Sleepy Classes IAS
Awakening Toppers

Instructions to the candidate:

- There are 5 Questions.
- All Questions are Compulsory.
- You should download the question-and-answer booklet, take its print-out, attempt the questions and then scan the same using various mobile apps like Cam Scanner etc. on your mobile, Convert the file using these apps to PDF and upload.
- You will be able to upload the file from where you had downloaded the question-and-answer booklet.
- In case you face any difficulties, you can write to us at sleepy.classes@gmail.com.
- Those candidates who are not writing on the printed booklet are to leave margins on their answer sheet for comments.
- The above-said candidates are to then make their own evaluation sheet in the format stated below to be uploaded with the answer.
- Compulsory to name your PDF file in the following format (Student Complete Name_Test Number) e.g.: (Kriti Rathor_Mains Test-5)

Comments for the purpose of evaluation of Answer Writing:

Relevance to the question	
Structure of Answer	
Content	
Presentation (Neatness, charts, diagrams as required)	

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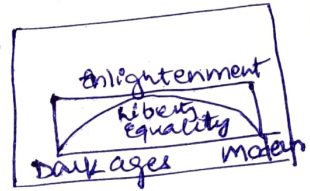
Answer Question in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit for each in the Parenthesis.
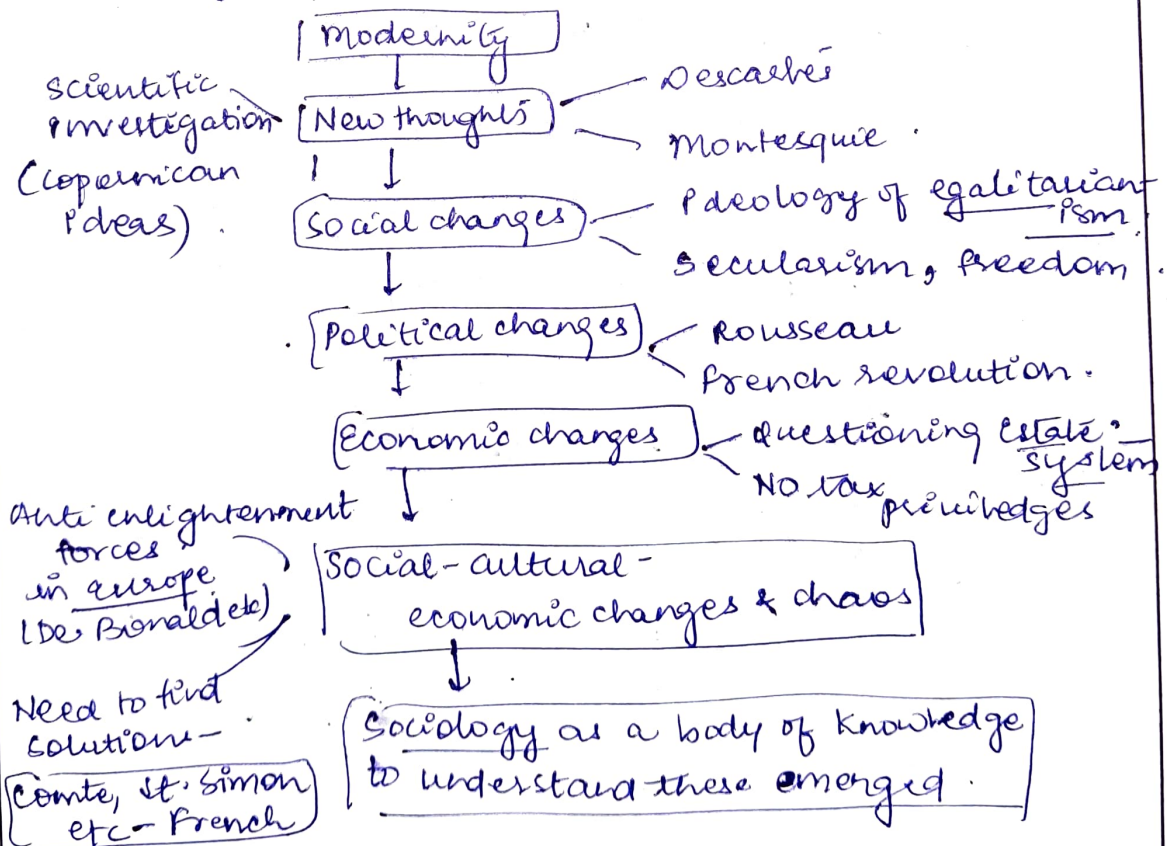(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Europe was the first & the only place where modernity emerged & Europe is the first and only place where post modernity is emerging. Comment.

