# Sociology @ Hurtwood House



We follow the AQA A-level specification If you have any questions over the summer email Roy.Bickenson@hurtwood.net

QUESTION EVERYTHING

<sup>and</sup> Murder

respectable George Orwell,

### Topics we Cover:

Family	Education	Theory & Methods	Media	Crime
Theories 1. Functionalism 2. Marxism 3. Feminisms 4. Personal Life 5. Postmodernism 6. Govt Policies	Perspectives 1. Functionalism 2. New Right 3. Marxism 4. Conflict Views 5. Vocational Education	Perspectives 1. Functionalism 2. Marxism 3. Feminisms 4. Postmodernism 5. Social Action	Theories 1. Marxists 2. Hegemonic 3. Pluralists 4. Feminism 5. Postmodernism	Theories 1. Functionalism 2. Marxism & Neo-Marxism 3. Interactionism 4. Control Theory 5. Realist Theory
Diversity:  1. Family Structures  2. Marriage 3. Divorce 4. Cohabitation 5. Child Bearing 6. Types of Diversity 7. Life Course Analysis	Differential Achievement 1. Social Class 2. Gender 3. Ethnicity	Research Design  1. Practical     Considerations  2. Ethics  3. Theoretical     Considerations	Issues 1. Ownership and Control 2. New Media 3. Culture and Globalisation 4. Media Effects 5. The News 6. Deviance 7. Representations	Social Distribution  1. Statistics 2. Gender 3. Ethnicity 4. Locality 5. Social Class
Changing Roles  1. Gender Roles  2. Domestic    Division of    Labour  3. Decision making  4. Power Relations  5. Domestic    Violence	Relationships & Processes 1. Organisation of teaching and learning 2. Labelling 3. Subcultures 4. Teachers 5. Curriculum and Subject Choice	Sources and Types of Data  1. Social Surveys 2. Interviews 3. Observations 4. Experiments 5. Official Statistics 6. Quantitative — Qualitative 7. Primary - Secondary	Methods  1. Hypodermic Model  2. Uses and Gratifications Model  3. 2 Step flow Model  4. Cultural Effects Model  5. Structured Interpretation Model	Globalisation 1. Globalisation 2. Mass Media 3. Green Crime 4. State Crime
Childhood  1. Social Construction  2. State of Childhood  3. Future of Childhood	Educational Policies 1. Independent Schools 2. Tripartite School 3. Comprehensivi sation 4. Marketisation 5. Recent Policies	Sampling 1. Random 2. Systematic 3. Stratified 4. Quota 5. Snowball	Social Groups 1. Owners 2. Journalists 3. Gender 4. Ethnicity 5. Age 6. Social Class 7. Disability 8. Sexuality	Control and Prevention  1. Right Realism 2. Left Realism 3. Punishment 4. CJS 5. Prisons 6. Victimology
Demographics 1. Birth Rates 2. Infant Mortality 3. Death Rate 4. Life Expectancy 5. Aging Population 6. Family Size 7. Migration		Debates 1. Factors affecting research 2. Interpretivism V Positivism 3. Value Freedom 4. Sociology as a Science 5. Sociology and Social policy.	Debates 1. Neophiliac 2. Cultural Pessimist 3. Active Audience 4. Passive Audience	

### How the Course is Assessed:

### There is no coursework in Sociology.

Students sit exams at the end of Year 13. AQA Sociology A-level is a linear course. Year 12 helps you develop the key critical skills, thinking and social comprehension. Whereas as Year 13 allows you to practice these skills and complete your Sociological Imagination.

We focus particularly on how certain features of a person's social position (i.e. their gender, social class and ethnicity) might affect their LIFE CHANCES in society.

Sociology is regarded as a Social Science, largely because it uses a number of research methods to examine society in more detail.

A major part of gaining success in Sociology is by learning the main ideas, concepts and terms used – the language of the subject – and then being able to use this language when you are discussing the topics and issues relevant to the study of society.

