

## **Chapter 4 Families and Households**

### **Topic 5 Changing family patterns**

#### **Answers to QuickCheck Questions on page 223**

1. About 40%.
2. Because traditional norms about relationships weaken and individuals become free to pursue their own self-interest. Marriages thus become more fragile, because individuals become unwilling to remain with a partner if the relationship fails to deliver personal fulfilment.
3. One-third.
4. Any one of the following: the increase in separation and divorce; the decline in the numbers marrying; the trend towards marrying later; more people choosing to live alone; too few partners available in some age groups.
5. Any two of the following: more children born outside marriage; women having children later; women having fewer children; more women remaining childless.
6. Any three of the following: more divorce; more cohabitation; more people remaining single; more births outside marriage; more sex outside marriage; more same-sex relationships; more lone-parent families.
7. Any two of the following: lack of affordable childcare preventing lone parents from working; inadequate welfare benefits; most lone parents are women, who generally earn less than men; divorced fathers not paying maintenance.