

Six mark assessment guidance

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

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Explain two differences between consensus and conflict approaches to families. [6 marks]

Original local classroom bridge. Question ID: RFTS-AQA-AL-SOC-7192-FAM-L003-Q001. This is not an official AQA Paper 2 mark scheme.

How to award marks

For each of two distinct differences: 1 mark for an accurate paired contrast, 1 for a relevant family example, and 1 for explaining how that contrast changes the interpretation. Maximum 3 per difference; total 6. Award components independently. Do not count two versions of the same contrast twice.

No creditworthy material = 0. A theory label alone does not earn a comparison mark. Credit distinctions about values/interests, power/integration or social change when developed as genuinely separate contrasts.

Model response

Consensus approaches emphasise shared values, whereas conflict approaches focus on competing interests. Praise for a child's help could be interpreted as learning cooperation, or as learning an expectation that benefits some household members more than others. The difference changes the question from how agreement develops to whose interests the arrangement serves.

Consensus approaches may explain social stability through integration, whereas conflict approaches may explain it through unequal power. A care routine might continue because members accept mutual responsibilities, or because one member has limited power to negotiate. A quiet household therefore does not, on its own, establish consensus.

Why this earns the marks

Both paragraphs identify a paired contrast, apply it to a family example and explain its implication: an indicative $3 + 3 = 6$. Credit other accurate differences. "Functionalists like families; Marxists do not" earns no credit as a valid contrast. Ask the learner to identify a specific process.