Modernity is a paradigm shift occured due to social, economic, political changes driven by Rennaisance / intellectual churning.

➤ Modernity - first and only in Europe

④ 18th century Europe saw many intellectual forces driving scientific, political etc changes.

Scientific investigation (Copernican ideas). → Modernity → New thoughts → Descartes, Montesquie.

New thoughts → Social changes → Ideology of egalitarianism, Secularism, freedom.

Social changes → Political changes → Rousseau, French revolution.

Political changes → Economic changes → Questioning Estate system, No tax priviledges

Anti enlightenment forces in europe (De Bonald etc) → Social - cultural - economic changes & chaos

Need to find solutions - Comte, St. Simon etc - French → Sociology as a body of knowledge to understand these emerged.

➤ Thus, first & foremost in Europe

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⊛ However, Ibn Khaldun (Africa) was first to propel modern thoughts.

① Other countries also contributed like those of British in

- enlightenment thoughts — Locke — Hobbes
- Commercial revolution → in England first
- Scientific thoughts → Newtonian Physics.

⇒ Post modernity → Questioned 'totalitarian' perspective of sociology, gave 'metanarratives' and multiplicity to narratives

Thinkers in Europe :—

① Derrida (Deconstruction theory)

② Foucault (Discourse analysis)

③ Baudrillard, Lyotard

However, others like |Giddens| (Double Hermeneutics) |Chicago school| in USA emerged to analyse post modern phenomenon; Critical school of |hee Harvey| believed in 'no true knowledge'

Thus, modernity & post modernity evidenced across the societies as a plural and relative school of thoughts

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Q2 Examine key shortcomings of positivist philosophy in capturing the subjective & interpretive aspects of social reality, & explore how non positivist methods provide more nuanced understanding of social phenomenon.

Positivist philosophy and Non positivism are two schools of sociology which tried to study society through different methodologies. having their own advantages and shortcomings.

I ⟹ Shortcomings of positivist Philosophy -

① Positivism → Auguste Comte emphasised on use of natural sciences methods to observe, compare and historically analyse society.

② This could not consider role of human thoughts and meanings they attached to social action.   eg why touch feet of elders?

③ Peter Berger argued that they (positivists) don't consider human consciousness, which is also influenced by common sense → totally rejected by positivists as it mars objectivity of research.

    eg Durkheim's suicide theory

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However, Positivism

① gave concrete foundation to sociology and distinct subject matter (social facts)

② gave objective, testable & predictable theories eg <u>division</u> of labour by Durkheim

II >> Non positivism — more nuanced understanding :-

① subject matter ⎡ Social action
⎣ social Interaction ⎤ more closer to
Common sense ⎦ humans than social facts.

② Weber's Interpretive — <u>micro perspective</u> — study <u>motivation</u> and meaning → Internal feelings & emotions of humans.

③ <u>Phenomenology</u> try to approach human <u>consciousness</u> through <u>subjective</u> methods, trying to analyze role of their own sense of <u>social reality</u> (Schutz, CH Cooley)

④ Ethnomethodologists like <u>garfinkel</u> study. everyday life and methods.

