2011 Community and Family Studies HSC Examination 'Sample Answers'

When examination committees develop questions for the examination, they may write 'sample answers' or, in the case of some questions, 'answers could include'. The committees do this to ensure that the questions will effectively assess students' knowledge and skills.

This material is also provided to the Supervisor of Marking, to give some guidance about the nature and scope of the responses the committee expected students would produce. How sample answers are used at marking centres varies. Sample answers may be used extensively and even modified at the marking centre OR they may be considered only briefly at the beginning of marking. In a few cases, the sample answers may not be used at all at marking.

The Board publishes this information to assist in understanding how the marking guidelines were implemented.

The 'sample answers' or similar advice contained in this document are not intended to be exemplary or even complete answers or responses. As they are part of the examination committee's 'working document', they may contain typographical errors, omissions, or only some of the possible correct answers.

Section I, Part B

Question 21

Sample answer:

Similarities:

- both can be subjective
- both are time consuming
- both need to choose appropriate topics/group
- aspects of privacy and ethics need to be considered
- in-depth information can be gained about subjects
- both use primary research methods to acquire information
- researchers may find it difficult not to become involved, thus influencing data collected.

Differences:

- observations are a visual representation of a group's action
- case study requires multiply sources of information, ie interview, observation, questionnaires
- observations may contain bias
- case study allows for a detailed examination and a deep understanding of a specific social issue
- observations gain more knowledge and perhaps greater disclosure of information from participants
- validity and reliability of observations come into question
- method of recording is different
- case studies tend to be more reliable as they use a variety of research methods
- case study data cannot be applied to a wider population as the data is specific
- case studies also use secondary data
- observations use first-hand investigations through primary research.

Question 22

Sample answer:

Parenting and caring relationships are portrayed in all types of media, including television, radio, newspapers, magazines, movies, music, video etc. The media transmits images of how different groups in society should act and behave. This leads to people believing that this is the acceptable or normal behaviour.

- parents may modify their behaviour to be like those shown in the media
- parenting decision-making styles can be seen on television dramas and movies. Parents may not want their children to be influenced by the behaviours shown
- parents and children copy parenting practices they have seen or heard and may have positive and negative results
- films, television and all types of advertising project unrealistic images of parents which are difficult to reproduce and may cause conflict and tension in relationships
- the media can be used in a positive way to enhance parenting experiences. Children watch television with their parents and discuss the parenting styles portrayed enhancing communication
- child abuse and neglect are openly discussed. The increased public awareness has allowed for publication and new laws to be implemented in dealing with offenders
- electronic media has developed and increased dramatically which has had a major impact on parenting and caring relations, eg Facebook, MySpace, Skype and Bebo (can keep in touch when they are physically apart)
- families can enjoy watching a television program or DVD to discuss opinions, views and the issues shown
- the advertisement of products, such as toys and foods can lead to persuasion and pressure on families
- conflict between parents due to the media's perception of controversial issues, such as breastfeeding or discipline
- conflict between parents or carers and their children or dependents using social networking sites and the increasing risk of predators
- promotion of paid and unpaid carers through documentaries and advertising
- parenting classes/self-help books/courses and advertisements for these
- marketing and promotion of childcare centres, holiday care and before- and after-school care
- perception of gender roles through advertising – magazines and billboards etc
- all types of media challenge family values.

Note: Answers should include how these factors affect the relationship between parent and child.

Question 23

Sample answer:

Note: Responses will depend on the group selected.

Aged Group: Specific needs

- **Health**
  - physical needs may change due to progressive bone loss, hearing and sight deterioration
  - may need support from family, friends and government assistance

- **Security and safety**
  - may be more vulnerable due to loss of partner and loneliness. Extra security around the home (deadlocks, panic alarms) modifications to home

- **Housing**
  - may remain in own home, require assistance to remain in own home, relocate to retirement village or nursing home

- **Sense of identity**
  - need a positive view of the aged, feel important contributors to society as no longer part of the workforce
  - may lose partner and re-establish themselves as a single person.

