



# Transition Pack For A Level Sociology

## Mandatory Tasks

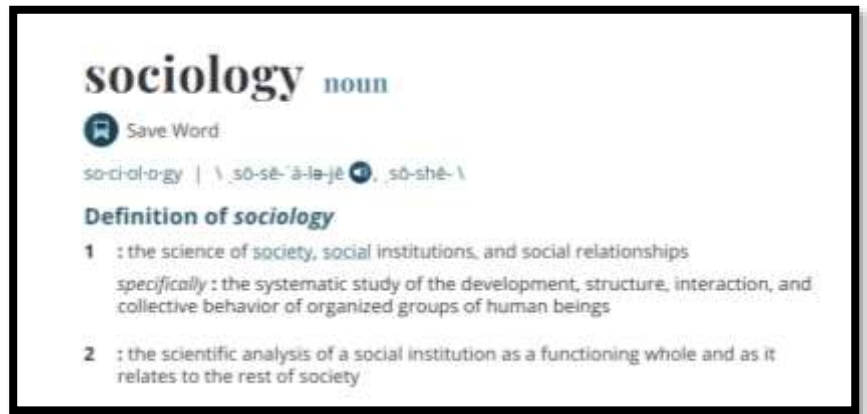
Task	Pages	Completed ✓
1. Society	3	
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\*Please email the completed extended writing task (no.14) to [KLJ@churchdownschool.com](mailto:KLJ@churchdownschool.com) by 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

## Optional Tasks (p26)

Task	What did you look at?
Books recommendations	
Article recommendations	
Film recommendations	
Podcast recommendations	
Television recommendations	
Future learning course	

# Welcome to Sociology!

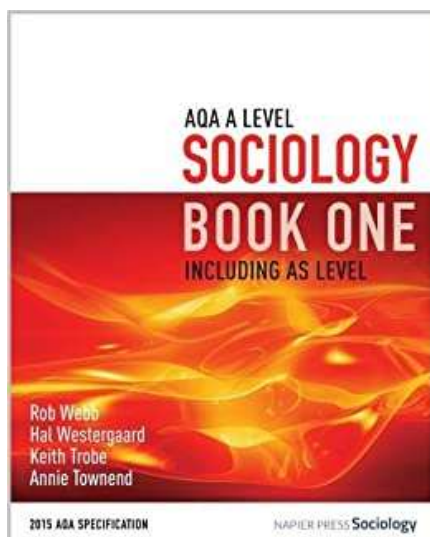


This resource is designed to introduce you to some of the key and fundamental aspects of Sociology in order to prepare you for A Level Sociology for the following topics:

- **Education**
- **Families and Households**
- **Sociology theory and methods**
- **Other areas relevant**

**You will need to make sure you are equipped for September with the following:**

- Lever arch 'archive folders' with dividers named with the units covered so you can keep your notes organised at home.
- A ring binder 'working folder' with a sufficient amount of lined paper inside it for note taking (This is the folder the students carry with them to and from school and has the notes from the unit currently being studied)
- At least two working ball point or biro pens
- Coloured highlighters
- General personal stationary as preferred – suggested items to include pencils, ruler etc.



## **Textbook**

This is the course textbook we use for year 1. Although it is not compulsory to purchase your own, you may find it useful to have one at home. There are some textbooks in the department that we will use in class.

**Task One: Society**

The social world is changing. Some argue it is growing; others say it is shrinking. The important point to grasp is: society does not remain static over time; it constantly changes – through decades, centuries; and across countries, societies.

Answer the following questions:

- a) Give 3 different ways society has changed over the last 100yrs – think about the different areas of social life and work.
- b) Why has society changed? Why are societies different?
- c) Research the 3 main political parties – Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat: What are their main ideas? How are they different?
- d) If you were in power, what would your first four items be on your agenda? What would you hope to do?