Hence, this dichotomy would be synthesised by structural functionalist & neofunctionalists etc

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Q3 Examine how Karl Marx's theory of alienation can be applied to understand contemporary issue of job security & gig economy Analyze its implication for worker's right and well being.

Alienation is a feeling of disenchantment or estrangement due to breakdown of interconnection b/w natural process of production and fruit of labour given by Marx in his "Das capital".

→ I Alienation & job security, gig economy :-

⚡ ① Lower wages →

① separation of one's labour from themselves → further alienation due lower wages.

② Alienation from product and process -

eg. Due to meagre wages, not able to afford the products they produce.

③ Alienation from self → feeling powerlessness
No purpose of work life

eg. The great resignation in west, mass layoffs etc

④ Alienation from peers, friends —
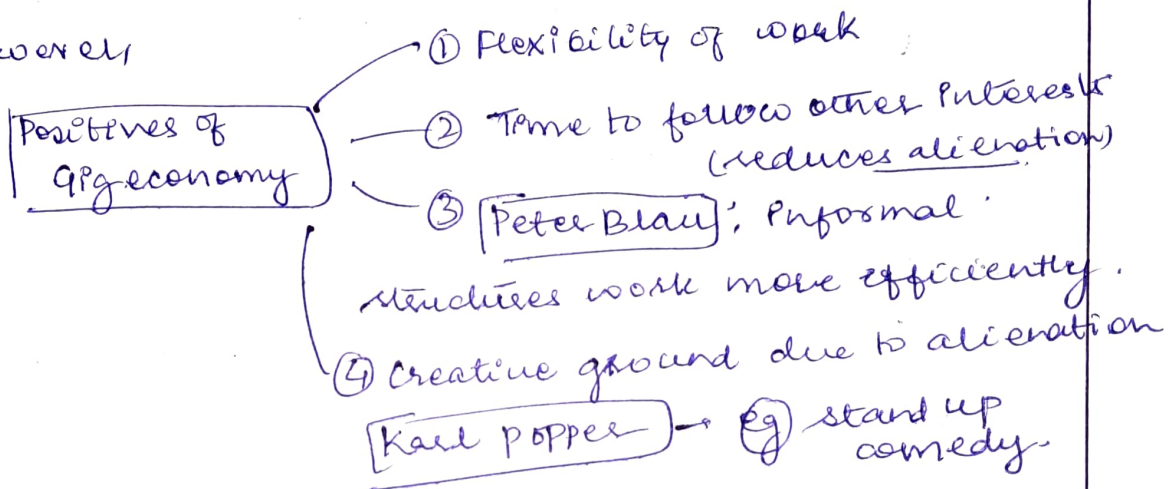
eg. Due to industrial reserve army — more

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competition at work → poor work ethics; loss of social element.

⑤ Informal organisation of work → women mostly engaged in this sector due to flexibility → wages inequality, Pink collarisation (Karuna Ahmad)

>> However,

Positives of Gig economy
- ① Flexibility of work
- ② Time to follow other interests (reduces alienation)
- ③ (Peter Blau): Informal structures work more efficiently.
- ④ Creative ground due to alienation (Karl Popper) → eg stand up comedy.

>> But there Impacts on workers rights & well being-

① well to Human rights are compromised, Issue of safety & security (eg) 30 min delivery ↳ Right to life

② minimum wages are too meagre to come out of "vicious circle of poverty"

③ Right to livelihood and employment, equal wages (DPSP) are also violated.

Thus, Marx's studies can help in formulating welfare policies for exploited section (Have nots).

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Q9 Critically analyze contemporary relevance of Durkheim's concept of collective consciousness in understanding social cohesion & role of religion in fostering solidarity in diverse societies

Emile Durkheim in his 'elementary form of religious life" gave theory of primitive religion of Arunta tribes (Totemism) to understand how collective effervescence leads to feeling of belongingness with a particular totem, clan, religion etc — called collective consciousness.

