

Sociology GCSE Course Outline – Year 10

(Students follow the AQA Sociology (8192) course)

Listed below are some of the key questions studied for each topic

1. The sociological approach

- What is Sociology?
- What are the key debates within sociology?
- What are the key ideas of the classical sociologists Durkheim, Marx and Weber?
- What are the key ideas of the different sociological perspectives such as Feminism, Functionalism, Interactionism and Marxism?

2. Families



- What is a family?
- What are the functions of a family?
- How do family forms differ in the UK and within a global context?
- What types of family diversity are there?
- How do the Functionalist/Marxist/Feminist perspectives view the role of families?
- What were conjugal roles and relationships like in the past?
- What is the symmetrical family? Is the Symmetrical family a reality or myth?
- How is power distributed between partners in relationships?
- What are the changing patterns of marriage and divorce?
- What are the consequences of divorce

3. Education



- What are the different views of the role and functions of education?
- How does the Functionalist/Marxist Perspective view the role of the education system?
- What are the different types of school?
- What are the types of alternative education?
- What factors affect educational achievement? - class, gender and ethnicity
- What processes within school affect educational achievement?
- What external factors affect educational achievement?
- What are the patterns of gender and subject choice?
- What changes have there been in Government policies in education?

4. Sociological research methods

- How do sociologists go about their research? What is the process involved in research design?
- How can you evaluate different quantitative and qualitative methods of research?
- How useful are different types of data?
- What are primary and secondary sources of data?
- How do we interpret data?
- What practical, ethical and theoretical issues arise during the research process?



Key Skills: AO1: Knowledge and Understanding, AO2: Application, AO3: Analysis and Evaluation