Short Answer
Please answer the following questions in a few sentences.

1) What is a social construction? How is the concept “family” social constructed?

2) What is a social norm? Talk about some of the norms surrounding contemporary marriage as you understand it.

3) In much of human history people considered “marrying for love” a radical and dangerous idea. Why is this? Why did people generally marry in the past?

4) What is polygamy and why is it important to studying the history of marriage?
5) Marriage and families in the ancient world fulfilled many of the same functions that governments and economies fulfill today. Explain this idea and give examples.

6) Discuss some of the changes that the adoption of Christianity in Western Europe had on marriage and family structures.

7) What is a “two person career” and how is it different from the modern two career family?

8) The Victorian era gave rise to the ideology of the “separate spheres” for men and women. Discuss what this means and what impact it had on gender roles?

**Essay Question:**
Based on the readings in “Marriage: A History” discuss the relationship between social expectations and rules toward marriage and family and other social institutions such as government, economy, and religion. Give examples.