.** Mention the **two** well-known theories on social movements.

Section D: ESSAY TYPE (40 marks)

Question 38 is compulsory and carries 25 marks. It should be between 290-320 words long, in continuous prose. Avoid using bullets and there should be no point form here please!

38. Over the past fifteen years, Zambia's education system has witnessed a sharp rise in social problems such as prostitution, neglect of students by their families, and a serious decline in learners' ability to express themselves in good English:

- i. For each of the three problems, identify and explain two important causes;
- ii. Clearly describe two consequences for each, without repeating any of them;
- iii. Provide a distinct recommendation for resolving each of the identified problems.

39. Write concise notes in continuous prose, and not in point form (3x5 marks=15 marks).

Each of the three topics you select is expected to be 50-90 words long, with a possible definition or description, and a relevant example reflecting the local education system:

- i. Challenges in distance education
- ii. The teacher as a Counsellor
- iii. Ethnocentrism
- iv. Resocialisation
- v. Positive discrimination in school-place selection

END OF THE AUGUST 2018 EXAMINATION, AND WISH YOU ALL THE BEST!

MODEL ANSWERS AND MARKING KEY

Section A: TRUE OR FALSE (1x15= 15marks)

Depending on what you think of each statement listed below (1-15) you have to clearly write the word True, or False beside the respective question numbers.

1	F	6	T	11	F
2	F	7	T	12	T
3	T	8	F	13	T
4	F	9	F	14	T
5	T	10	F	15	F

Section B: MATCHING TYPE (15marks)

16	T	21	U	26	K
17	H	22	G	27	S
18	E	23	B	28	J
19	D	24	A	29	O
20	R	25	C	30	N

Section C: SHORT-ANSWER TYPE (30 marks)

31. Any **five** vital steps in the scientific method, as followed by sociologists too (5 marks):

- Clearly define the problem or research question
- Decide on the most appropriate research design to use
- Formulation of the hypothesis (depending on the kind of study)
- Review of any available literature associated with the problem under investigation
- Collection of data
- Analysis/interpretation or discussion of the collected data
- Conclusion of the investigation

32. **Five** key functions of education specifically at national level (5 marks):

- Transmission and preservation of the cultural heritage
- Supplying the State with trained, specialist human resources
- Increasing numeracy and literacy levels in the country
- Selection and placement of people onto higher levels of education
- Fostering social integration of society
- Empowering citizens with skills for their survival on their own

33. Five significant, positive school factors influencing learners' chances (5 marks):

- a. Being taught by adequately trained teachers
- b. Having a school administration focused on academic excellence
- c. Availability of teaching and learning materials
- d. A conducive physical school infrastructure, e.g. ideal furniture
- e. A deliberately socially warm school environment without intimidation
- f. Provision of other physical needs, e.g. good food and some leisure

34. Justifying the inclusion of sociology in teacher education programs (5 marks):

- Such teachers easily understand, explain and possibly control interactions between/among learners
- They develop higher social skills from exposure to sociology
- Insights from the social sciences make it relatively easier for the teacher to identify relationships between the personality and behavior of learners, with influence from other people in the individual's social circle, such as peers.
- The influence that other key social institutions such as the family, the State, religion/church can be appreciated more fully
- For administrators of schools, sociological knowledge such as group processes helps in making intervention to stop group anti-social behavior like rioting
- Planning for the education system and especially the curriculum is facilitated where cultural factors are taken into account.
- Culture is best explored, understood and explained by sociologists and anthropologists.

35. Four frequently-mentioned categories of social movements (4 marks):

- Utopian
- Reform
- Resistance
- Revolutionary

36. Presenting **four** Marxist versus Functionalist arguments on the functions of education:

- The education system is a channel for elite domination of the masses
- It is the values of the elite being transmitted, not the wider society's culture
- Education does not foster integration – people are only coerced to stay put
- The education system cannot equalize chances while inequalities still remain

37. Two well-known theories on social movements (2 marks):

- Deprivation theory
- Resource-mobilisation theory

Section D: ESSAY TYPE (40 marks)

38.Over the past fifteen years, Zambia's education system has witnessed a sharp rise in social problems such as prostitution, neglect of students by their families, and a serious decline in learners' ability to express themselves in good English (25 marks):

i. For each problem, identify and explain two important **causes**

Prostitution:

Definition: A social and moral problem in which a person is engaged in active sexual relations with other people – usually for payment – without any mutual emotional attachment.

Causes of prostitution:

- General moral decay
- Economic or financial pressures
- Desperation to live beyond one's means

Explanations:

General moral decay

Associated with society's gradual failure to impart positive values into its members, especially the younger ones as they undergo socialization, it is widespread in society. Interestingly, this includes people from both affluent and poor families.

Economic or financial pressures

These are particularly common among students whose families are unable to support them adequately. As a survival strategy, they resort to use their bodies as a business venture, selling sexual services for cash payment and other favours such as getting assignment tasks performed.

