

4.1 HL extension: theory

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 24 marks

KEY WORDS anthropological theory • functionalism

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Objective

Supported preparation: Use two theories to evaluate one piece of material and argue the better reading; Answer an ethics stimulus with principle, dilemma and case. This is original rehearsal, not completion of the assessed task.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

Theory toolkit. Five theories as USES: functionalism (what the practice does for the group), structuralism (deep patterns under surface variety), cultural materialism (ideas from material conditions), interpretive anthropology (culture as text), practice theory (structure and action making each other). The evaluation move: one material, two readings, a judgement argued from evidence. Paper 1 HL: the ethics question from one of two stimuli (principle, dilemma, case). Worked: the greeting ritual evaluated; the filming-verdict stimulus.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the five theories in the kit. [5]

2.2 What does each practice-theory reading pair, in one phrase? [2]

2.3 What is the difference between using a theory and reciting it? [2]

2.4 What does the HL fourth area add? [1]

2.5 What three parts does the ethics answer carry? [3]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 (*Evaluation style.*) Read the greeting vignette through functionalism and interpretive anthropology, and judge which the material better supports. [6]

3.2 (*Materialism style.*) Re-read the tuck-shop barter through cultural materialism in two sentences. [2]

3.3 (*Ethics style.*) Draft the verdict on the ritual-filming stimulus. [3]

Solutions

2.1 Functionalism (1); structuralism (1); cultural materialism (1); interpretive anthropology (1); practice theory (1).

2.2 Structure and action (1); making each other (obeying and bending the rule) (1).

2.3 A use is evidenced from the material (the reading's claims appear in it) (1); a recital names the theory and stops, or claims what the material cannot show (1).

2.4 A fourth area of inquiry from any group: HL-only breadth (1).

2.5 The principle at stake (1); the dilemma weighed (knowledge against dignity) (1); a case argued to a verdict (1).

3.1 Functionalism: the greeting re-ties the school daily, ritually producing cohesion (2); interpretive: the shorthand greeting is insider text, meaning made by users (2); judgement: the material better supports the interpretive reading, because insider meaning is observable in the vignette while the cohesion claim cannot be evidenced from greetings alone (2).

3.2 The barter's favour is priced scarcity: material conditions (what the shop stocks, who can reach it at break) shape the ideas of fair and regular (2).

3.3 Consent impossible person-by-person (1); so justify the filming to the community as a whole, anonymise individuals in publication, weigh the film's gain (the community's own record) against embarrassment (1); verdict argued (film only with the community's assent), not a slogan (1).

Local review guidance: (R1) 3.1 judges from evidence; 3.2 traces ideas to conditions; 3.3 argues to a verdict. Authored guidance.