**Essay: evaluate the view that the nuclear family is still dominant in the contemporary UK (20 marks)**

**Plan:**

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| Introduction (needs to define what is meant as a nuclear family and highlight areas to be discussed in the main body- show which sociologists would support either side of the debate) | |
| Arguments for the nuclear family being dominant  (Any arguments in this side should be argued against using the other side) | Arguments for families being diverse |
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| Conclusion (should sum up the essay and come to a decision) | |

Notes:

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| Factors for the argument | Factors against the argument |
| This is a functionalist and new right argument:   * Parsons * Murdock * Chester * Leach * Amato   You also need to include relevant statistics.  Consider how the nuclear family is still regarded as conventional. | This is a broadly postmodern argument that families are now diverse- even if they look nuclear on the outside they will have diverse internal set ups because families don’t follow traditional life courses anymore.   * Rapoport and Rapoport * Wilmott * Giddens * Beck * Studies on differences in ethnicity/class etc. |