

Indira Gandhi National Open University
Core Course in M.A. Sociology
MSO-002: Research Methodologies and Methods
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Programme Code : MSO
Course Code : MSO-002
Assignment Code: MSO-002/AST/TMA/2026-27

Maximum Marks : 100

Weightage : 30%

Answer questions from both the sections.

	Marks
Section –A	
Answer any two of the following questions	
1. What is ‘phenomenology’? Discuss the contribution of Martin Heidegger to phenomenological studies.	25
2. Explain the nature and scope of quantitative methods of data analysis in sociological research.	25
3. What is positivism? Discuss Giddens’s critique of positivism.	25
4. Critically examine the scope of survey method in social science research.	25
5. Discuss the relevance of field work research in sociology.	25

Section-B

Write a research report on any one of the following topics in about 3000 words.

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| (i). Use of artificial intelligence in social science research. | 50 |
| (ii). Impact of education on social mobility in India. | 50 |
| (iii). Sociological significance of pilgrimages and festivals. | 50 |

You can write this report based either on review of literature, or data collected from the primary sources.

For review of literature you are to select either two books or four research articles published recently on the selected topic of your choice. Write a review article focusing on the location of the study, methodology followed and the main findings of these studies.

For the primary source you are to collect two case studies and write a report on the selected topic in a comparative framework. While writing the report spell out clearly the objectives and the problems of the study and

- problematise the issue within the existing/available literature,
- elaborate your observations, finding and conclusion coherently, and
- make proper referencing at the end.
- *** Note: Submit the research report to your Study Centre for evaluation.**