



Worksheet 4: Applying sociological knowledge answers

1 An individual is **born into poverty** and finds it **impossible to improve his/her social position**. Which statements best describe his/her situation?

- 1 She/he is trapped in a cycle of poverty.
- 2 She/he lives in a meritocratic society.
- 3 His/her ascribed status will be low.
- 4 There are good opportunities for social mobility.

C 1 and 3

2 A **woman** is experiencing discrimination **in the workplace**. Which statements could indicate discrimination?

- 1 The introduction of a minimum wage.
- 2 Colleagues make sexist comments which make her feel afraid.
- 3 There is a gender pay gap in place.
- 4 A glass ceiling is present in the workplace.

B 2, 3 and 4

3 The following statements describe global problems. Which are **global ecological issues**?

- 1 The world's climate is changing.
- 2 Pollution of the seas due to the dumping of waste.
- 3 Increased gap between the rich and poor in developed countries.
- 4 The increase in global crime due to the internet.

A 1 and 2

4 Individuals often rely on the **welfare state** to improve their situation. Which of the following statements are examples of this?

- 1 Non-governmental organisations (NGO's) provide medical assistance to individuals in a crisis.
- 2 People receive unemployment benefit when they lose their job.
- 3 A charity offers free school places to children who cannot afford the school fees.
- 4 Everyone receives a state pension when they retire.

C 2 and 4

5 A person from an **ethnic minority** is more likely to experience **barriers to improving their life chances**. Which of the following are examples of such barriers?

- 1 An ethnocentric curriculum at school.
- 2 Sexist attitudes in the workplace.
- 3 Less opportunity to live in a good standard, safe housing.
- 4 Media stereotyping of ethnic minorities as criminal and deviant.

D 1, 3 and 4



- 6 Some individuals live in a **closed society**. Which statements describe a closed society?
- 1 There is movement up and down the social ladder.
 - 2 A caste system exists.
 - 3 Apartheid existed in South Africa where the black majority were oppressed by the white minority.
 - 4 All borders are closed so that illegal immigrants cannot enter.

C **2 and 3**