

Ten mark assessment guidance

AQA A Level Sociology 7192 • Families & Households • L021 • v1.0

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

Outline and explain two ways social institutions may influence the recognition of same-sex relationships. [10 marks]

Original Paper 2-style practice. Question ID: RFTS-AQA-AL-SOC-7192-FAM-L021-Q002. Local best-fit guidance; not an official or endorsed AQA mark scheme.

Assessment focus

Develop two distinct explanations that answer the exact question. Apply concepts accurately and explain each connection rather than listing names or 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 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

The state influences recognition by defining available legal statuses. The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 enabled same-sex marriage in England and Wales, extending a recognised marital option. Couples could use that status to present their relationship publicly as a marriage. This changes institutional possibilities without proving that all couples wish to marry or receive identical everyday treatment.

Organisations can influence whose relationships are acknowledged through routine procedures. A service form that assumes every couple consists of a husband and wife may make other partners harder to name accurately. A form inviting a partner or relevant carer can recognise a wider set of ties. Such practices affect how relationships are displayed to institutions and show why recognition involves more than a legal category.

Indicative judgement

The two paragraphs develop different mechanisms or reasons, apply them to the question and explain their implications. Accept other accurate, developed approaches; these models are not the only creditworthy answers. This illustrates the top band; the exact mark depends on the complete response.

Improvement target

Underline the two distinct points. Circle each case or example and add the missing “because” or “therefore” link. Check that the response answers the stem and does not turn an illustrative case into a population claim.

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>