SOCIOLOGY: PAPER 2 - Sample paper

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Instructions to Candidates:

Please answer **two (2)** questions:

- **One (1)** question from **Section A**, and
- **One (1)** question from **Section B**.

All questions carry equal marks.
Section A: Topic section

1. Why do people organise protest marches in order to achieve political change?

2. Discuss the ability of different research designs to enable us to establish causality in social research.

3. Girls' academic achievement in school now surpasses boys' achievements. Explain the reasons for this pattern.

4. “Social research can never be totally objective because researchers are human and therefore necessarily subjective” (Babbie, 2013). Discuss the importance of values in conducting social research, from the collection of data to the dissemination of information, with reference to specific examples.

5. Despite women's increasing involvement in paid work, gender differences in pay continue to occur. Explore the causes of the gender pay gap from both an individual and institutional perspective.

6. How can we apply Bourdieu's concept of fields of practice to the study of social movements? Discuss with examples.
Section B: General section

7. Describe the main steps you would take to conduct a cross-sectional survey of secondary school students in Ireland. Please discuss the reasoning behind the decisions you make at each step.

8. In recent decades, to what extent have gender roles changed? Provide some examples to illustrate your answer.

9. We live in an age of identity. Discuss