Causes of neglect of students by their families

- Some families do not attach much value to the educational needs of their members in school, i.e. poor parental attitudes
- The learners' own attitudes especially those who manifest dishonesty, or a clear lack of seriousness
- The family's genuine inability to secure sufficient financial resources and other associated needs

Declining English language skills among students

- Probably the kind of curriculum being followed in the general education sector is ineffective
- The problem probably stems from the low calibre of teachers offering English language in schools
- The severely poor, but much talked-about reading culture among today's learners including those in the tertiary education sector

ii. Clearly describe two **consequences** for each:

Prostitution:

- Prostitution significantly increases the risk of getting sexually transmitted infections as well as the more devastating HIV
- Those students engaging in prostitution receive negative labels in the community

Neglect of students by their families

- Some students simply quit school due to lack of support
- Others delay their completion through requests for temporary withdrawal as they try to secure funding
- Other students engage in business ventures ranging from selling daily needs like foodstuffs, to operating business centres, and others go into prostitution.

Declining English language skills among students

- Students generally confine themselves to vernacular – in a multiethnic country like Zambia, this sometimes leads to unnecessary rivalries relating to tribalism
- Learners, even in tertiary institutions, face serious problems writing coherent, logical essays. Many spell words wrongly and in poor grammar.

iii. **A recommendation** for resolving each of the identified problems

Prostitution

One recommendation for eliminating, or at least minimizing it, is to launch a vigorous and sustained sensitization campaign on campus. This should be meant to resocialise the student populace towards pursuing moral uprightness.

Neglect of students by their families

As part of the education system's initiatives to interact with the community and the wider society, through gathering such as PTA, Open Day and large gathering like graduation ceremonies, the College can appeal and remind family representatives in attendance that their active support for their members in school is vital.

Declining English language skills among students

One of the sure solutions is to revise the curriculum for English language in the primary and secondary school level.

Another important one may be to raise the standards for teachers of English as they are being employed, to ensure only capable people are recruited for such roles.

Conclusion: It will be appropriate and should at least sum up the main points brought out in the main body.

39. Write concise notes in continuous prose, and not in point form (3x5 marks=15 marks).

Each of the three topics you select is expected to be 50-90 words long, with a possible definition or description, and a relevant example reflecting the local education system:

- i. Challenges in distance education
- ii. The teacher as a Counsellor
- iii. Ethnocentrism
- iv. Resocialisation
- v. Positive discrimination in school-place selection

i. Challenges in Distance Education (5 marks)

There are numerous challenges indeed faced in delivering and accessing distance education both from the institution's and from the students' point of view.

Among them is the minimal contact time learners are given with lecturers; difficulties with finding relevant study material apart from the study modules issued by the institutions during residential school, and the often unreliable postal services whereby even the so-called express courier service at times delays parcels by weeks.

The electronic options for teacher-learner interactions are also at times not available due to intermittent and complete lack of internet connectivity.

Most students are employees somewhere and so there is a major challenge in trying to strike a good balance between study, work (or self-employment ventures), family roles and study.

ii. The Teacher as a Counsellor (5 marks)

The teacher has numerous roles to perform within the wider education system, the school, and of course the classroom or workshop. Being the first contact person between the learner and school, teachers stand in a privileged position of interacting closely with learners. Some of these learners experience many challenges that have potential to, and actually, threaten the learners' academic pursuits. Common learner problems include personal ones like indecision; school-related problems such as being frequently victimized by insensitive teachers or peers; and family problems such as inability of the family to support their own, in school.

Being privileged to be at such a forefront, the teacher has a responsibility to help make the school environment safe, welcoming and stimulating for the learners to realise their full potential.

As an example, when a learner is being harassed by peers, the teacher may have to conduct group counselling meant to discourage such vices, in defence of the vulnerable.

iii. Ethnocentrism (5 marks)

This concept is associated with culture and is a compound word from 'ethnic' and 'centre'. Simply put, ethnocentrism is the practice and associated attitudes where an individual or group habitually use their ethnic group as the centre, or standard for assessing other groups. Within school environments, common indicators of ethnocentrism are demeaning statements often passed against specific races, tribes and on a less-provocative note, against religious entities and beliefs.

On school campuses, when teachers or learners frequently vilify (sarcastically criticize) some people on account of race or tribe – insinuating that such is a 'bad' ethnic group, or that theirs is 'good and superior' these are common manifestations of ethnocentrism.

iv. Resocialization (5 marks)

Among the specific types of socialization, the prefix 're' is significant.

Resocialization is a process which recognizes that an individual or group has undergone a lot of socialization already, but is now learning and adopting new aspects of culture that may require discarding the former.

A good example may be given of an individual who decides to convert from one major religion, such as shifting allegiance from Christianity to become a Muslim. There are many aspects of life that change: diet, dressing, times of worship, observance of festivals, etc. Another appropriate example closer to school environments is where learners enter school adhering to various myths, traditional beliefs and personal misconceptions.

While undergoing formal education, they are gradually adopting new norms, values and attaining a new world view. By the time of completing tertiary education, they will have discarded a lot of beliefs, attitudes and patterns of behavior they previously held.

v. Positive discrimination in school-place selection (5 marks)

Discrimination is the practice of perceiving and differentiating between two or more stimuli and can manifest either in a positive, or negative light.

With reference to school place selection, it is indisputable that female learners in this society perform a far wider range of chores in the home than their male counterparts. This in turn harms their opportunities for study activities while the less-busy male learners have a lot of such time.

The Ministry of Education performs many functions including selection and placement of intellectually-gifted learners onto higher levels of education. For decades, the pass-mark for girls has been set much lower than that for boys as a way of mitigating their restricted chances of studying effectively.

Within the education sector, institutions often declare themselves as "equal opportunities employers". In multi-ethnic nations, positive discrimination may show through a deliberate policy of giving relatively more chances to ethnic minorities, and the disabled.