



Summer Task Title / Instructions: Sociology

Task 1: Theoretical Perspectives: Functionalism, Marxism and Feminism

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.

You need to conduct some research on the above three theories (making notes) and then answer the following questions.

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

*****You can handwrite or type up your answers to the questions. Also include your research notes when you submit your work.***

Task 2: Complete the scenario sheet

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.

*****Print this sheet off and hand write your answers .***

Task 3: Social Problems - Poster/campaign/speech

Choosing from the list of social problems (see separate sheet), choose one you would like to investigate further and conduct some research before presenting your findings in a creative document.

***** Your work can be presented however you want but you need a paper copy to hand in at submission.***

Task 4: Documentary and Review

Choose one of the following documentaries for each section (families and education) and write a short review of what you have seen.

Each review should be no more than one side of A4, and should be a subjective account from your own perspective.

*****You can handwrite or type and print your review but make sure you physically have it to hand in on submission.***

Families & Households:

- ★ Gayby
- ★ Maybe Baby
- ★ Freedom to Marry
- ★ Consuming Kids
- ★ After Happily Ever After
- ★ Britain's Broken Families
- ★ Dangerous Love
- ★ The Truth About Muslim Marriage
- ★ Three Wives One Husband
- ★ Young Carers: Looking After Mum
- ★ The Children Left Behind
- ★ Two Mums and a Dad

All of these can be accessed on either BBC iPlayer, Channel 4 On Demand, or YouTube. Type your chosen documentary in to Google to find the best way to view. Any problems with access – please email Miss Fletcher or Miss Mallen for guidance.

Education

- ★ Too Poor for Posh School
- ★ Excluded: Kicked out of School
- ★ Harrow: A Very British School
- ★ School Swap: Korea Style
- ★ Tough Young Teachers
- ★ Back to School with Mum and Dad
- ★ Grammar Schools: Who Will Get In?
- ★ The Big School Lottery
- ★ Indian Summer School
- ★ The Big School Lottery
- ★ The Classroom Experiment

If you have any problems with any of the task, please do not hesitate to contact me. We will be more than happy to help you in any way you can!

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

- ★ I picked this documentary because...
- ★ 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.*

General advice

- ★ 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.
- ★ The tasks are designed to be creative but sociological so you may need to do some of your own independent research to get the most out of these tasks.

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.)
- ★ Office for National Statistics - <https://www.ons.gov.uk/>