

Item A

The process of globalisation has led to many different changes to the UK family. Migration, to and from the UK has impacted on the structure of families and relationships between them.

Additionally, the impact of globalisation has altered the experience of children due to increased technological advances.

Applying material from Item A, analyse two ways in which globalisation has impacted on the family (10)

One way in which globalisation has impacted on the family is due to migration. As Item A states, 'migration...has impacted on the structure of families' and this can be evidenced through changes to the types of household in the UK today. Migration has led to an increased in lone person and shared households, this is in part due to economic migration into the UK for workers from overseas in the early part of their careers. As they move to the UK, they often find themselves living in temporary accommodation until their employment is more secure and would be living in apartments or shared accommodation with other professional workers. This is one way in which migration has impacted on the structure of families and households, however another way is emigration. Many young families in the UK have either moved overseas for better career opportunities or have elderly relatives that have retired overseas. Furthermore, there has been a growth of people working overseas yet having relationships and families in the UK which has led to a growth of living apart together. Migration, a key element of globalisation has therefore impacted on family life in a range of different ways. However, some sociologists point out that stricter immigration controls in a post-Brexit Britain may cause this to change.

A second way globalisation has impacted on family life is through childhood experiences. One feature of globalisation has been 'increased technological advances' such as the development on the internet and other communications technologies. Some sociologists suggest that this can have a negative impact on family life as it could lead to forms of toxic childhood, with children in the

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family being increasingly exposed to adult life at an early age, for example through online gaming and social media sites. Palmer suggests that media sources can distort children's view of society, desensitising them to violence and pressuring them to grow up before their time. This can be seen to have negative impacts on family life. However, it can be argued that the growth of communications technologies could also have positive effects, with increased contact with relatives that live overseas allowing families to be connected despite being miles apart.