<https://www.parliament.uk/about/mps-and-lords/members/parties/>

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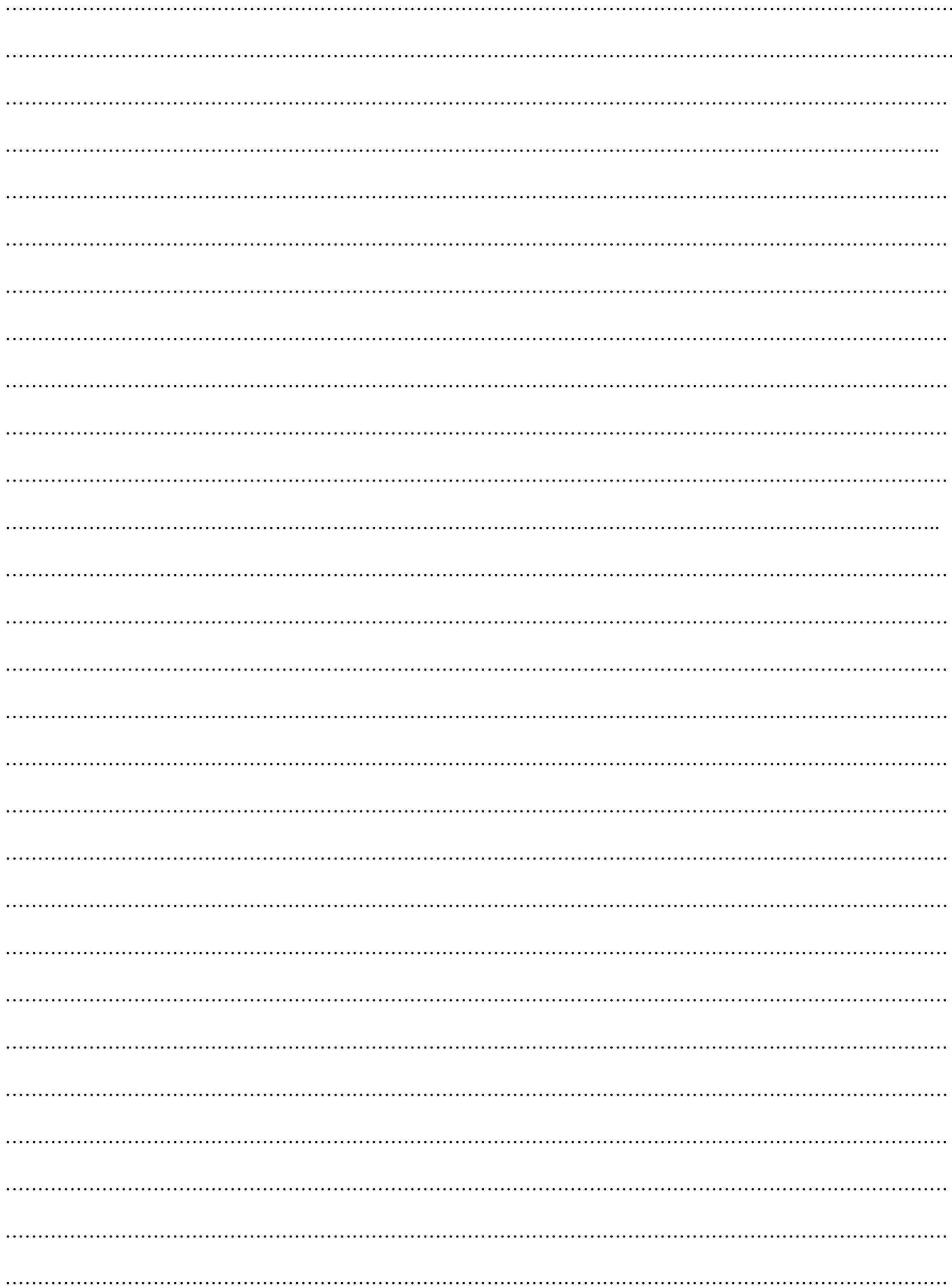
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### Task Three: Key terms

There are some key terms you will need to know. Look up the definitions of the following terms – make sure you write them in a way you will understand.

**Extension:** Make flash cards and use them to help you become familiar with these.

Key terms	Definitions
Socialisation	
Norms	
Values	
Beliefs	
Culture	
Social Class	
Gender	
Ethnicity	

### Task Four: Theory!

A theory, for our purpose, is something that explains the relationship between two or more things. A perspective (theory) 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 (go for section 2 key theorists): [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dPuualjXtMJ-AfB\\_7J1538YKwkZAnGA](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dPuualjXtMJ-AfB_7J1538YKwkZAnGA)



A series of horizontal dotted lines spanning the width of the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice.





