

Past papers

2 Study **Item B**, then answer parts (a) to (d) which follow.

Item B

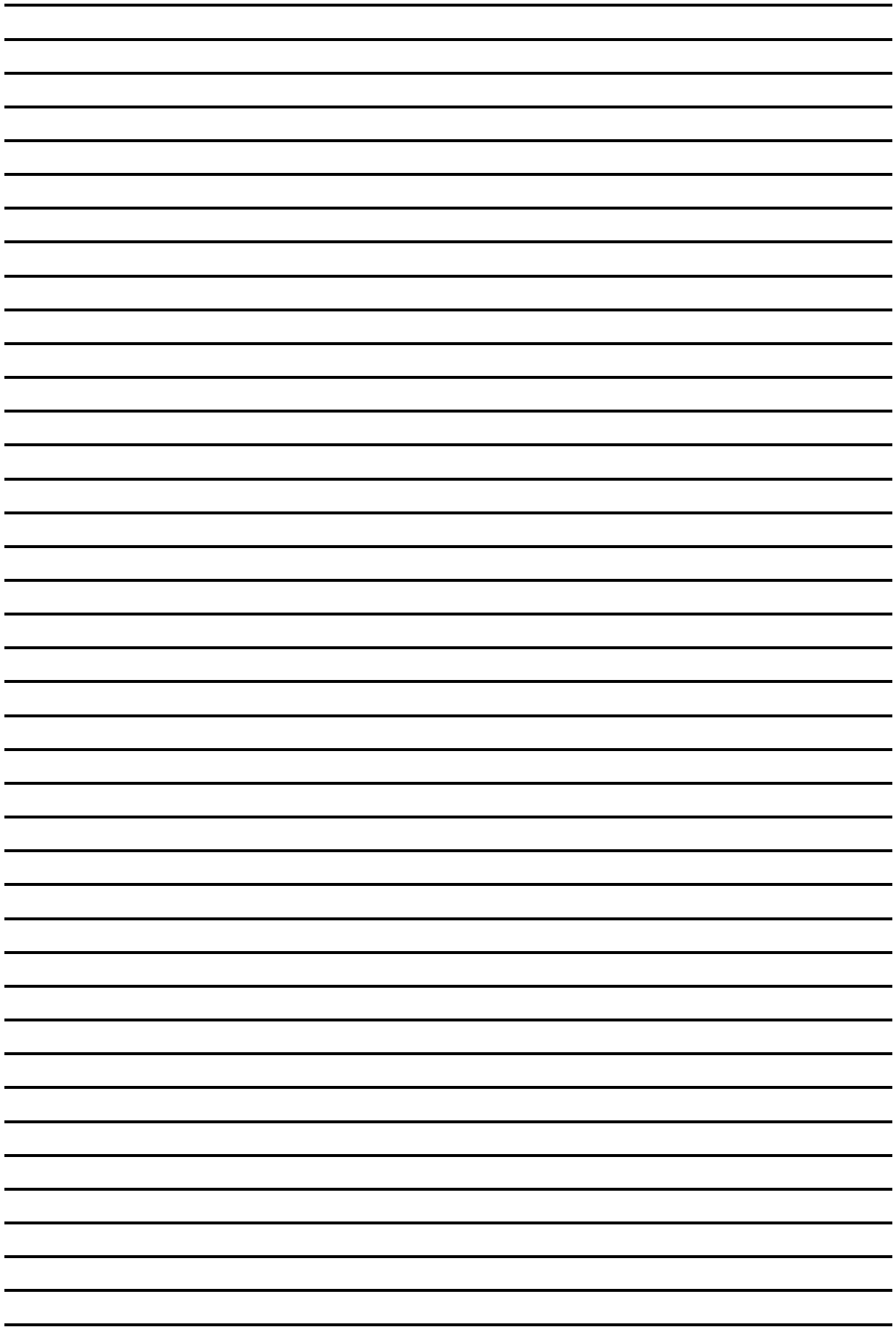


(a) According to the information in **Item B**, was the number of divorces greater in 1976 or in 2004? (1 mark)

(b) Explain briefly **one** possible consequence for family members of living in a reconstituted or step family. (2 marks)

(c) Identify and explain **one** reason why more couples today choose to live together rather than marry. (3 marks)

(d) To what extent would sociologists agree that changes in social attitudes have been responsible for the increase in the divorce rate since the 1960s? (9 marks)



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Item B

Type of family	1971	1981	1991	2001
Couple with no children	27	26	28	28
Couple with 1 – 2 dependent children	26	25	20	19
Couple with 3 or more dependent children	9	6	5	4
Lone parent	3	5	6	5

(a) According to the information in **Item B**, what was the trend in the percentage of households made up of couples with 1 – 2 dependent children between 1981 and 2001? (1 mark)

(b) **Item B** shows an increase in the proportion of lone parent households over the period 1971 to 2001. Briefly outline **one** sociological explanation for this increase. (2 marks)

(c) The number of people living on their own has increased over recent years. Identify and explain **one** reason for this change. (3 marks)

