

A-Level Sociology: Extension tasks (Stretch and Challenge - Optional)


This is a menu of optional tasks to help you get ready to study Sociology at A-Level. (Please separate attachment for the Compulsory Summer Tasks)



Video clips

Each of these clips introduces an idea or theme that is relevant to the A-Level course. Write down what questions the clip raises and how you would respond to them.


How economic inequality harms societies https://www.ted.com/talks/richard_wilkinson_how_economic_inequality_harms_societies	How we're priming some kids for college and others for prison https://www.ted.com/talks/alice_goffman_how_we_re_priming_some_kids_for_college_and_others_for_prison	The real story of McMafia - global crime networks https://www.ted.com/talks/misha_glenny_the_real_story_of_mcmafia_how_global_crime_networks_work
The Teenage Brexit Fanclub https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBUxDpOcOoU	Charlottesville: Race and Terror https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIrcB1sAN8I	Violence against women - it's a men's issue https://www.ted.com/talks/jackson_katz_violence_against_women_it_s_a_men_s_issue



Documentaries

These documentaries will get you thinking even more deeply about sociological ideas. Write down five key ideas from the documentary and a list of questions that you will explore further.


Louis Theroux (choose what interests you most) https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p06k7x37	Life and Death Row https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/b071jy7p	Stacey Dooley Investigates: Russia's War on Women https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p05vb22n/stacey-doolley-investigates-russias-war-on-women
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Radio programmes and podcasts

These challenging programmes are great for making you think hard. These have been chosen to stretch you so don't worry if you find some parts difficult to understand. Write down what you learned about the topic of each programme. Which opinions do you agree with and why?

Slow Burn: follows significant political events such as the Watergate scandal, impeachment of Bill Clinton and murders of the Notorious B.I.G. and Tupac (this in particular links to our Crime and Deviance unit) https://tunein.com/podcasts/History-Podcasts/Slow-Burn-p1088539/	Reasons to be Cheerful: Progressive ideas to change the world (with Ed Miliband and Geoff Lloyd). Best sociological episodes are on constructions of masculinity and 'the fat cat pay gap'. https://play.acast.com/s/reasonstobecheerful/2_196de7a-19df-4006-af97-b216ebfa16ae	Freakonomics: Loads of great sociological links here. My favourites are 'Does Hollywood still have a Princess problem?', 'Does anyone really know what socialism is?' and 'Abortion and Crime, Revisited' https://freakonomics.com/archive/
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Questions to consider:

These questions may look simple, but there are no easy answers.

Is racism still a problem in the UK?

To what extent does gender shape our life chances?

Has society accepted single parenting?

Is religion still relevant to contemporary life?

Are schools failing boys?

To what extent is the individual shaped by society?