## Task Five: Education

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
  - Education Act 2010

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

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

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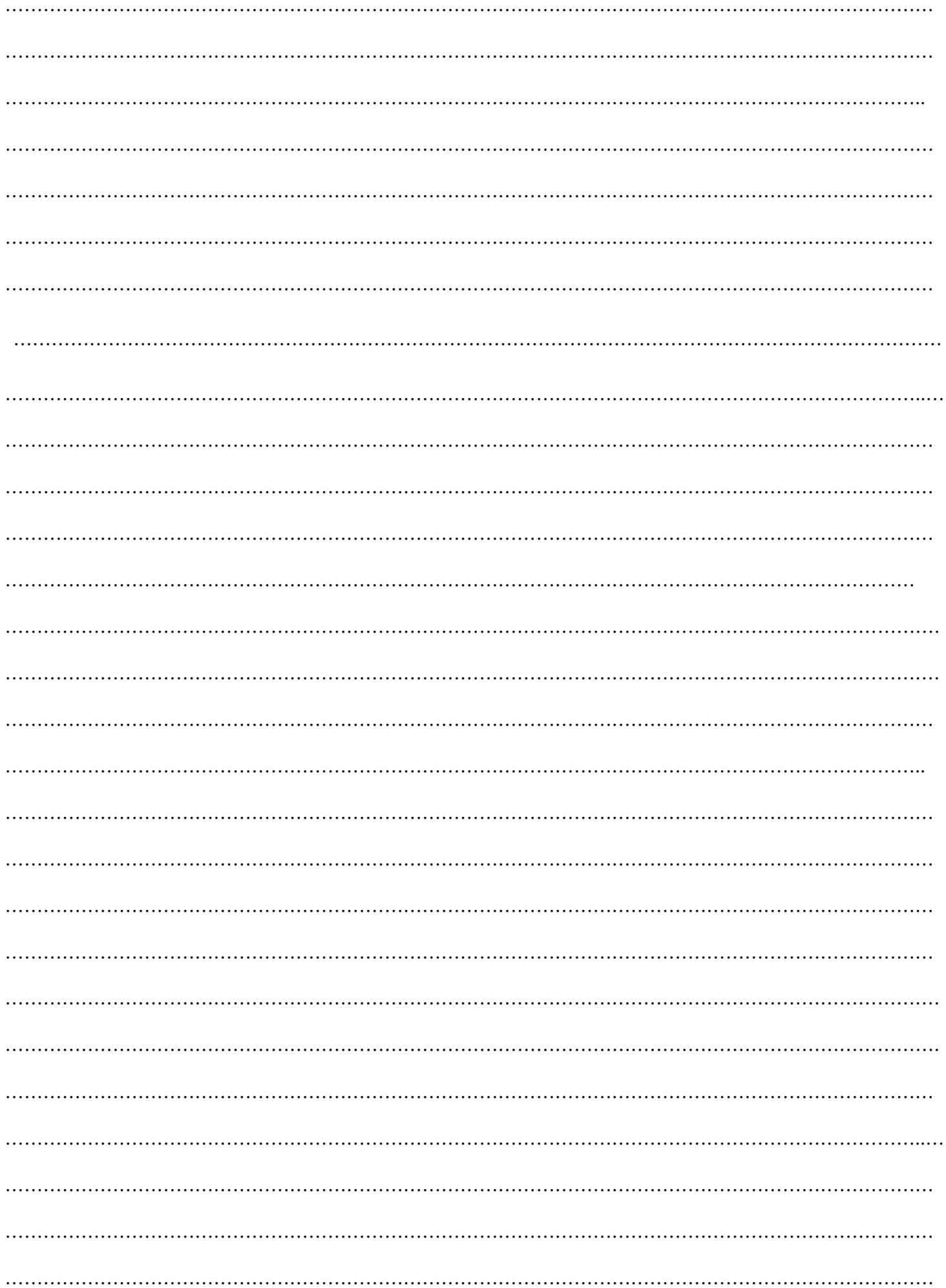
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## Task Six: Family

- a) You will be looking at the Family for one of your units so it's time to understand the different types of family – find definitions and then illustrate / create a memory prompt.