Modifications to the social environment that would help meet their needs:

- changes to home, such as ramps, shower rails, chairlifts for stairs – so they can remain in their own home

- move closer to family members or move in with a family member – allows greater opportunity for sharing in family events, social interaction, safety and security

- change living environment and move to retirement village – allows greater interaction with people of their own age and interest and provides greater safety and security

- be involved in unpaid work, ie mock interviews with high school students, involved in voluntary work such as Red Cross – raises self esteem and sense of identity

- relocate so they are closer to shops, public transport and entertainment facilities – allows greater access to services, eg medical facilities

- enrol and participate in TAFE courses, community courses, University of the Third Age etc – allows for greater social interaction and stimulates the mind.

Question 24 (a)
Sample answer:
Equity issues for the youth include:
- employment opportunities
- political issues, eg 'P' plate legislation and consumption of alcohol
- emerging tensions among different cultural groups
- bullying and violence
- learning to drive and completing the mandatory hours required by the government
- cost of tertiary education
- sexuality and homophobia.

Question 24 (b)

Sample answer:

Management strategy: employers abide by anti-discrimination laws that protect youth by stipulating equal opportunity for employment for all. Government incentives for employers to employ youth, eg companies taking on apprentices.

Question 25

Answers could include:

Legal implications – parent:

- adoption is regulated by legislation, *Adoption Act 2000* (NSW) and *Family Law Act 1975* (Commonwealth)
- all legal rights and responsibilities are transferred from birth parents to the adoptive parent
- change in parenting is permanent – they may maintain the right to information and contact through the family court
- if the child is older than 12 yrs, they must consent to the adoption
- in NSW, step-parent adoptions can only occur where the parents are married, in a defacto relationship or the step parent must have lived with the child for 2 yrs.

Legal implications – child:

- may search for biological parents when 18 years old – maybe for medical reasons
- new birth certificate issued after adoption occurs.

Social implications – parent:

- society's changing attitudes have resulted in fewer adoptions due to a growing acceptance of single mothers
- adoption can cause different emotions for adopted children because they have the right to discover their origins
- the decision to tell a child they are adopted could be distressing to the adoptive parents
- the child may need to overcome feelings of rejection from their birth parents that affects their self esteem and sense of identity
- share love and a good family environment – decision to adopt
- enables them to become parents.

Social implications – child:

- may feel loved in a home that is especially chosen for them
- can be heartbreaking with the absence of identity – 'Who am I?'
- may not like the adoptive parents – may misbehave
- may feel excluded from the rest of the family if there are other biological children
- may feel rejected or unwanted by their biological parents.

Question 26 (a)

Answers could include:

- when time and finances utilised effectively it allows for a positive family environment
- when the family is time poor tension arises, causing stress on relationships
- when finances are limited, all needs may not be satisfied leading to stress
- the wife's income may be sufficient to cover all needs efficiently – promoting a positive environment
- the family may be able to access the paid parenting allowance
- the family may access government assistance which has opened up choice in possible childcare arrangements, preschools, before/after-school care etc
- as the carer, the father is extremely time poor and needs to be well organised to satisfy the needs of all family dependents
- the parents need to share household and parenting duties yet realise that, due to the mother's work commitments, her availability is limited. The older children could also assist in the parenting/caring role of the younger siblings.

Time:
- primary carer may lack time due to caring for five children – frustration, stress, lack of energy
- full-time worker may have limited time to spend with children
- newborn baby requires a lot of attention and time
- when family is time poor tensions arise causing stress on relationships.

Finances:
- may be limited due to single income
- primary carer at home may be eligible for financial support, such as from Centrelink
- primary carer at home saves on childcare – money available to spend elsewhere.

Question 26 (b)

Answers could include:

- family rosters
- access informal support – grandparents, neighbours, friends, playgroups
- budgeting
- buying in bulk
- accessing formal supports, eg Centrelink or charity organisations, eg The Smith Family or St Vincent de Paul
- delegate tasks and responsibilities to older children – roster
- outsource assistance, eg a cleaner
- financial support from Centrelink
- labour-saving devices

- flexible working patterns
- non-working parents to work part time or work from home
- online banking/shopping
- young children go to daycare so both parents can work.

Note: Candidates need to justify why they would use these.

