



We want you to be really successful and what it takes to be successful at GCSEs is different from being successful at A-Levels. Although you have fewer subjects there are different skills at A-Level and the volume of work is greater because the depth and detail is more demanding.

Bridging the Gap Work will reassure you that the subject you have selected is for you, or allow you time to change your choice of subject at enrolment, as long as there is space and you meet the entry criteria. We want you to study a course that interests you and you are sufficiently qualified to study.

Subject: A-Level Sociology

Head of Subject: Miss I Hoole (ihoole@sphcs.co.uk)

Aim of Bridging Work:

- To improve research and reading skills.
- To investigate the key sociological theories in sociology.
- To discover the history of the education system and explore significant policies that shaped the system today.

Essential Equipment List for 1st Lesson:

- Pens
- Pencils
- Ruler
- Highlighters
- Flashcards
- Lever arch folder (Ideally 2)
- A4 lined paper (not an exercise book)
- Plastic wallets
- Folder dividers (At least 12)

All these items can be sourced from affordable places like Poundland, Wilko or Tesco but if there are any issues let me know.

Recommended:

- **Tutor2u Education Flash Cards**

<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/store/education-revision-flashcards-for-aqa-alevel-sociology>

- **Families and Households Skills**

<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/store/families-households-exam-skills-workbook-aqa-alevel-sociology>

Textbook(s) for September:

Ken Browne AQA Sociology Year 1 (must be the 5th edition)

Suggested Reading List:

Chavs: The Demonization of the Working Class
by Owen Jones

Half the Sky: Nicholas
Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

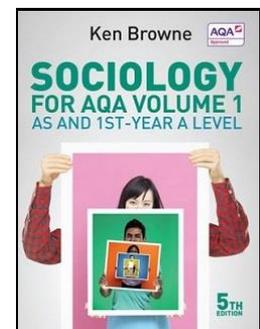
The Establishment: And how they get away with it
Paperback by Owen Jones

The Spirit Level: Why Equality is Better for Everyone
by Kate Pickett and Richard Wilkinson

The Communist Manifesto (Paperback)
by Karl Marx

Learning to Labour by Paul Willis

Watching the English by Kate Fox



Tasks – WEEK 2 WB 4.5.20

Hello future Sociologists,

Hope you continue to be okay in these odd circumstances. The second week of Sociology Bridging work is to get you to understand what the main theories are in sociology. Every topic we study will involve exploring the perspectives of the different groups. I expect you'll have heard of Feminism, but the others will probably be new to you. You will also explore the topic of Education this week to understand why it is so important to society. **Please ensure you save all work in a folder on your computer or if you handwrite it keep it safe in a folder as you'll need to show your work as part of the entry requirements for the course.**

1. Main Sociological Theories

A theory, for our purpose, is something that explains the relationship between two or more things. A perspective can be defined as a way of looking at and seeing something. To have a perspective, therefore, means to look at something (whatever that thing might be) in a particular way. When we talk about the sociological perspective, therefore, we are talking about the particular way those sociologists, as opposed to non-sociologists to try to understand human social behaviour.

Use the internet to find out about the main sociological theories. For each one explain the main idea and concepts and the key sociologists:

- Functionalism
- Marxism
- Feminism
- Action Theories
- Postmodernism
- Which sociological perspective do you agree with? Why?

The YouTube channel below is good for summaries of the main theories:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMJ-AfB_7J1538YKWkZAnGA

<https://revisesociology.com/sociology-theories-a-level/>

<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/topics/group/theory-methods-key-terms>

2. The Education System

Research the History of Education in the UK and answer the following questions:

- When did education become compulsory in the UK?
- Prior to compulsory education, what were the differences in who used to receive schooling?
- What are the oldest and newest subjects?
- How have the methods of dealing with behaviour changed over time?
- What are some of the major changes that have taken place in UK education in the 20th and 21st centuries?
 - Consider the impact of the following policies:
 - Education Act 1944 (Tripartite System)
 - Comprehensives 1966
 - Education Reform Act 1988
- Write about your personal view on – what is the role and purpose of education?
- **STRETCH AND CHALLENGE:** What would each of the perspectives that you researched above say about the role of education?

<https://www.schoolsmith.co.uk/history-of-education/>

<https://getrevising.co.uk/revision-notes/social-policy-and-education>

Suggested Documentaries:

- The Great British School Swap: <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/the-great-british-school-swap>
- Any of the 'Educating...' series: <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/educating-yorkshire>
- (Feminism) Kathy Burke's All Women (has some adult language/themes): <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/kathy-burkes-all-woman/on-demand/68015-002>