Key term	Definition	Illustration / memory prompt!
Monogamy		
Bigamy		
Polygamy		
Beanpole family		
Nuclear family		
Empty nest		
Empty shell marriage		
Extended family		
Kinship		
Cohabitation		



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**Task Seven: Sociology is everywhere!**

Sociology is everywhere so you'll be able to see aspects of it in all forms of the media. Try searching for the following titles and make notes on any videos you watch, try to keep it relevant to the topics taught in Sociology (Education, Families, Beliefs in Society, Crime and Deviance).

- What did you learn about society?
  - How does the programme link to the topics you will be studying?
    - Stacey Dooley documentaries (BBC iplayer/YouTube)
    - Black Mirror (Netflix) – Nosedive episode
    - School Swap documentary (4OD)
    - Louis Theroux documentaries (Netflix/ BBC)
    - Dispatches documentaries (4OD)
    - Panorama documentaries (BBC iplayer)
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### Task Eight: Meritocracy

- a) Find the definition of meritocracy.
- b) Read the following news article <https://www.tes.com/news/few-one-20-born-poorest-areas-go-university> and answer the following questions:
  - Does this article suggest we live in a meritocracy?
  - Why is it important that 'poor' students go to university?
- c) Find 5 news articles that link to Education and/or Families. Download and print. Some things to look out for are: immigration, poverty, benefits, exam results, private education, achievement, free schools.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/topic/Sociology>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/education/sociology>







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**Task Ten: Crime**

a) Using the internet, research the answers to the following questions:  
<https://www.coursehero.com/sg/introduction-to-sociology/defining-crime-in-sociology/>

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
What is a crime?	
What is deviance?	
What are laws?	
What is a white collar crime?	
Moral crimes include offences such as prostitution, underage drinking and illegal drug use. Why do some people argue that such crimes are 'victimless'?	
What is cybercrime? Name some examples of cybercrimes.	
What is a hate crime?	

What do you think is more effective in reducing crime: crime prevention or harsher punishments?	
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- b) Go on the following website and research crime in your area or the area near the school. <https://www.crime-statistics.co.uk/postcode/AL10%208NL> and answer the following questions:
- Where does most crime take place?
  - What are the top 3 crimes/offences?

Why do you think that those crimes are committed in your area? Think about socio-economic issues and location.

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## Task Eleven: Research - Questionnaires

- a) In Sociology, data on society is collected in different ways. You are going to conduct your own sociological survey and collect data on an aspect of society that particularly interests you (for example, why do people leave school for college? Why do people go travelling? Why do people drink underage? How people coped with isolation during the Coronavirus pandemic). You will need to create your questionnaire on a separate paper / word document.

### Questionnaires

You must design a **questionnaire**, with between 6-8 questions on your given area. You will need to break your topic up into smaller questions.

#### For example:

1. What is your age?
2. Are you male or female?
  - Did you go travelling because... (pick one)
  - You didn't want a job
  - You had family abroad
  - You wanted an adventure
4. Where did you go travelling?
5. Would you go travelling again? Yes/No

You will need to carry out your questionnaire on a range of different people.

**Aim to ask 5 people the same questionnaire (this can be done online / by phone etc, but keep your numbers low)**

### b) Presenting your questionnaire findings

Use the space below to present your findings from the questionnaire in either in a graph or a pie chart and explain what you have found.

## Task Twelve: Research - Interviews

### Interviews

You must design a set of interview questions (between 6-8) on the same area as your questionnaire (You can use the same questions or pick new ones, this is up to you).

**For example:**

1. Please give me 2 reasons why you decided to go travelling?
2. Did you travel alone? Why?
3. Would you go travelling again?

This time **ask different people** from those who completed your questionnaire.

**Aim to carry out your interview on at least 3 people.**

### Presenting your interview findings

You will need to draw conclusions from your interviews and explain what you have found – use the space below to do this.

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**Task Thirteen: Evaluating Research**

Evaluating questionnaires and interviews: Answer the following question:

**What are the positives and negatives of using questionnaires and interviews when collecting data?**

You will need to explain both the **positives** and **negatives** of using both questionnaires and interviews. You must also explain any difficulties you had and why, and come to an overall **conclusion** of which method worked best for you. You should write at least 750 words.