→ | Social cohesion due to collective consciousness | → ① Caste, ethnicity
  ② class
  ③ Gender.
  ④ Kinship

1) caste consciousness led to Dominant caste in |MN Srinivas| structural functionalism.

2) Class consciousness among different social classes → interest groups, pressure groups.
   eg) Trade unions v/s ASSOCHAM, CII

3) Gender consciousness → support for #MeToo
   ↳ Ecofeminism eg) chipko movement

4) Nationalism & civil religion emerge to collective consciousness

social
conflicts
due to
collective
conciousness

→ ① Fundamentalism (explained by STEVE BRUCE)
→ ② Relative deprivation feeling.
→ ③ Threat perception by minorities

Religion & solidarity

① Religion is unified sets of beliefs and practices. which unite all those into single moral community, whose adhere to them [DURKHEIM]

② social integration, social control are tools to ensure solidarity in religion.

③ social change → eliminate social evils thus solidarity enhances (eg) Veerashaiva movement against Brahamic orthodoxy, untouchability

→ However, conflicts due to religion like —

① [Rodney stark] : Religious nationalism is decisive and leads to conflict (eg) Taliban

② [Peter Berger] questions integrative role of religion as there are more sects and cults growing now (eg) ISCKON

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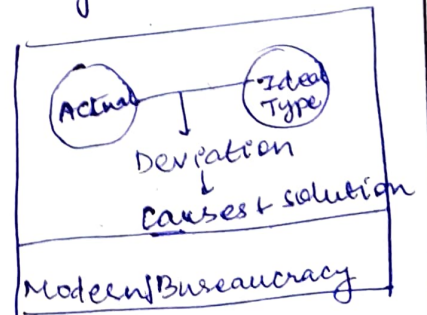(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Q5 Evaluate max weber's concept of 'Iron cage' of rationality & its relevance in understanding challenges of bureaucracy & organizational rationalization in contemporary society.

Max weber's through his Ideal types gave certain description/mental construct of Bureaucracy — the most rational legal authority that suits modern capitalist society.

But calls it an "Iron cage" of rationality due to the rigid hierarchy that operated within cage of rules and regulation w/o giving heed to Individuality, values, autonomy and Innovativeness.

He calls it "escape proof", from cohere a person is difficult to escape, leads to 'disenchantment' in bureaucracy.

=> Challenges of Bureaucracy & organizational rationalization :-

① Red tapism due to rigid following of rules w/o

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emphasicing on goals ⟶ RITUALISM by Merton

② Humanitarian values, empathy, compassion lacking due to excess rationality

③ Feeling of alienation, purposeless ness. due to being a 'cog in machine'

④ Gournay talks of 'bureaumania'

　　eg Bureaucratic elitist behaviour recently in incident of dog walking IAS couple

⑤ Peter Blau contested the actual form. is entirely different from theoretical; informality in bureaucracy is critical.

⑥ Roberto michels calls it " Oligarchy" in democracy

　　　Thus, these challenges were. well admitted by weber and gave suggestion to hold accountable bureaucrats to democratically elected govt.. & neminists suggests simplification of administrative & mass participation.

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Q6 Critically evaluate limitations of data collection in capturing the complexities of social phenomenon, with a focus on their application in understanding & analysing contemporary social issues

Data collection is process of accumulating facts and variables for fitting into a hypothesis to generate social theories.

[Two methods] — Quantitative — social survey etc
— Qualitative — Ethnography etc

>> Limitations of data collection in capturing social complexities.

① Quantitative — ① lacks depth and holistic analysis.
② less flexible, non observable attributes not measured.

② Qualitative — ① lacks reliability, testability etc
② Need expertise, Hawthorne + subjectivity of investigator

>> However, their advantages also and ⊖

Quantitative   Applications in
                            analysis contemporary
                            issues are —

① Quantitative

>> analysis of large samples, objectively measures parameters

⸤ eg NSSO can help in measuring poverty level

>> No need of expertise

⸤ eg social survey through questionnaires can help in knowing economic and medical status of vulnerable groups like women, tribals etc -

② Qualitative

>> Complete and in depth analysis.
eg causes of poverty

>> flexibility of data collection, doubts & ambiguities can be cleared.

