

**MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2015**

**TITLE OF PAPER** : **SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY**

**COURSE CODE** : **SOC 301**

**TIME ALLOWED** : **THREE (3) HOURS**

- INSTRUCTIONS**
1. **ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS:  
TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM  
SECTION A, AND TWO (2)  
QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.**
  
  2. **ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL  
MARKS**

**TOTAL MARKS: 100**

**THIS QUESTION PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS  
BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

concepts and major arguments. In your analysis, point out the theory's strengths and weaknesses.

2. Define the term *ideal type* and critically discuss Max Weber's methodology of the social sciences.
3. Discuss Emile Durkheim's analysis of the origins and functions of religion.
4. Distinguish between *use value* and *exchange value*, and examine Karl Marx's labour theory of value.

## **SECTION B:**

*Answer TWO questions from this section*

5. Explain what is meant by the term *net balance*, and critically discuss Robert Merton's net functional balance analysis.
6. Critically discuss the sociological significance of conflict with specific reference to Lewis Coser's analysis of the positive functions of social conflict.
7. Using relevant examples, critically discuss Pierre Bourdieu's notion of *habitus*.
8. Using Patricia Hill Collins's (1990) notion of *matrix of domination*, discuss how intersectionality theory explains women's experience of structural oppression in contemporary society.