Question 27

Answers could include:

Bias:
- occurs in research when a factor or range of factors unfairly influences the outcome of research results and therefore distorts them
- objective when choosing research methods or participants in the research
- researchers need to remain objective when interpreting and presenting results so that valid and sustained arguments and conclusions can be drawn.

Sampling:
- involves selecting the individuals who will be included in the study representatives of the total population that forms the focus of the study
- careful and appropriate sampling is important in achieving reliable research outcomes
- to be reliable an accurate representation of the population needs to be achieved at the beginning of the research process
- if appropriate sampling is not achieved data can be biased – therefore valid conclusions cannot be drawn
- sample size needs to be as large as possible – achieves a wider representation of the population.

Question 28

Answers could include:

- Lack of money makes it difficult to access resources.
- It is difficult for people with no permanent address to access resources and government payments.
- Larger cities have more resources, therefore it is more difficult for the homeless in rural and isolated areas to access resources.
- People of low socioeconomic status tend to live in areas with fewer employment opportunities and resources.

Section II

Question 29 (a)

Answers could include:

- setting guidelines for socially acceptable behaviour – reflecting attitudes and values that are shared in society
- many laws are developed by governments from natural law – the morally right or wrong thing to do, eg laws covering assault, free speech and the right to a fair trial reflect the beliefs of the community
- providing processes to settle disputes peacefully
- legislation reduces and resolves disputes by setting boundaries of acceptable behaviour and by setting out penalties for non-compliance
- providing mechanisms for change – laws must be able to make changes to meet the changing needs of society
- within the legal system there are mechanisms that enable legislation to be changed in order to address societal attitudes and values.

Question 29 (b)

Sample answer:

The relevant legislation includes:
- ***Children and Young Person's (Care and Protection) Act 1998* (NSW)**
  - administered by the Department of Community Services (DOCS)
  - intervenes in matters where the welfare of children is a concern
  - provides family support, respite care or, in extreme cases, removes the child from the family
  - understaffed, underfunded, some children 'lost in the system', does help children in abusive home.

- *Minors (Property and Contracts) Act 1970* **(NSW)**
  - clarifies the rights and obligations of children with regard to contracts and property agreements – protects children's economic wellbeing
  - minors are not bound by unfair or exploitative transactions.

- *Succession Amendment (Family Provision) Act 2008* **(NSW)**
  - administered by the Public Trustee who works in the interests of the beneficiaries of estates – in this case the children
  - provides a just and fair treatment of children
  - ensures children's economic wellbeing is satisfied.

- *Child Support Assessment Act 1989*
  - provides for the economic and physical wellbeing of children
  - implemented by the Child Support Agency
  - calculates the amount payable and collects it under court orders.

Note: Candidates must assess each form of legislation in protecting the welfare of children.

Question 29 (c)

Answers could include:

Accessing health care:
- community care services aim to help frail people, who live independently in their own homes, enjoy quality of life for as long as possible – also support carers in their role
- aged-care nurses look after aging members of the community who may need assistance with day-to-day activities or medical treatment
- shared care programs are arrangements between general practitioners and specialists to share the care of a patient – they contribute to the physical and socio-emotional wellbeing of the aged person and can be economically beneficial as specialist fees are saved.

Meeting housing needs:
- retirement villages
  - provide accommodation for independent older people
  - entry is generally restricted to people 55 yrs or older or have retired from full-time employment
  - size and style of accommodation varies
  - provides a sense of belonging and allows for social interaction e.g. dining room, recreational facilities, social outings
  - this type of housing is relatively expensive and management fees are charged
  - usually have long waiting lists
- nursing homes
  - offer high-care residential services
  - provide accommodation for those who require medical care or support for physical, medical or psychological need
  - often rely on family members to provide some care, interaction or social experience for residents
  - limited opportunities to express individuality
  - inactivity can be physically, socially and emotionally damaging
- hostels
  - low-care residential services
  - provide accommodation and limited care for those who need some help due to physical, medical or psychological need
  - offer help with household tasks
  - usually small units with little personal space
  - an inexpensive, safe and secure housing alternative
- remaining at home with support
  - retain independence and sense of identity
  - remain close to friends and family, which enhances wellbeing, safety and security
  - may require assistance from private businesses – can be expensive
  - may access government/community services to cater for physical needs at lower cost, eg Meals on Wheels, Home Care Service, Home and Community Care Program
  - often a cost-effective solution as many aged own their homes – avoids costs of moving.