>> unstructured interviews →
⸤ eg gender roles in a household.

>> Field perspectives - 'Ecological validity is maintained, through non participant observation, hawthorne can also be eliminated. eg Radcliffe Brown's tribe study

Thus, Ray Pawson's methodological pluralism can be a way forward.

Critically examine role of Pattern variables in understanding impact of technological advancements on social change.

Pattern variables are the connecting link b/w Parsonian idea of social structure and social system. These are fundamental dilemmas that one faces during role performance. Since they help in analysis of dichotomous orientations in society, they can help in unstanding technological advancements impacts on social change.

Social change is variation in human behaviour, societal norms and values along with either material changes.

eg ⟨ Green revolution
    Industrial revolution
    Digital revolution etc.

>> Pattern variables by Parsons.

① Ascriptive and achieved identity based judgements.

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(9) Green revolution — Rich farmers (Dominant caste)
v/s
Impacted differently Poor agri labourer
based on their (Dalit)
ascribed &
achieved status

(2) Particularistic v/s Universalistic —

Technology led to modern society which

is inclined towards universal values

like rule of law, equality etc.

However, Bureaucracy still suffers this

dilemma as per Parsons.

(3) Diffusive v/s Specificity

with arrival of capitalist economy,

Purport of technology has overridden

social elements at work place → more

specific

(4) Affective neutrality v/s affectiveness

Technological development in digital

world — brought people closer (COVID-19)

thus enhancing feelings & emotions of

care.

(5) Collective conscience v/s self interest is

still a dilemma in modern society.

Hence, Pattern variables can partially analyze the social changes

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Q8 How does RK merton's theory of conformity & deviance provide insights into co-existence of these phenomena in society
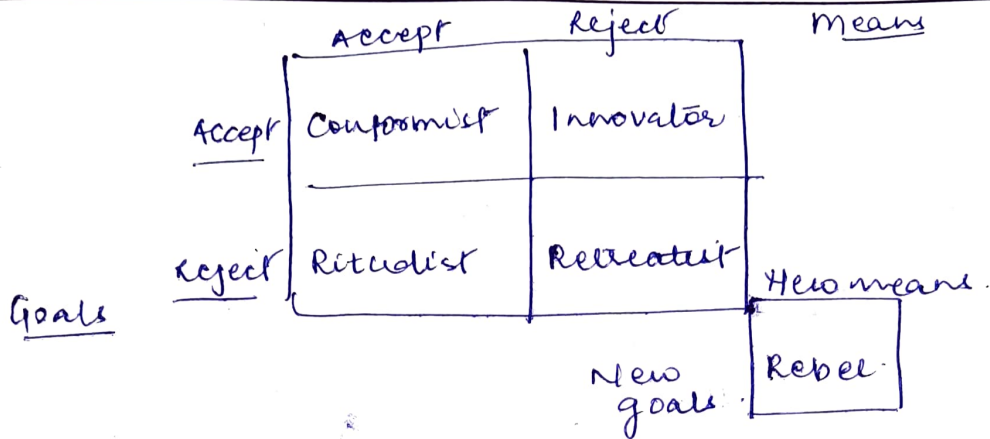
RK Merton's neofunctionalist approach widened and modified theories of functionalist like Durkheim etc, one being concept of 'anomie'. For merton Anomie was a cause for deviance — discrepancy of culturally defined goals and structurally available means → non acceptance of social norms

