



Sociology Y11 to Y12 Transition Summer Work

Over the summer we would like you to start to explore what sociology is. **These activities are optional**, but if you look at them it will give you a brief outline of some of the areas we will be considering in the course and get you thinking about the world, society and how it affects the behaviour of people in it.

1. What is Sociology?

Watch the following video - click on the link.

[What Is Sociology?: Crash Course Sociology #1 - YouTube](#)

2. In sociology there are a number of different perspectives aiming to explain human behaviour in society. Look up the following theories on the internet and see if you can make a quick note of how they see society working.

Find out what Marxists, Feminists and Functionalists think the role of education is in society. You can produce a short summary 'fact sheet' for each of these perspectives with information on key ideas, important thinkers (e.g. Marx, Althusser, Durkheim, Wollstonecraft).

3. Now you have just finished your GCSEs we want you to think about your educational experience. Do you think everyone in the UK has a similar experience to you, after all, the national curriculum is taught in all schools?

Read the following, you can make notes on which groups of pupils struggle to achieve well in school and why this might be, as well as what might be done to improve outcomes for students.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/863815/2019_KS4_revised_text.pdf
<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/school-themes/literacy/>
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jan/07/british-education-failure-white-working-class>

Watch each of the following documentaries and make notes on how **fair** and **effective** the British education system is.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tm2ZZIOIDE>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZsYdesxVCg>



4. From what you have read and watched, think about the following questions:

How fair is the British education system?

Which social groups perform well at school/ university, and which perform poorly?
Why?

Are all types of school/ university equally accessible to every child in the UK?

Are state schools providing an effective education to all pupils?

What are the barriers that students face in getting a good education and qualifications?

How are schools / the government trying to overcome these barriers?

Are their efforts effective?

What else could be done that would help underachieving groups to perform better?

4. How does Sociology study criminal behaviour?

[Introduction to Sociology - Deviance, Crime, and Social Control - YouTube](#)

See if you can find a behaviour that is classified as criminal on one country and not in another, for example being married to more than one person at the same time.

Can you find an example of a behaviour that was once a crime and is no longer a crime now and visa versa, for example, smoking behaviours.

5. How does globalisation affect crime?

[Globalization explained \(explainity@ explainer video\) - YouTube](#)

[The "Cost" Of Globalization - YouTube](#)

What is globalisation?

Why has this developed so much over the last couple of decades?

What is green crime?

How do you think globalisation can be linked to green crime?

General Reading Materials for the Sociology A level

A' level Specification for Sociology

AQA A 'level - <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology>



Magazines/Journals/Newspapers

Sociology Review – Aimed at A 'level Students - <https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/magazines/magazines-extras/sociology-review-extras>

All newspapers are valuable resources for students. A number of key newspapers have sociologists writing articles, and cover stories in a very sociological in-depth way. Key newspapers include:

- The Guardian – On Tuesday there is a useful 'Education' supplement, and on Wednesday there is a useful 'Society' supplement
- The Independent.
- The Times
- The Observer
- The Telegraph
- The Financial Times

Useful online revision sites:

<https://revisesociology.com/>

<https://sociologytwynham.com/>

Useful Youtube channels and playlists:

Tutor2U – A level Sociology Revision and Exam Technique - [Paper 1 Education Revision for AQA A-Level Sociology 2023 - YouTube](#)

Crash Course Sociology - [Crash Course Sociology Preview - YouTube](#)

Television

Almost all television programmes have sociological value. From soaps & Big Brother to current affairs and documentaries. Ones to look out for include:

- Panorama (BBC1)
- Channel 4 News
- Cutting Edge (C4)
- Have I Got News For You

General text books:

Author Title Publisher

Peter Langley Sociology A2 for OCR Collins

Browne, K Sociology for AS AQA Polity

Moore, S et al Sociology AS for AQA Collins

Haralambos Sociology: Themes and Perspectives Collins

Napier: AQA A Level Sociology Book One Including AS Level: Book one Paperback



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