

CRIMINOLOGY

Time Allowed – 1.5 hours

Answer THREE questions

1. Discuss whether the prison system in England and Wales could be described as being in an ongoing state of crisis.
2. Why are black and minority ethnic groups disproportionately over-represented in police stop and search statistics in England and Wales? In your answer, consider ways in which you think the problems arising from this disproportionality could be addressed.
3. Describe and explain how popular media portrayals of crime and criminal justice might influence public perceptions and understandings of crime.
4. Discuss how useful official crime statistics are in providing an accurate picture of the types and amount of crime occurring in society.
5. Consider the benefits and limitations of using restorative justice and mediation in resolving the harms arising from criminal offences.
6. Described by Hirschi and Gottfredson (1994: 552) as a 'brute fact of criminology', nearly all criminal and offending behaviour peaks in late adolescence and declines thereafter. How can this phenomenon be explained?
7. With reference to the relationship between gender, crime and criminal justice, consider why the majority of recorded crime is committed by males and not females.