Conformity is acceptance of societally approved path. According to him, both conformity and deviance are permanent part of social structure. He gave reactions to deviance wherein ~~only~~ passing conformist, all other types are deviants. However, these may be different for different societies & groups.
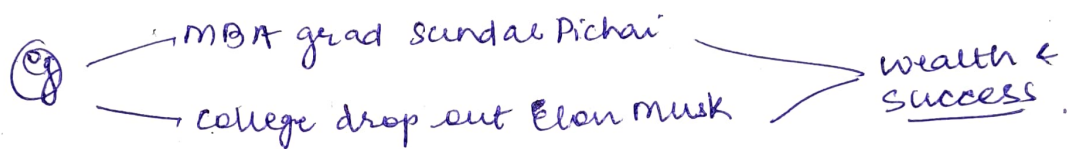
ⓖ mutilitation by Teton Sioux indians.

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	Accept	Reject	Means
Accept	Conformist	Innovator	
Reject	Ritualist	Retreatist	

Goals

Here means.
New goals. → Rebel

① Innovator - one who rejects the means to accomplish culturally defined goals.

eg → MBA grad Sundar Pichai
→ college drop out Elon Musk → wealth & success.

② Ritualist are those who reject the goal and accept means available.

eg Most Bureaucrats as per Merton are ritualist hence red tapism.

③ Retreatist reject both

eg Drug addicts, Taliban

④ Rebel · eg - revolutionary, social reformers

However coexistence of conformists along with these deviants is manifestation of Merton's theory

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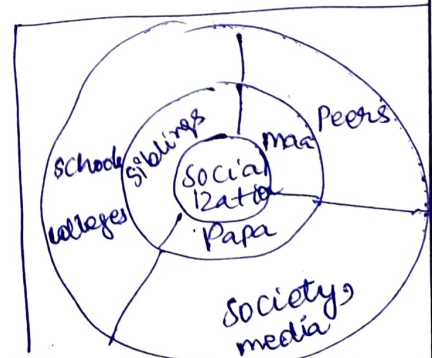(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Q9 A/c to Mead, How educational disparities impact socialization?

Mead was a symbolic interactionist who through his 'theory of self' analysed the process of socialisation — a process where person learns about the behaviour, gestures to interact with social groups. through out the life course.

→ Socialization can be impacted by educational disparities —

① Mead emphasised on three stages of 'self development' through our childhood. In that, educational institutions, members play crucial role in 'Game stage'.

② due to encounter with 'generalised others' in school → Role in socialization

③ educational disparities.

•) Gender stratification:
girls are socialized into being good housewives while boys for earning claimed feminist |Sue Lee|

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•) <u>Haves v/s Have not</u>

Haves → confident, Rationalist
→ Better reference group

Have not → self conscious, fatalist
→ low aspirations due to limited <u>social mobility</u> avenues.

•) <u>Ideological state apparatus</u> (Althusser) where working class children are socialised to ideologies of dominant capitalist class — to generate more workers.

• <u>caste & racism based socialization</u>:- feeling of deprivation, <u>exclusion</u>

• Despite formal equality as proposed by [Peter Saunders] → Due to "culture of Poverty" — they tend to be less aspirational.

Thus, education shall be <u>liberating for all</u> and present better, equal opportunities to all social classes

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Q10 How can researcher effectively adapt traditional research methods to capture complexities of online spaces?

Traditional research methods have been and are being extensively used by social researchers to analyse social reality through participant observation etc.

But as Baudrillard proposed the media is taking over the social & economic sphere so research in online spaces field using traditional ways can take place as follows—

① Focus group technique — as suggested by Tim May are gaining currency through online chat rooms etc.

② Social surveys can be conducted online through several communication mediums.

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(3) Online questionnaires can be posted.
for (eg) e-commerce, services companies
does. to help customers..

(4) Telephonic interviews can help in
connecting directly; face to face interaction
on internet / web cam etc can also be
a method to conduct unstructural
interviews. (eg) To know cyberbullying cases.

(5) Biographical, life history etc can.
be facilitated by online data available.

Hence, online spaces can be
captured well by traditional methods.
along with online content analysis etc