



North Halifax Grammar School – A Level Transition Work

SOCIOLOGY



Transition work for A level
sociology

Name:



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Introduction:

Welcome to Sociology A Level. We 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 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. You will need to complete this booklet in full and have it in your folder at the start of the year.

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.

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

Paper 1: Education Theory & Methods

Paper 2: Family & Households and Media

Paper 3: Crime & Deviance Theory & Methods

Assessments

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



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For your first lesson.

In sociology, you will be provided with a booklet for each sub topic, this will contain theory and activities to be completed in class and at home. There will be a corresponding powerpoint which can be accessed on Google Drive and via Google Classroom.

We expect you to have the following:

- A lever arch folder – in the first instance you will only need one, but it is recommended that you have multiple throughout the course (i.e. one for each topic or one for each exam paper)
- Your task homework contained in this booklet.
- You must bring the correct booklet for each lesson, we will use the booklets in every single lesson, so if you forget yours there will be lots of catching up to do after the lesson.

What is sociology?

Sociology is the study of human social relationships and institutions. Sociology's subject matter is diverse, ranging from crime to religion, from the family to the state, from the divisions of race and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture, and from social stability to radical change in whole societies. Unifying the study of these diverse subjects of study is sociology's purpose of understanding how human action and consciousness both shape and are shaped by surrounding cultural and social structures.

Sociology is an exciting and illuminating field of study that analyzes and explains important matters in our personal lives, our communities, and the world. At the personal level, sociology investigates the social causes and consequences of such things as romantic love, racial and gender identity, family conflict, deviant behavior, aging, and religious faith. At the societal level, sociology examines and explains matters like crime and law, poverty and wealth, prejudice and discrimination, schools and education, business firms, urban community, and social movements. At the global level, sociology studies such phenomena as population growth and migration, war and peace, and economic development.

Students who have been well trained in sociology know how to think critically about human social life, and how to ask important research questions. They know how to design good social research projects, carefully collect and analyze empirical data, and formulate and present their research findings. Students trained in sociology also know how to help others understand the way the social world works and how it might be changed for the better. Most generally, they have learned how to think, evaluate, and communicate clearly, creatively, and effectively.

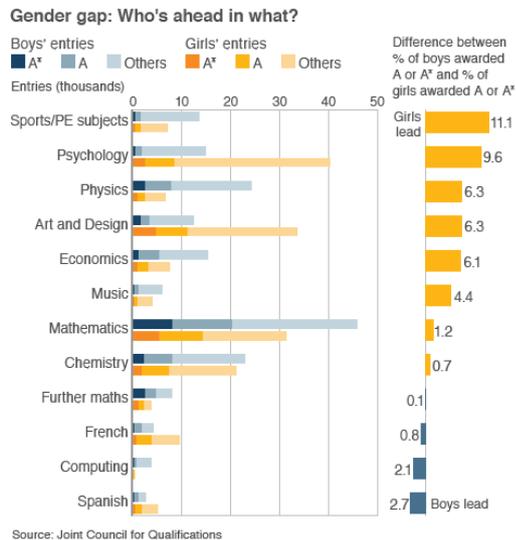


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Transition task:

In sociology we will explore a range of critical issues, I would like you to conduct your own research (via Google!) to try to find some plausible explanations for the following social problems:

1. Why do girls consistently outperform boys in exams?



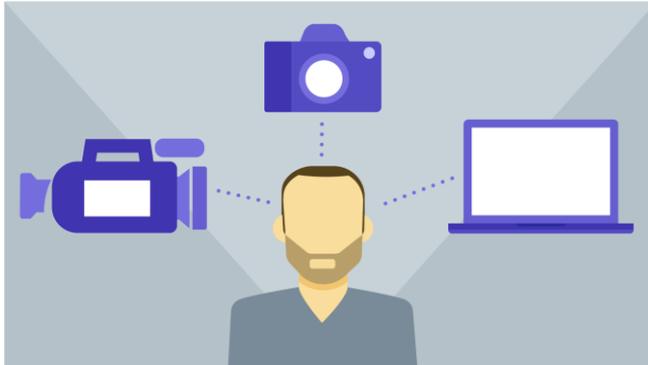
2. Why do men commit more crimes than women?





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3. Why are some crimes reported in the media, yet others go unreported?



4. In what ways is the experience of childhood different today compared to 100 years ago? You should consider both positive and negative differences.





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Suggested reading and helpful websites to support you throughout the course

Throughout the course you may find the following websites helpful for revision materials and exam practice:

<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology>

<http://www.earlhamsociologypages.co.uk>

<https://www.sociologystuff.com>

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology>

<https://quizlet.com/en-gb>

Suggested extended reading:

Title	Author
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
Homo Deus: A brief history of tomorrow	Yuval Noah Harari
Goth: Identity, style and subculture	Paul Hodkinson
Black like me	John Howard Griffin

Sociologists focus most of their time and energy exploring the ways in which society is unequal, with a specific emphasis on ethnic, gender and class differences. So any reading material which focuses on these inequalities is particularly helpful.

Digital platforms:

Sociology students should attempt to immerse themselves in current affairs, yes Twitter *can* be useful for this, so try to follow some interesting social commentators if you can, journalists, BBC news outlets and politicians as well as your favourite Love Island contestants or Grime artists ;-)

Try to keep up with the news too, the BBC is the preferred broadcaster for this as it's policy is to attempt to be politically neutral (controversial I know) and it offers multiple free platforms from TV, radio, podcasts and digital content.