

Ten mark assessment guidance

AQA A Level Sociology 7192 • Families & Households • L005 • v1.0

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Outline and explain two reasons why statistics may give a limited picture of family diversity. [10 marks]

Original Paper 2-style practice. Question ID: RFTS-AQA-AL-SOC-7192-FAM-L005-Q002. Local best-fit guidance; not an official or endorsed AQA mark scheme.

Assessment focus

Two distinct limits of statistical evidence, each linked to what can be known about family diversity. 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 or reasons applied to the question, with sustained explanation of how each operates.
4–7	Some accurate knowledge and relevant application. Two explanations may be uneven, or only one developed. Links to the question are partly explained.
1–3	Limited relevant knowledge. Assertions or examples dominate, with little explanation of the process relevant to the question.
0	No relevant creditworthy material.

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

Model and feedback

One reason is that broad categories can hide differences in practice. Two families classified as couples with children may organise unpaid care very differently, as in cases A and B. A count of their form records them together without measuring how responsibility is divided. The statistic can describe composition accurately while leaving diversity within that category unexplained.

A second reason is that a single snapshot cannot show an individual life course. Case D has moved from cohabiting to living alone while maintaining family relationships. A table for one date records only the current household. Without evidence across time, the researcher cannot reconstruct that person's sequence of relationships or explain why it changed.

Indicative judgement

The model distinguishes categories that omit practice from a snapshot that omits individual change. Both explain a consequence for knowledge of diversity. Other defensible routes include inclusion rules that miss relationships across households. Official statistics remain useful for the questions they measure. This illustrates the top band; the exact mark depends on the complete response.

Improvement target

If an answer says statistics are bad, identify a particular measure and the missing dimension. If both paragraphs discuss categories, develop a different limitation, such as change over time.

Alignment source

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