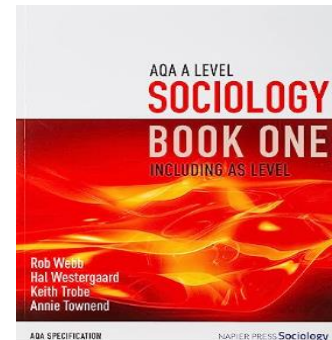


A-Level Sociology Summer Bridging Work 2023/24

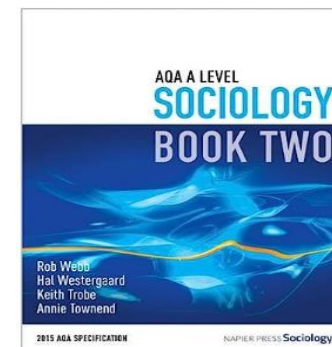
Exam board: AQA

Resources that you need to purchase in preparation for studying this course:

- Course textbook: AQA A Level Sociology Book One Including AS Level: Book one



- Course textbook: AQA A Level Sociology: Book 2



- Lever arch file
- Dividers for each topic, tracker in front.

Link to handbook below.

https://kingslangleyhertssch.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/KLS_Subjects_PY/EfJVHC3IbTIBITUevWFPU3sBw4dBsspPjZieXtM_8JvqFw?e=95aOWY

Sociology is the systematic study of human behaviour in society which is a complex system. In order to study the social world, researchers adopt different perspectives and research methods depending on their theoretical approach to understanding society. Sociology emerged as an academic subject in the nineteenth century in the wake of the Industrial Revolution in Britain (1740-1850) and the democratic revolutions of the USA (1776) and France (1789).

Sociology also evolved as a response to modernity – the process by which society changed from being agricultural to more industrial and urban. Through modernity, three important changes have come about; the economic evolution of industrial capitalism, the development of nation states and a cultural shift from religious and superstitious beliefs to rationality and scientific thinking. The three ‘founders’ of sociology all responded to modernity differently. They were Karl Marx (1818-83), Emile Durkheim (1858-1917) and Max Weber (1864-1920).

It is therefore important for students to understand the different theoretical assumptions and focus of each perspective and some basics of research methods in beginning their study of sociology as a subject. Choice of research methods are often determined by a researcher's theoretical perspective.

To prepare for Year 12 Psychology the following bridging work is set to enable students to be well aware of important features of each perspective, the main theorists and some basics methods of research. This will give them an advantage in getting to grips with the content more quickly.

Use the following sites to help you find information :

Massolit <https://www.massolit.io/subjects/sociology>

Seneca Learning

<https://app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/courses/add?Price=Free&Price=Premium&Subject=Sociology>

Revise Sociology <https://revisesociology.com/>

Answer **all** questions in all **3 tasks** below :

Task One

- Outline **three** main assumptions for each of the following perspectives to studying society:

The Functionalist Perspective

(3 marks)

The Interactionist Perspective

(3 marks)

The Marxist Perspective

(3 marks)

The Feminist Perspective

(3 marks)

- Briefly outline the beliefs of the **three** founding theorists of Sociology below and their view of society :

Karl Marx

(3 marks)

Emile Durkheim

(3 marks)

Max Weber

(3 marks)

Task Two

Write a short descriptive paragraph showing what you understand about each of the following:

- The **quantitative** approach in sociological research and the research methods used **(5 marks)**
- The **qualitative** approach in sociological research and the research methods used **(5 marks)**

Task Three

Research answers to the following questions:

1. What is sociology?
2. **(3 marks)**
3. What era and event is sociology a product of?
(3 marks)
4. What is cultural capital and how does it relate to class?
(3 marks)
5. Research a topic in sociology that interests you and write something about it. **(5 marks)**

(Total 45 marks)