

Commentary on candidate 1 evidence

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each section of this assignment.

Section A ('Introduction') – marks: 2/2

The candidate clearly describes the topic, which is clearly one of interest to sociologists. The candidate gives at least two clear points of information about the topic.

Section B ('Common sense vs sociological explanations') – marks: 4/6

The first part of this section is to describe one common sense view of the topic. The candidate actually gives more than one view, which is fine but does not attract any more marks. This can also lead to a difficulty in the next part of this section where the candidate is to give two contemporary examples of *this* view, i.e. two examples of the same view. The candidate gives three different examples of views for three different common sense explanations. In agreement with the candidate, the marker took the view that the commonsense explanation of "it has always happened" could be linked to two of the examples and so, awarded marks. The candidate did not describe a difference between the common sense and the sociological explanation.

Section C ('Source 1') – marks: 2/2

The candidate clearly references two appropriate sources.

Section D ('Source 2') – marks: 8/10

In this section, the marks are broken down to 3 for summarizing the main points of information from each source, and 4 for interpreting the basic sociological meaning of those summarised points. This candidate selects and summarises information from both sources.

There are also two points of interpretation, which each gain a mark.

Section E ('Sociological theories') – marks: 4/10

For this section, there are 2 marks available for explaining the topic with reference to the sources. There are another 4 marks available for explaining the topic using sociological language, including reference to theories, and a further 4 available for stating whether the evidence presented supports or challenges the common sense view of the topic.

This candidate did not receive any marks for explaining the topic with reference to the sources, as this was not really attempted. There were however, 4 marks awarded for the use of theory to explain the topic as this section was done well.

There is no mention of the common sense view in the conclusion section and even if one could be inferred from "suggests that sociological theory is more relevant", the rest of the answer does not meet the requirements.

Total marks – 20/30

Commentary on candidate 2 evidence

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each section of this assignment.

Section A ('Introduction') – marks: 2/2

The candidate clearly makes at least two relevant points of information about a topic of interest to sociologists and therefore gains both marks.

Section B ('Common sense') – marks 5/6

The candidate is awarded 2 marks for clearly describing a commonsense view of the topic. There are also two good contemporary examples of this common sense view, gaining another 2 marks.

The section on the difference between common sense and sociological views is good however, the example on homelessness does not match what was said earlier as the common sense view and so, this section achieved 1 mark.

Section C ('Studies used') – marks: 2/2

The candidate clearly references two appropriate sources.

Section D ('Analyse of studies') – marks: 8/10

The candidate has written a section on the studies which analyses alongside giving the points of information. However, the section is well written and received marks as follows:

There is one finding from the first source at the beginning which is followed by another. The candidate then achieves 1 mark for a point of interpretation when explaining the meaning behind the finding. There is then another point of interpretation about the pressures on social housing increasing.

At the bottom of the page there is a finding from the second source which also achieves 1 mark and a further finding from this at the top of the next page. This is followed by another point of interpretation. There is then a final finding from the second source. At the bottom of this section there is statement about disproving the common sense view, which does not achieve a mark in this section however, is credited later. This shows how candidates can obtain marks wherever they appear in the assignment.

Section E ('Theory perspective of homelessness') – marks: 4/10

The section on Marxism is flawed with incorrect statements and received 1 mark. However, the Conclusion section had a further two points regarding whether the evidence presented supports or challenges the common sense view, to add to the 1 mark obtained earlier.

Total marks – 21/30