

Ten mark assessment guidance

AQA A Level Sociology 7192 • Families & Households • L003 • v1.0

CONNECT & CHECK | SHARE | PRESENT | APPLY | RECALL & REVIEW

Outline and explain two ways families may contribute to social inequality. [10 marks]

Original Paper 2-style practice. Question ID: RFTS-AQA-AL-SOC-7192-FAM-L003-Q002. Local best-fit guidance; not an official or endorsed AQA mark scheme.

Assessment focus

Two developed ways linking family processes to social inequality, with accurate concepts and applied examples. Reward accurate knowledge, application and analysis. No separate introduction, conclusion or evaluation paragraph is required.

Marks	Best-fit characteristics
8–10	Accurate, detailed knowledge. Two distinct ways applied to family processes and social inequality, with sustained explanation of how each operates.
4–7	Some accurate knowledge and relevant application. Two ways may be uneven, or only one developed. Links to inequality are partly explained.
1–3	Limited relevant knowledge. Assertions or examples dominate, with little explanation of the family process.
0	No relevant creditworthy material.

Read the whole response and choose the closest band, then a mark reflecting precision and development. One developed way cannot enter 8–10. Do not give fixed marks per paragraph.

Model and feedback

One way is through the transfer of economic resources. A family with substantial savings may help an adult child buy housing or undertake unpaid training. A family without those resources cannot offer the same support. A Marxist approach draws attention to how unequal ownership and resources can be carried across generations, so family support may reproduce advantages even where individuals work equally hard.

A second way is through an unequal division of unpaid care. If expectations lead one partner to reduce paid working hours while doing most childcare, that partner may have less income and fewer opportunities for progression. Feminist approaches draw attention to the gendered organisation of such expectations. The family can therefore be a setting in which care arrangements reproduce inequality, although arrangements vary and the mechanism must be demonstrated.

Indicative judgement

The model develops a class-related resource mechanism and a gender-related care mechanism. Both are applied and linked to inequality. Do not infer genders or class from the Rowan case; the model uses additional hypothetical examples. Naming two theories without explaining family processes is insufficient. This illustrates the top band; the exact mark depends on the complete response.

Improvement target

If a response names inequality without a process, ask what is transferred or how work is divided. If the second paragraph repeats the first mechanism, develop a distinct route. Credit other accurate ways, including social networks or unequal socialisation, when explained.

Alignment source

AQA Paper 2 specimen scheme: outline-and-explain format and level-based approach. Question and models are original. <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/sociology/AQA-71922-SMS.PDF>