# Year 12

Paper One:	Paper Two:
Education Methods in Context	Research Method Families and Households
- 50% of A Level	- 50% of A Level

# Year 13

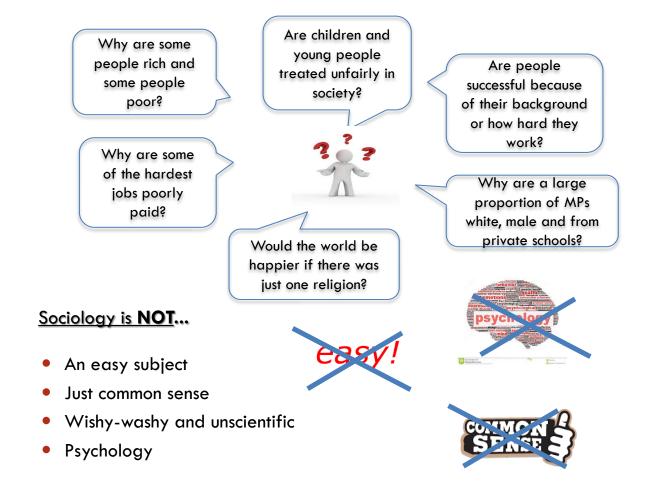
Paper One:	Paper Two:	Paper Three:
Education Methods in Context Theory and Methods	Families The Media	Crime and Deviance Theory and Methods
- 33% of A Level	- 33% of A Level	- 33% of A Level

## Sociology is...

- 1. The study of society, large groups of people and individuals.
- 2.It studies how and why people behave the way they do in society
- 3.Looks at how structures such as family and Government influence human behaviour
- 4.A social science which uses research to investigate and predict human behaviour to help governments improve the lives of its citizens
- 5.A critical and radical subject, it is about questioning why society is as it is. It is about digging under the surface, looking at what is really going on.

### Is sociology for me?

Yes, if you're interested in questions like these...



- 1. The defining characteristic of human behaviour is:
- A) Their gender/sex
- B) Their social class
- C) Their Race
- D) Their integration into society
- E) Their culture
- 2. We have the freedom to choose our own behaviour
- A) Yes
- B) No
- C) Depends
- D) Doesn't matter
- E) What is freedom?
- 3. What are your views on the family....
- A) Family is oppressive to women and teaches us to conform to gender roles
- B) Family is a tool of the ruling class teaching us to obey authority
- C) Family is a vital part of socialisation that teaches us norms and values
- D) Family is what you make it, everyone has a different view on it
- E) Family what is a family? You can't define it
- 4. When it comes to inequality
- A) Gender is the most serious issue!
- B) Money and power the rich exploit the poor!
- C) Inequality is normal part of society
- D) Inequality is a label that has different meanings to people
- E) You make your own reality up
- 5. When it comes to Crime
- A) The justice system is more lenient on women
- B) Criminal laws protect the rich and powerful
- C) Crime is good for society as it reminds us of the rules
- D) Crimes are actions labelled as wrong to influence our behaviour
- E) Crime what is a crime? Can we really define what a crime is?
- 6. When it comes to Media
- A) The Media oppresses and controls audiences telling us to be obedient
- B) The Media is a tool used by those with power to control us
- C) The Media is a useful institution which unites people who share a common set of beliefs
- D) The Media means different things to different people
- E) The Media is just another meta-narrative (big story) people use to explain reality

What kind of Sociologist will you be?



## What kind of Sociologist will you be?

#### Mostly A - Our Feminist



You are most likely to turn into our Feminist Sue Sharpe. Feminism looks at how society is structured in a way that benefits men while oppressing women — this is known as patriarchy (male domination.). The theory is often a misunderstood as stereotypes and misconceptions about it exists. Many people do not realise that there are several types of feminism such as black, radical feminism and liberal.

#### Mostly B - Our Marxist



You are most likely to turn into Karl Marx. Marxism looks at how society is constructed is a way that produces class conflict with the rich having all the power and control whilst the poor are oppressed. Marx argues that the root cause of class inequality is down to capitalism as it encourages people to be greedy and materialistic. Just as capitalism replaced feudalism, Marx argues that capitalism will one day be replaced with communism

#### Mostly C- Our Functionalist



You are most likely to turn into Emile Durkheim. Functionalism is theory which argues that members of society are united together by a shared set of idea and beliefs called 'norms' (normal behaviour.) These norms are accepted by all members in society and are enforced by structures such as family and education. They see society like a human body – with all parts needed in order for it to 'function' and work effectively.

