

Six mark assessment guidance

AQA A Level Sociology 7192 • Families & Households • L004 • v1.0

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Explain two reasons why family and household are not the same concept. [6 marks]

Original local classroom bridge. Question ID: RFTS-AQA-AL-SOC-7192-FAM-L004-Q001. This is not an official AQA Paper 2 mark scheme.

How to award marks

For each reason: 1 mark for an accurate distinction, 1 for a relevant fictional example and 1 for explaining its implication. Maximum 3 per reason, total 6. Accept a household without an ONS family and wider family ties across addresses. The latter must distinguish a sociological meaning from the narrower ONS residential family definition.

No creditworthy material = 0. Do not double-credit the same distinction with two examples. A broader family meaning must be distinguished from the ONS residential definition. Credit alternative accurate reasons where their implications are explained.

Model response

A household is a residential unit and does not necessarily contain a family under the ONS definition. In case B, three friends share cooking and living facilities, but no resident lives with their partner or child. They form one household with no ONS family. Shared facilities therefore establish a household, while the statistical family category also needs a qualifying relationship.

Family can also refer to recognised relationships across addresses. For example, an adult may live alone and provide regular care for a parent living elsewhere. They form separate households but may understand their relationship as family. A household count cannot capture all such ties; the ONS family count has a narrower residential purpose.

Why this earns the marks

The first paragraph contrasts co-residence with the official family rule; the second contrasts residence with wider family ties. Each supplies an example and an explained implication: indicative 6/6. Do not reward the inaccurate claim that ONS counts all relatives across addresses as one family.