



Sociology Preparing for A Level

A Level Specification

Read through the A Level specification to get a better understanding of the content.

[Link](#)



Unit of study – Families and Household

Socialisation is how we learn our culture, including language, beliefs and many behaviours.

Sociologists are interested in the role that people play in helping socialise children.

Most Sociologists think that upbringing (nurture) plays a key role in socialising children into different cultures

Feral children are children who spend time growing up without any human contact.

Investigation:

Research Genie Wiley Research Todder raised by dogs.

Task:

1. Investigate at least 3 cases of 'feral children'. YouTube has some good documentaries of these to help your research.
2. Produce a summary of the 3 cases.
3. What do these cases tell us about the importance of early socialisation?
4. Were your cases able to learn normal human behaviour once they had been discovered? If not, then why do you think this is?

Unit of study – Education

In September, The Conservatives announced they would be expanding the number of grammar schools in the UK.

There has been an extremely fierce debate over the fairness of grammar schools (selecting by ability) since their conception in 1944., with some arguing that grammar schools unfairly benefit the middle-classes, while others argue that it gives working-class children a chance that they otherwise wouldn't have had.

Investigation:

[Read this article](#)

Task:

1. To research both sides of the debate. Mail on Sunday columnist Peter Hitchens outlines his position on his blog and Wikipedia has a good overview of this debate.
2. What position does each of the other political parties take on this issue?
3. What do you think? Explain your reasoning.

If you are considering studying Sociology next year, then these are activities that you should seriously consider completing over the next few months to prepare yourself for the very large step up to Post 16 from GCSE.

The activities are divided into:

Essential - suggested as good preparation for the course.

Recommended - suggested to support the essential activities for the course

Optional - suggested to support wider learning around the subject; you are expected to do this independently at Post 16.

Unit of study – Crime and Deviance

In 2011 riots occurred in the UK. They started in London and then spread to other cities such as Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool.

5 people were killed, and many homes and businesses were looted or burnt down.

Investigation

[Read this article](#)

Task:

Research the London riots, produce a summary of the events, how long they lasted and how the disorder spread.

Research the reasons for these riots; watch Youtube videos and read accounts in news articles at the time. Give reasons for the riots from different perspectives, for example, what did the rioters say – is there any reason to disbelieve their account? What did people from local communities (where the rioting happened) say were the causes, what did the government say were the reasons? State problems/strengths of these reasons as you discuss them.

In your own personal opinion, what was the main reason why people were rioting? Give reasons for your answer.

Essay Structure - PEEEL

- Point: Will consist mostly of AO1, but also application via relevance to the question.
- Evidence: Also AO1 and AO2 application. Can also assist AO3 analysis and evaluation.
- Explanation: May contain more AO1, but also likely to demonstrate AO2 application and AO3 analysis.
- Evaluation: Obviously AO3 evaluation. Doing this regularly with each paragraph means evaluation is embedded rather than a bolt on at the end.
- Link: Gives a chance to show how the answer is logical and progressive which assists all AO2/AO3 skills.

Recommendations to watch

The following shows are available free and on-demand. We would recommend that you sign up and watch them.

I, Daniel Blake



Netflix The Fundamentals of Caring



Netflix Flint Town

