



## Summer Task Title / Instructions: Sociology

**\*\*To complete this summer task you will need to print the booklet and complete in the spaces provided\*\***

### **Compulsory task 1: Sociological glossary (complete in booklet)**

Learning sociology for the first time can be quite daunting as it can feel like you are learning a whole new language of sociological vocabulary. Therefore, to help you transition onto the course you need to know some of the basics. Use the recommended sociology textbooks or trusted internet sites to complete the glossary in your booklet. Make sure your definitions are detailed.

**Key concepts:** sociology, socialisation, value consensus, organic analogy, bourgeoisie, proletariat, patriarchy, prejudice, discrimination, ethical issues, formal social control, informal social control, norms, values, structural theory, social institutions, false class consciousness, quantitative methods, qualitative methods, validity.

### **Compulsory task 2: Theoretical Perspectives: Functionalism, Marxism and Feminism (complete in booklet)**

If you study sociology you will be looking at a variety of sociological theories – the most famous being **Functionalism, Marxism and Feminism**. Therefore, having an understanding of these before you start the course will give you a real advantage.

**1. Conduct some research on the above three theories** - use textbooks (suggestions at the bottom of the instruction sheet) and trusted internet sites. Some good examples are **Tutor2u, Hectic Teacher, Revise Sociology**.

**2. Produce a sheet of summary notes for each theory** - These need to be recorded in the booklet.

**3. Answer the following exam questions.**

1. Outline 2 key points about Functionalism (4 marks)
2. Suggest one strength and one of limitation of Functionalism (4 marks)
3. Outline 2 key points about Marxism (4 marks)
4. Suggest one strength and one limitation of Marxism (4 marks)
5. Outline 2 key points about Feminism (4 marks)
6. Suggest one strength and one limitation of Feminism (4 marks)



**Structuring your answers:** The easiest way to start your answers is by saying “One key point about Functionalism is..” or “One strength of Marxism is..” etc.

**Compulsory task 3: Complete the scenario sheet (complete in booklet)**

You have been given a variety of fictional scenarios which represent real sociological areas of study. **Read each scenario and answer the associated questions in as much depth as you can.** We are looking to assess how well you can apply your knowledge and make links between topics.

**Compulsory task 4: Documentary and Review (complete in booklet)**

Watch both documentaries and complete a review for each. Each review should be no more than one side of A4, and should be a subjective account from your own perspective.

**1. Stacey Dooley Sleeps Over Series 2 Episode 1: Tradwife**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4wkRhFR-ZY&t=337s>

**2. BBC Iplayer: Inside the Bruderhof**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m00071xr/inside-the-bruderhof>



**If you are stuck for how to approach writing this review, use the following prompts:**

- ★ I found this documentary to be...
- ★ I already knew...
- ★ I learnt...
- ★ It challenged my perception of...
- ★ My view on... has/has not changed because...
- ★ Following on from this documentary, I researched/read...
- ★ This has enhanced my understanding of...
- ★ And any other reflections that you feel would be suitable.

**Optional task: Real life case study examples (Complete on separate paper and staple to booklet)**

The students who do the best in A-Level Sociology are the ones who are able to apply their theoretical knowledge of sociology to real life examples (Ao2). Therefore, you will regularly need to be completing research outside of lessons on real life case studies. To get you used to this task and skill, it would be good to choose one or two case studies from the list and create a summary sheet (**staple this onto the back of the booklet before submission**) from your research.

Potential Ao2 examples to research:

- ★ **The death of teenager Stephen Lawrence and its link to institutional racism.**
- ★ **The covid "Party gate" scandal involving Boris Johnson and its link to crimes of the powerful.**
- ★ **The VW emissions scandal and its link to green crime.**
- ★ **The Westboro Baptist church and its link to religion as a cause of conflict.**
- ★ **The Michaela Community school (Free school) and its links to discipline and achievement.**
- ★ **SODEXO and its link to marketisation and privatisation of education.**
- ★ **2018 Irish rape trial (underwear used as evidence in trial) and its links to patriarchy, victim blaming of victims of rape.**

This is deliberately vague as this is your opportunity to develop your research skills beyond what you are told by teachers in lessons.

**General advice for the summer task**

- ★ All work **MUST** be handed in at the start of your very first Sociology lesson. If you do not have it, the teacher will send you away. This means that it **needs to be printed, not on a USB or your N drive/google**. Make sure your name is on all pieces of paper and stapled together (where possible).

- ★ As this is your first piece of work, you should be looking to impress your teachers. As such, it is important that you think about how much detail you put into your answers and how well your work is presented.
- ★ To be successful in this task you will need to think independently and challenge yourself. We are looking for students who are genuinely interested in the subject of sociology.

#### **Suggested Additional Reading:**

- ★ AQA A Level Sociology book 1 (2015 Specification) – Webb, Westergaard, Trobe, Townsend
- ★ AQA A Level Sociology book 2 (2015 specification) – Webb, Westergaard, Trobe, Townsend
- ★ Sociology Themes and Perspectives – Haralambos and Holborn
- ★ Sociology for AQA, Vol. 1: AS and 1st-Year A Level – Ken Browne
- ★ Sociology for AQA, Vol. 1: AS and 2nd-Year A Level – Ken Browne
- ★ Any other relevant Sociological book
- ★ Relevant online Articles (Must be trusted sites – Please reference these)
- ★ Sociology Review
- ★ Quality newspapers - (Times, Mail, Guardian, etc.)

#### **Suggested online resources:**

- ★ **Hectic teacher:** <https://www.hectic-teacher.co.uk/>
- ★ **Tutor2u Sociology:** <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology>
- ★ **Office for National Statistics:** <https://www.ons.gov.uk/>
- ★ **The Sociology guy:** <https://thesociologyguy.com/>
- ★ **Functionalism video:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-83vVeSC2\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-83vVeSC2_g)
- ★ **Marxism video:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RhU57\\_nP3zM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RhU57_nP3zM)
- ★ **Feminism video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mVuM6OeT7w>
- ★ **The Sociology show (podcasts):** <https://www.spreaker.com/podcast/the-sociology-show--4318027>
- ★ **All Sociology (podcast):** <https://creators.spotify.com/pod/profile/allsociology/>
- ★ **Gender and society website:** <https://gendersociety.wordpress.com/>