#### Mostly D- Our interactionist



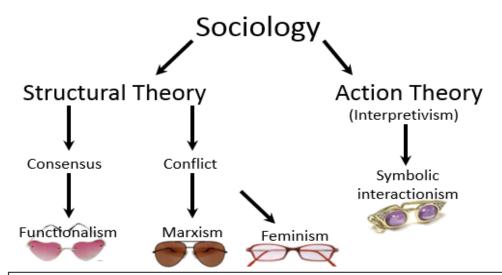
You are most likely to turn into Becker/ Mead. Interactionism looks at how people create meaning during social interactions, how they present and construct the self (or identity) as well as how they define situations. One of the perspectives key ideas is that people act the way they do because of how they define situations. Becker uses the example of nudity to illustrate how timing, place and audience can influence how people see an action or idea.

### Mostly E - Our post-modernist



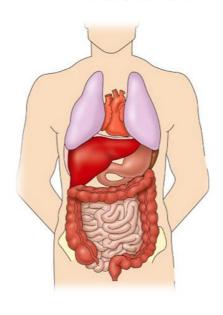
You are most likely to turn into Foucault. Post-modernism is a more recent Sociological theory which seeks to question and de-construct existing structures and understandings of reality. Post modernism rejects the idea that one theory such as functionalism, Utilitarianism, religion or even science can explain reality!

# Theory is a big part of Sociology!



Theory can be said to be like looking at society through different lenses – each give it a different perspective or appearance.

# Task 1: Functional Functionalists...



- 1. Write Definitions for Free Will and Determinism.
- Research Functionalism and produce a fact sheet outlining the "Organic Analogy
- 3. Do some further research on Functionalism
- Write a paragraph on the strengths on the theory
- Write another on the weaknesses of the theory

Task 2: Fiery Feminists...





NEED FEMINISM
BECAUSE IF I
BELONG IN THE
KITCHEN SO DOES
HE!
Overyday
Sexism
Project

- Watch YouTube clip:
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L
   HPOLSywdi0 Define all key words
   from the video clip.
- Research Feminism and produce a fact sheet outlining the definitions and provide examples.
- 3. Research @ or #Everyday Sexism
- What is the project?
- What examples do they give of modern sexism?
- Do you think sexism is still a problem today? Why?
- Do ALL women have the experience?
   Explain you answer? Explain!

4. Research
examples of
gender
inequality within
the UK in
contemporary
society.



# Task 3: Magnificent Marxists...

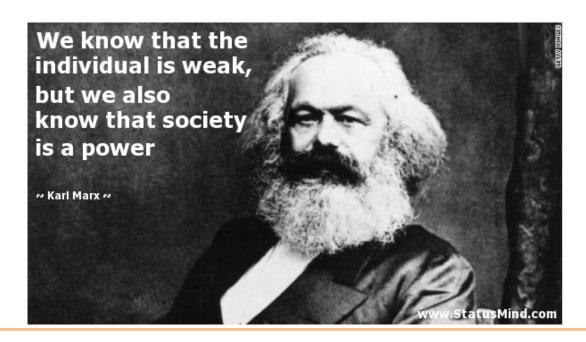
1. Watch YouTube clip:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vz3eOb6YI1s





- 2. Define all key words on the video clip.
- 3. Research Marxism and produce a fact sheet outlining the difference between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat.
- 4. Research examples of class inequality within the UK in contemporary Society.
- 5. Choose one of the examples and explain how a Marxist would interpret the situation
- 6. How would a functionalist counter this approach?

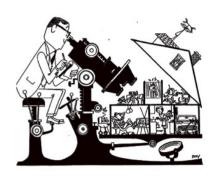


## Task 4: Autonomous Social Action Theorist...

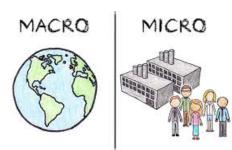
Functionalism	Feminism	Marxism

- Complete a Summary table for your notes outlining each approach and stating whether they are:
- Consensus or Conflict Theories
- Macro or Micro Approaches
- Structural or Social Action

Ensure that you define which words in bold go with which theory! Add the strengths and weaknesses of each to the table too!



