

SOCIOLOGY

Introduction

Well done for considering taking Sociology A Level. We currently study the AQA Sociology specification. Here is a link that will take you to it so you can have an in-depth look at what you will be studying:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192>

This pack contains activities and resources to prepare you to start an A Level Sociology in September. Everyone must have this pack printed off and completed for the first lesson. It is aimed that you start this after you get your GCSE results, to ensure you are well prepared to commence in September.

The pack will introduce you to some of the key information needed to succeed in Sociology and topics you will study, such as Sociological approaches and research methods. You will need to complete this booklet in full and have it in your folder at the start of the year.

If you have any problems, please do not hesitate to email me, Ms S Davies Curriculum Leader, Sociology - sdavies@chacademy.co.uk

AS and A Level Sociology Topics and Assessment

By studying Sociology, you will learn the fundamentals of the subject and develop skills valued by Higher Education (HE) and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research. Here is the link to the specification again:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192>

You will be entered and sit two equally weighted AS exams at the end of the first year in May.

Paper 1: Education with Methods in Context	+	Paper 2: Research Methods and Topics in Sociology
What's assessed Compulsory content 3.1.1, 3.1.2		What's assessed Section A: compulsory content 3.2.1 Section B: one from 3.2.2 Topics in Sociology
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 hour 30 minutes written exam 60 marks 50% of AS level 		Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 hour 30 minutes written exam 60 marks 50% of AS level
Questions Education: short answer and extended writing, 40 marks Methods in Context: extended writing, 20 marks		Questions Section A: short answer and extended writing, 20 marks Section B: short answer and extended writing, 40 marks

You will sit 3 equally weighted A Level exams at the end of the second year of study in May/June.

Paper 1: Education Theory & Methods

Paper 2: Family & Households Beliefs in Society

Paper 3: Crime & Deviance Theory & Methods

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods	+	Paper 2: Topics in Sociology	+	Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods
What's assessed Compulsory content 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3		What's assessed Section A: one from option 1: 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3 or 4.2.4 Section B: one from option 2: 4.2.5, 4.2.6, 4.2.7 or 4.2.8		What's assessed Compulsory content 4.3.1, 4.3.2
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A-level 		Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A-level 		Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A-level
Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks Methods in Context: extended writing, 20 marks Theory and Methods: extended writing, 10 marks 		Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section A: extended writing, 40 marks Section B: extended writing, 40 marks 		Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime and Deviance: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks Theory and Methods: extended writing, 30 marks

Reading list for A Level Sociology

It is expected that you can demonstrate to the examiners that you have been partaking in wider reading. Below is a list of books/journals and websites you could use over the next two years and beyond at university.

Textbooks for the course

First Year

We expect all students to have a hard copy of this book.

AQA A Level Sociology Book One by Robb Webb & Hal Westgaard. ISBN- 978-0954007911 (the cover is orange.) It is around £24.

There are lots of revision books out there but these two are brilliant for Year 1. We do not ask you buy them but do recommend them:

- *AQA AS and A Level Sociology Education with Research methods*, Collins Student Support Materials. by Martin Holborn & Nichola McConnell. ISBN: 978-0008221638
- *AQA AS and A Level Sociology Families and Households*, Collins Student Support Materials by Martin Holborn & Judith Copeland. ISBN: 978-0008221669

Second Year

AQA A Level Sociology Book Two by Robb Webb & Hal Westgaard. ISBN- 978-0954007928 (the cover is blue.) It is around £24.

There are lots of revision books out there but these two are brilliant for Year 2. We do not ask you buy them but do recommend them:

- AQA AS and A Level Sociology *Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods*, Collins Student Support Materials by Steve Chapman & Judith Copeland. ISBN: 978- 0008221645

- AQA AS and A Level Sociology *Beliefs in society*, Collins Student Support Materials by Martin Holborn & Judith Copeland. ISBN: 978-0008221652

This is a selection of books for enrichment and extension over the two years. We would expect our students to have read at least two a year.

Reading List

- *Chavs: The demonization of the working class*, Owen Jones
- *This is London*, Ben Judah
- *Gang Leader for a Day*, Sudhir Venkatesh
- *Respectable*, Lynsey Hanley
- *McMafia*, Misha Glenny
- *Homos Deus: A brief History of Tomorrow*, Yuval Noah Harari
- *Goth: Identity, Style and Subculture*, Paul Hodkinson
- *Black Like Me*, John Howard Griffin
- *No Logo*, Naomi Klein
- *Subculture: The Meaning of Style*, Dick Hebride
- *The Establishment*, Owen Jones
- *Social Class in the 21st Century*, Mike Savage

You can also use student friendly websites including:

- <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference>
- <http://politybooks.com/kenbrowne/resources.asp>
- <https://napierpress.com/book-one-workbooks>
- <https://napierpress.com/book-two-workbooks>
- <http://www.earlhamsociologypages.co.uk>
- <https://www.sociologystuff.com>

Tasks (these must be completed for your first lesson)

Task 1: Research into Sociology

Read these instructions carefully. You need to watch the following videos and make notes on the content. You need to watch them in the order given. I strongly suggest you watch each video at least twice. Once just watching it then a second time regularly stopping it to take notes:

1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnCJU6PaCio&index=2&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMJAFB_7J1538YKWkZAnGA
2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DbTt_ySTjaY&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMJAFB_7J1538YKWkZAnGA&index=3

Task 2: Introduction to Research methods

Sociologists use different methods when studying their chosen field. One example is the participant observation, where a researcher joins a group of people and observes their behaviour. Read the

study by Whyte (1955), called "*Street Corner Society*" using the website below and answer the questions which follow:

<https://www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/sociology/methods/revise-it/an-example-of-participantobservation>

Questions:

- Identify three things that Whyte learned about conducting participant observations
- What are two advantages of using a participant observation?
- Explain two limitations of this method
- Does Participant Observation involve asking questions? Explain your answer with reference to Whyte's study.

Task 3: Introduction into key studies of Year 1 content

Sociology is a research-based subject. In Year 1 we cover *Education and Families & Households*. For this task you will be researching key studies for these topics:

Willis: Learning to Labour. He examined the effects of being placed in lower bands/streams.

<https://revisesociology.com/2016/01/25/learning-tolabour-paul-willis-summary-evaluation-research-methods/>

Ball: Looked into the effects of setting and streaming in education.

<https://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/sociology/educationand-sociology/banding-and-streaming/>

Dobash & Dobash: looked into domestic violence.

<http://www.brown.uk.com/domesticviolence/dobash.pdf>

https://prezi.com/qs0g6jv_uft2/dobash-doblah-violenceagainst-wives/

Delphy & Leonard: Feminists who wrote about how the family exploits women.

<https://sociologytwynham.com/2013/06/21/feministperspective-of-the-family-radical/>

<https://revisesociology.com/2014/02/10/feministperspectives-family/>

Your task is to research these four Sociologists. There are links to help you initially, but you do not need to just use these. You need to have at least five facts about these studies. Make sure you cover what they did and their findings.

For your first lesson...

We expect you to have the following:

- A level arched folder, labelled with your name on and Sociology (spelt correctly).
- There must be dividers in your folder - plastic ones are better as they are tougher.
- Your own lined paper
- Plenty of plastic wallets.
- A pencil case with the usual but we use a lot of post-it notes and highlighters so have plenty of those.
- A copy of the Year 1 textbook
- Your task homework contained in this booklet.