NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

Sociología del trabajo

Idioma: EN

EXAM STATEMENT:

No materials may be used. The exam consists of two topics. The first must be summarised in an outline. The use of bullet points or numbering (with at least three levels of detail) is recommended to express the structure of the content. Your presentation should not exceed one side of a sheet of paper. The outline must contain the main theses of each section. The second topic should be as extensive and detailed as possible, taking into account the time available (90 minutes for the entire examination). Pay special attention to your handwriting and spelling. Repeated spelling mistakes may result in failure.

Question 1: To summarise in an outline: The reorganisation of work or Fordism after Fordism (I): Fordism in motion; subcontracting, offshoring and global production chains; Fordism 2.0; Fordism in services.

Question 2: To develop: The Coming of Post-Industrial Society

Question 1

To summarise in an outline: The reorganisation of work or Fordism after Fordism (I): Fordism in motion; subcontracting, offshoring and global production chains; Fordism 2.0; Fordism in services.

STUDENT RESPONSE:

- I. Fordism in Motion
- * Changes in the traditional Fordist model
- * Flexibility and adaptability in production processes
- * New forms of work organization
- II. Subcontracting, Offshoring, and Global Production Chains
- * Definition and characteristics of subcontracting and offshoring
- * Impact on labor markets and workers' rights
- * Global production chains: organization and consequences

III. Fordism 2.0

- * Evolution of Fordist principles in modern production
- * Incorporation of new technologies and management techniques
- * Changes in the nature of work and worker roles

IV. Fordism in Services

- * Application of Fordist principles to service sector
- * Standardization and efficiency in service delivery
- * Examples and implications for service workers and consumers

Question 2

To develop: The Coming of Post-Industrial Society

STUDENT RESPONSE:

The concept of the post-industrial society refers to a stage of societal development characterized by a shift from a primarily industrial economy to one dominated by the service sector and knowledge-based industries. This transition is marked by significant changes in the structure of employment, the nature of work, and the overall economy.

One of the primary features of a post-industrial society is the decline of the manufacturing sector as the main driver of economic activity. As industrial production becomes more mechanized and automated, the need for manual labor decreases, leading to a reduction in the number of jobs available in this sector. Conversely, the service sector experiences growth, with an increasing number of jobs in areas such as healthcare, education, finance, and information technology.

The post-industrial society is also characterized by an emphasis on knowledge and information as key drivers of economic growth. This is often referred to as the knowledge economy, where the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge become crucial for innovation and competitiveness. As a result, there is a growing demand for workers with specialized skills and education, particularly in fields related to technology and information.

Another significant aspect of the post-industrial society is the changing nature of work. With the rise of the service sector and knowledge economy, traditional notions of work and employment are being redefined. More people are engaged in knowledge-intensive work, and there is a greater emphasis on flexibility, adaptability, and continuous learning.

Critics of the post-industrial society concept argue that it oversimplifies the complexities of modern economies and societies. They point out that many service sector jobs are low-wage and lack the benefits and security associated with traditional manufacturing jobs. Additionally, the shift to a service-based economy can lead to issues such as income inequality and job insecurity.

Despite these criticisms, the concept of the post-industrial society remains relevant for understanding the significant changes taking place in modern economies and societies. As the global economy continues to evolve, it is likely that the service sector and knowledge economy will remain key drivers of growth and development.

The post-industrial society has implications for various aspects of social and economic life, including education, training, and social policy. As the nature of work continues to change, there will be a need for ongoing education and retraining to ensure that workers have the skills required to participate in the knowledge economy.

In conclusion, the coming of the post-industrial society represents a significant shift in the way economies and societies function, with far-reaching implications for employment, education, and social policy. Understanding this transition is

crucial for developing effective strategies to address the challenges and opportunities it presents.