Note: Candidates must evaluate the type of housing and how it meets the needs of the aged.

Question 30 (a)

Sample answer:

A person's privacy can be invaded through the use of technology by:
- technology designed to decode, hack into or manipulate information
- decode/inactivate alarms
- track the movements of individuals
- security cameras constantly film people in banks, shopping centres etc
- internet usage raises many privacy issues
- employees' use of email and web browsing at work (system administrator has access to all information).

Question 30 (b)

Answers could include:

Some of the issues that may be raised include ethical, equity and privacy issues, and these must be related to a piece of technology.

Blu-ray disc players are an example of one piece of technology given here, but students could use any piece of technology they have studied.

Blu-ray discs are used to store high-definition video and other data. The disc is the same size and shape as a DVD or CD that is read and written to by a blue laser. It can hold almost six times as much information as a DVD or more than ten times that of a CD.

- Issues relevant to the Blu-Ray Disc player include:
  - they may not be compatible with all formats therefore require updating (cost factor)
  - software could be an issue
  - cost (Blu-ray discs cost more than DVD's)
  - the player itself can be costly and therefore an equity issue for people who cannot afford them

Note: Technologies used might include: mobile phones, Google, gaming consoles, reproductive technologies, Facebook, satellites, fuel-powered engines, refrigerators, iPhones, smart phones, iPads or computers.

Question 30 (c)

Suggested answer:

Household technologies – the technologies of labour-saving appliances, specialised cleaning products, easy care clothing, home shopping, communication and social services have significant impact.

Often other responsibilities are added as a result of a new 'free time' associated with labour-saving devices.

Household technologies increase leisure time, providing more time to spend as a family, which can enhance wellbeing and improve interpersonal relationships.

Question 31 (a)

Answers could include:

- Self-esteem – the person may feel their participation is worthwhile and they are giving something back to the community, eg caring for the ill or disabled.
- Social needs – the need for social interaction is often a reason a person becomes involved in unpaid work, eg volunteering in nursing homes, soup kitchens or involvement in coaching children's sporting teams.
- Education – a person can volunteer to work as a museum guide and learn from the exhibits or donate time to charity events, eg awareness of breast cancer.
- Social conscience – become involved in unpaid work in the hope they will make society a better place and therefore satisfy their own and the larger group's needs, eg working with the homeless or agencies such as Greenpeace or World Vision.

Question 31 (b)

Answers could include:

Some employer responsibilities include:
- abide by all conditions of the award or agreement, including paying correct wages
- provide safe and suitable working conditions
- abide by anti-discrimination legislation
- be reasonable in demands of employees.

Note: Candidates need to relate how an employer meeting these responsibilities improves workplace culture and supports the employee. Several examples or an in-depth discussion of cause and effect are needed. For example, an employer providing a safe workplace – following OHS regulations – ensures the safety of employees or knowing that access to Workcover – in the event of an accident – is available supports the wellbeing of employees.

Link to the wellbeing of employees to gain top marks.

Question 31 (c)

Sample answer:

Patterns of work suitable for the parents include:

- part-time
- job sharing
- working from home
- full-time
- shift work
- self employment
- contract
- telecommuting.

Patterns of work suitable for the 16yr old include:

- casual
- part-time
- seasonal.

Note: One example is provided here but students can choose any of the above.

Part-time work:

Permanent part-time employment is where employees work less than 35 hours per week and receive all the entitlements of full-time employees on a proportional or pro-rata basis. This pattern of work is suitable for the parents of this family as:

- the set and structured hours allow parents to have a fixed schedule
- allows parents time to spend with their children
- gives parents the opportunity to combine work and family responsibilities
- provides security and regularity in working hours
- benefits are proportional to the number of hours worked
- workers are entitled to sick leave, allowing parents to stay home with sick children and still be paid.