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Revision

Revision practice

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This issue has two exercises to improve your skills. The first will help you to develop the use of relevant concepts in your answers, and also allow you to practise the important skill of analysis. The second will give you practice in extracting information from text and graphics – in this case, an article on crime rates and the public perception of crime. The separate PowerPoint presentation looks at the important issue of social mobility, with information that is not only relevant to debates on this topic, but will be more up to date than that found in your textbooks.

Use of appropriate concepts

Your teacher may decide to use this as a whole-class exercise, with contributions from everyone, but it is something that you can easily organise to do with a small group of classmates – or even one other person. Below is a list of some features of questions that might appear in different topic sections of your exam paper. The whole question and mark allocation are not given, just the main thrust of the question.

Each participant should take questions that are relevant to the topics being studied, and draw up a list of concepts that could be used to inform the discussion. At the end of whatever time you have allowed yourselves, each of you should read out their list. However, for each concept identified, each of you should say briefly **how** and **why** it would be relevant to the discussion – this will hone your analytical skills. Some guidance is given in the first question to get you going. You can, of course, do this exercise using examples from actual past question papers.

Types of question areas

Reasons for health inequalities in the UK

Obvious concepts to use here are class, gender and ethnicity. However, in what ways does each of these act to produce health inequalities?

For example, for 'class', you might think about issues of poverty, living in deprived areas, type of occupation, availability of healthcare facilities, including GP surgeries, and so on.

For 'gender'; you could cite the greater average life expectancy of women, men's greater reluctance to seek medical help, health issues surrounding childbirth, men's greater involvement in more dangerous occupations, and so on. You should be able to identify many more relevant concepts on this issue.

Now try the others:

- Changes in family structure
- The class gap in educational outcomes
- Decline in church membership

- Changes in the ways in which 'news' is accessed
- The decline in the fertility rate
- The effects of climate change
- Changes in the nature of work
- The increase in homelessness
- Subcultures in schools
- The marketisation of education
- Fear of crime
- The role of 'influencers' on social media
- Violence against women and girls
- The importance of cultural practices among members of minority ethnic groups
- The changing nature of religious participation
- The impact of Covid-19 on children's mental health
- The increase in cohabitation
- The consequences of an ageing population
- The increase in people of working age who are not in work

Extracting and summarising information

This task requires you to read an article from The Conversation and complete some tasks which will enable you to have a summary of some of the main points. Note that the article was written before the 2024 UK general election, when the Conservative Party was in power.

You can find the article here:

<https://tinyurl.com/2rfjz2xm>

Tasks

- 1 According to a survey, what percentage of people in England and Wales believe that crime rates have risen?
- 2 What do the initials CSEW stand for?
- 3 Which crimes have fallen by 90%?
- 4 In what way is the CSEW recording of crime different from police figures?
- 5 By how much have crimes of violence fallen?
- 6 The article suggests that rates of domestic abuse and violence against women have fallen. Have you come across any evidence that suggests otherwise?
- 7 What changes made it more difficult to commit certain types of crime, such as burglary and vehicle theft?
- 8 What was one effect of teenagers being less able to commit 'debut crimes'?

- 9 What type of crime is the most prominent exception to the fall in crime rates?
- 10 What is likely to influence the public's perception of crime?
- 11 In what ways did Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic affect people's concern about crime?
- 12 How does 'political rhetoric' affect people's perceptions of crime? (Look out for any current examples of this.)
- 13 Why might some people have a vested interest in denying the fall in crime rates?
- 14 What do the authors suggest should be a 'more rational' approach taken by governments to issues surrounding crime?