

Year 11-12 Transition to Sociology A Level



Sociology is a dynamic subject – offering opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of the world around us. The transition aims to support preparation for A level study by exploring some sociological views, specialised language and topics on the newly revised specification.

What is sociology?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZJfXDavpc> according to the London School of Economics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LK5J0-cM-HE> A level overview



Sociological theories offer a range of explanations, views and concepts to explain different social phenomena, for example, how society works, why crime exists, ideas on poverty or the role of youth in today's society. They are a core component of the A level course. Familiarizing yourself with these will be a strong foundation for study.

1. Using some of the links & your own research, produce a table/mind map/notes outlining the main points of the following Sociological theories views on society.
2. You will need to include specialist words such as consensus, conflict, ideology... for the relevant viewpoints, but don't let it put you off (sociology is full of them).
3. Create a glossary for any specialist vocabulary – you will need this at the beginning of the course!

(Symbolic) Interactionism, Functionalism, Conflict theory (Marxism), Postmodernism.

<http://www.sociology.org.uk/wsheets.htm> scroll down to theory and select.

<http://sociology.about.com/od/Sociological-Theory/a/Functionalist-Theory.htm>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0GFSUu5UzA> a brief overview of Marxism

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFQIIM8IRZU> – Interactionism

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jOZqVnQmdY> Functionalism

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QgsP0vQJJ44>

<http://sociology.about.com/od/Sociological-Theory/a/Symbolic-Interaction-Theory.htm>

<http://www.sociologyguide.com/basic-concepts/>



News & Current Affairs: Traditional media (newspapers & TV) and new media (social media) are a vital source of information and an integral part of Year 13 in the digitalisation unit. Keeping up-to-date with what is going on nationally and globally is a real necessity.

Task 2

1. Keep an eye on the news by collecting links, articles or news stories on anything relevant to the Sociology course – try to collect between 5-8 covering a range of topics from inequality, crime, youth culture,

globalisation, the impact of social media. You could collate all links onto a powerpoint slide, scrapbook, Prezzi or Pinterest. Keep a record of the sources – ‘In the summer I read/watched/listened to...’



Identity: refers to how you see yourself and how others see you. This can be based on membership of certain groups such as social class, age, gender, ethnicity, sexuality and disability. It refers to our sense of ‘self’ and the roles we play in society.

<https://studyrocket.co.uk/revision/a-level-sociology-ocr/socialisation-culture-and-identity/what-is-identity>

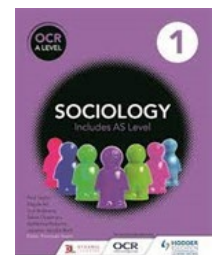
<https://thesociologyguy.com/culture-and-identity/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5kP3s5ZBs0>

Task 3 Using the links explain how we are influenced/create our own sense of identity – again you can mind map, make notes, create a presentation.

Resources

OCR Sociology for A Level Book 1 &2 Sue Brisbane, Katherine Roberts, Paul Taylor, Steve Chapman, Jannine Jacobs-Roth, Nayda Ali



Podcasts <https://podtail.com/podcast/the-sociology-show/>

<https://anchor.fm/allsociology>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qy05>

What can I watch?

The News! Dispatches, Panorama, special Reports, The Tribe (series), Stacey Dooley investigates, Cutting Edge (CH4), Chernobyl. Films include The social network, Her, Snowden, Deepwater Horizon, Billy Elliot, Brassed off and many more!

What can I read?

The McDonaldisation of Society. George Ritzer.

Chavs. Owen Jones.

The Spirit Level. Wilkinson and Pickett.

Criminology: The Basics. Sandra Walklate.

Living Dolls. Natasha Walter.

The Fall of Public Man. Richard Sennett.

Modern Social Theory: An Introduction. Austin Harrington.

Criminology: The Essentials.

Risk Society: Toward a New Modernity. Ulrich Beck

Dead White Men and Other Important People: Sociology’s Big Ideas, Fevre, R. and Bancroft,