

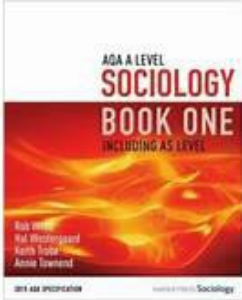
Preparation for A Level Sociology.

In preparation for the start of your A Level Sociology course in September you need to do preliminary research of key terms, theories and the course you will be studying. You will also need to familiarise yourself with the textbook used during lessons.

Practical elements first:

Course we study: AQA A Level Sociology (course code: 7192) www.aqa.org.uk

Course textbook: AQA A Level Sociology Book One (ISBN 978-0-9540079-1-1)



If you know that you are definitely interested in A Level Sociology, I would highly recommend that you purchase your own copy of this book. These preliminary tasks are design to be completed without this book but you will be required to use the website linked to the textbook - which is [Sociology - Napier Press](http://www.napierpress.co.uk)



Task One - preparing your folder.

You need to buy a Lever Arch Folder with divider. Then organise it into the following sections:

- Introduction to Sociology.
- Families and Households.
- Education.
- Research methods
- Specification and Past Papers



As a part of this task you need to find out about the sociology specification you will be studying - AQA Sociology 7192. Go onto the AQA website and find the A Level specification for this course and print off details of what you will study and how you will be examined.



Task Two - What is Sociology?

For this task you must download a copy of the "What is Sociology?" workbook from [socl-1 WhatisSociologyStudentWorkbook.pdf](http://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/what-is-sociology-student-workbook.pdf).

It looks like this (this was available in the taster session - so you can used this copy):



Using the textbook complete ALL of the yellow questions in the booklets (you will need your own copy). Some of the questions can be researched as well.

You will then need to complete the following research activities.

These activities are explained in more detail on these [1.-What-is-Sociology-Activity-Page-7.pdf](http://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/what-is-sociology-student-workbook.pdf) cannibalism [Soc Book 1 Activities P8 Changing norms about homosexuality](http://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/what-is-sociology-student-workbook.pdf) norms about homosexuality

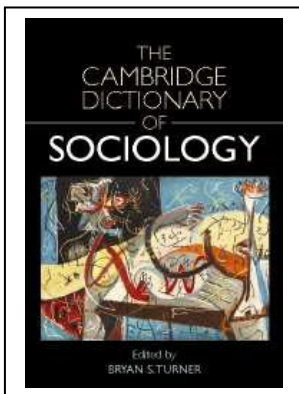
A summary of your research can be written up onto pages 4 and 5.

EXTENSION: Any other activities in the "What is Sociology?" Workbook.



Task Three - glossary of key terms.

Create your own glossary of important sociological terms and put this at the front of your folder. Find out the meanings of the following key sociological terms:



- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Values | 11. Identity |
| 2. Norms | 12. Ideology |
| 3. Culture | 13. Capitalism |
| 4. Custom | 14. Meritocratic |
| 5. Status | 15. Labelling theory |
| 6. Socialisation | 16. Social action theory |
| 7. Society | 17. Postmodernism |
| 8. Social order | 18. Underclass |
| 9. Consensus | 19. Patriarchy |
| 10. Conflict | 20. Ethnicity |

You will be tested on these terms in the first weeks of the autumn term.



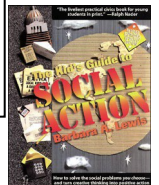
Task Four - research task on sociological theory.



Structuralists believe that the world (society) influences individuals. For example, your experience of family life or the education you received, ultimately has been influenced directly by people in - the rich, government etc. THEORIES INCLUDE FUNCTIONALISM, FEMINISM, NEW RIGHT AND MARXISM

This task aims to get you familiar with key sociological theories.

Social Action theorists believe that the individuals help to shape society. For example, the grades you get at GCSE are based on the interaction you have with your teacher. THEORIES INCLUDE SYMBOLIC INTERACTIONISM, ETHNOMETHODOLOGY, PHENOMENOLOGY AND STRUCTURATION THESIS



Finally, one group of sociologists reject the views of the above groups. They believe that society has shifted and changed - meaning that "old" theories are no longer valid. THESE THEORISTS ARE KNOWN AS POSTMODERNISTS

For this task you must produce an information sheet on:

- One structural theory
- One social action theory
- Postmodern theory

This information sheet must include the following pieces of information:

- Key sociologists
- Key elements of the theory - including relevant terms
- An example of when this theory has been used to explain apart of society (i.e. crime, family, education, media, beliefs etc)
- Problems linked with this theory
- This site has useful activities to help you with this task <https://revisesociology.com/sociology-theories-a-level>

PLEASE PRINT OUT ALL YOUR PRELIMINARY WORK FOR FIRST DAY

EXTENSION TASK: Our first major unit is Education. You can download the Education Workbook (seen on previous page from [soc1-2 EducationWorkbookUpdates-3-Mar.pdf](#) or go to the student activities page (Book one) and start to complete activities on education.