- Watch the following you tube video: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=</u> <u>yJrnwOPC2f8</u> Define Social Action Theorist approach to society.
- 3. Do you think we have free will within society? What perspective would Social Action Theorist take on this question?
- 4. How would a structuralist respond to the idea of free will? Do you agree? Explain





### Task 5: Passionate Post-modernists...

1. Watch the following YouTube video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QqsP0vQJJ44

Produce a factsheet outlining what post-modernism is and what it says about society

2. Produce a table outlining the differences between a modern and post-modern society. (you may need to do more research!)

Modern	Post-Modern

- 3. Find examples of post-modern changes in society within the Media. For example Same Sex Marriages in the USA.
- 4. Do some further research on Functionalism
- Write a paragraph on the strengths on the theory
- Write another on the weaknesses of the theory
- 5. Out of the 5 theories you have researched Which Sociological theory do you most and least agree with and why? Explain your reasons in detail making sure you explain what it was about that particular theory (at least a side of A4)!



There are a lot of key terms that you need to know for your exams and to make sure you write great essays! Lets start off with the basics:

<u>Task 6</u>: define the following sociological key terms:

- 1. Norms
- 2. Values
- 3. Socialisation
- 4. Society
- 5. Culture
- 6. Identity

- 7. Social differentiation
- 8. Stratification
- 9. Status
- 10. Subculture
- 11.Cultural diversity
- 12. Consensus
- 13. Conflict

Now for each of the key terms add a picture and an example to go with them

#### Task 7:

As a sociology student you will also be expected to keep up to date with the news and current events – research a social issue that interests you!

- 1. Explain what why that particular issue (what interests you about it?)
- 2. Create a media collage of articles on your issue and annotate them
- 3. Apply what the theories might say about the issue!
- 4. Any research or policy laws which deals with your issue? Name and explain them!

### Task 9: How do you see society?

Draw (or build a model) of how you view society (use shapes / key words / images where possible)

Provide a written explanation of your work (<u>At least</u> a side of A4) to explain your work. What are main issues/ problems/ solutions you feel as a society we face and why!

### Task 10: watch some TV!

Sociology is everywhere, so you'll be able to see aspects of it in all forms of media. Try searching for the following titles and make notes on any videos you watch, try to keep it relevant to the topics taught in Sociology (see above).

- School Swap documentary
- Stacey Dooley documentaries

### (BBC iPlayer/YouTube)

- Black Mirror (Netflix)
- Reggie Yates documentaries
- Dispatches documentaries (40D)
- Panorama documentaries (BBC iPlayer)







# **Useful Resources & Further Reading**

### To help you on your way...

It is also recommended that you take an active interest in the news and what is going on around you in the wider world as a lot of the concepts and ideas covered in lessons will relate to what is going on. The ability to be able to draw upon contemporary examples will also help illustrate your application and understanding skills which will be vital in order for you to achieve the higher grades in this subject.



The main textbook used in AQA A level Sociology AS and Year 1. Written by Robb Webb et al Napier press



The main textbook used in AQA A level Year 2. Written by Robb Webb et al Napier press

#### Websites:

- AQA New Specification <a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192/introduction">http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192/introduction</a>
- AQA Example Assessment Material -<a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192/assessment-resources">http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192/assessment-resources</a>
- S-Cool Revision Materials http://www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/sociology
- Every Day Sexism Project -http://everydaysexism.com/index.php/about
- Who Needs Feminism <a href="http://whoneedsfeminism.com/about.html">http://whoneedsfeminism.com/about.html</a>
- He for She Campaign <a href="http://www.heforshe.org/">http://www.heforshe.org/</a>
- <a href="https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference">https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference</a> http://politybooks.com/kenbrowne/resources.asp
- https://napierpress.com/book-one-workbooks
- https://napierpress.com/book-two-workbooks
- http://www.earlhamsociologypages.co.uk
- <a href="https://www.sociologystuff.com">https://www.sociologystuff.com</a>

For your first lessons... 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.
- We will provide a copy of the Year 1 textbook
- Your task homework contained in this booklet.

Well done! You're all set ready to embark on your Sociology A Level course. We look forward to seeing you in September!