<https://revisesociology.wordpress.com/2011/05/04/6-questionnaires/>  
<https://revisesociology.wordpress.com/2011/05/04/07-evaluation-of-structured-interviews/>

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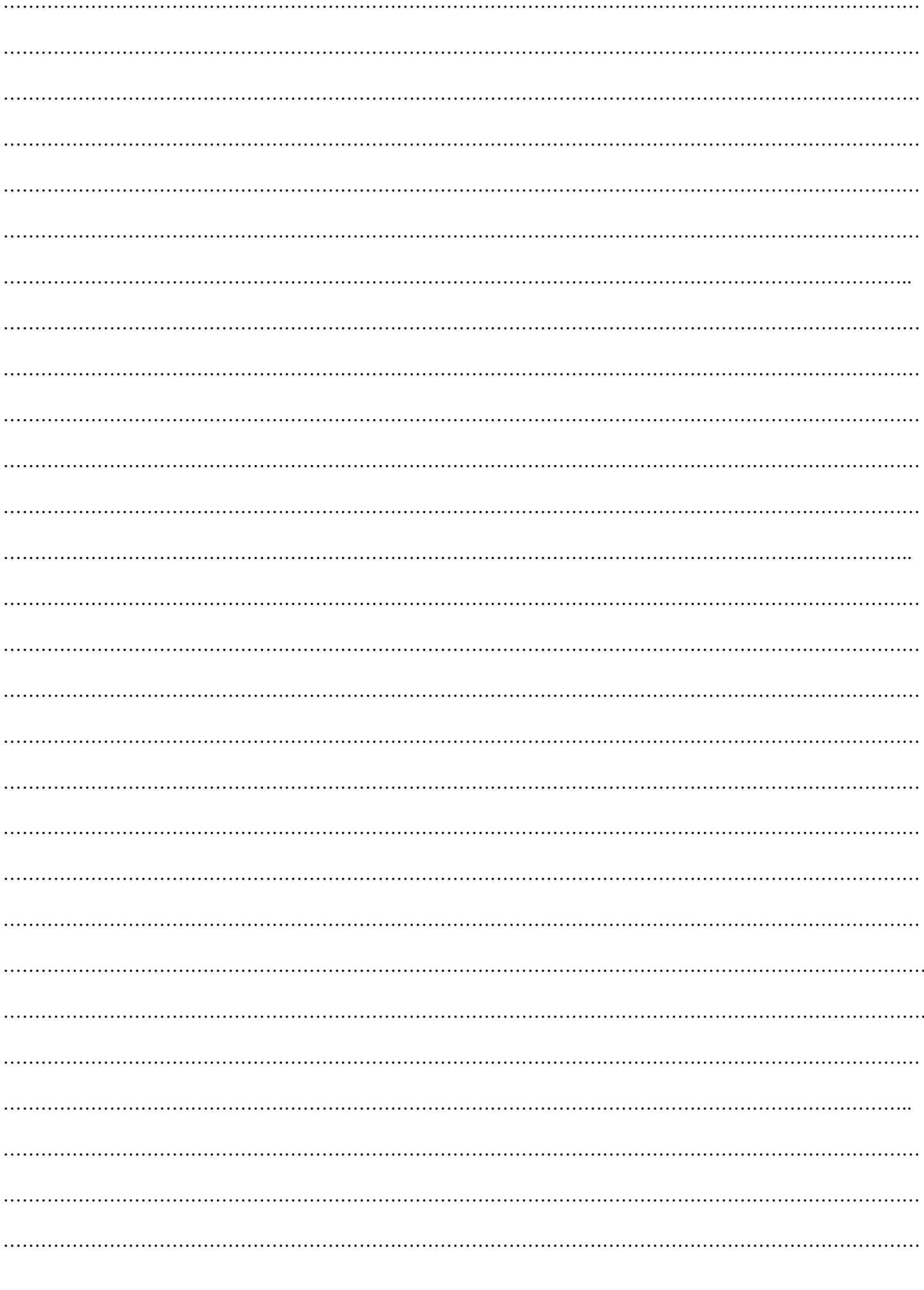
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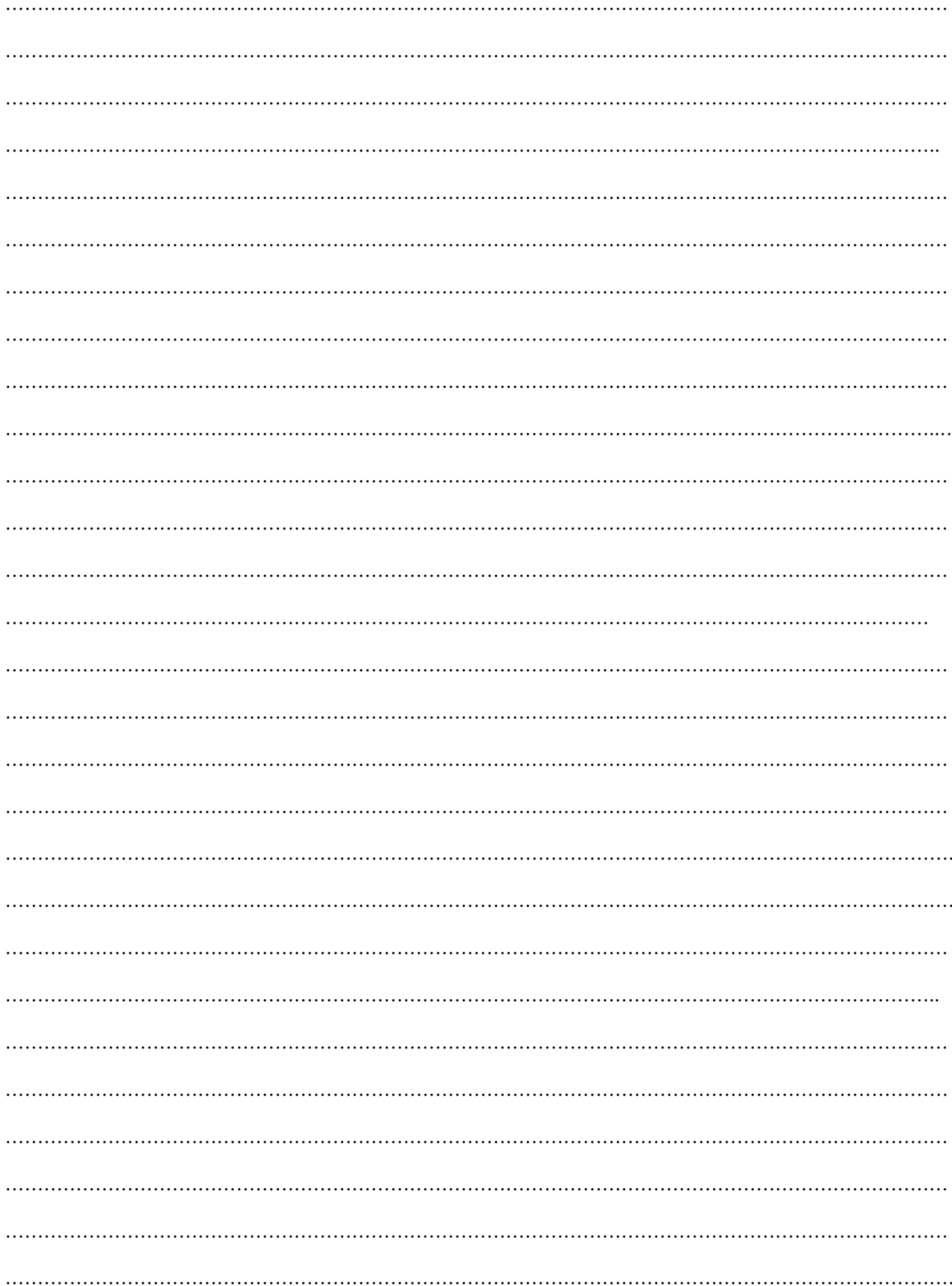
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## Task Fourteen: Coronavirus – The impact on Society (assessment piece)

**Coronavirus – The impact on Society.** So... here we are weeks into lockdown in the UK. It has been a very weird and scary time for all of us and is set to continue and change life for some time.

From a sociological point of view the impact that this is having on society is very interesting, if a little unnerving. I would like you to do some research and answer the essay question.

**'Evaluate the impact of Covid 19 on different parts of society' (20 marks).**

Essay Structure:

- Intro – outline what the essay is all about eg Corona virus has put the world under lock down meaning (give specific details)..... this essay will evaluate the impact of Covid 19 on different parts of society.
- 4 x PERCY paragraphs are needed
  - P= Make a point eg effect on peoples mental health/ highlighting women's position in the home as carer / difference in infection rates among ethnic minorities etc
  - E= explain it
  - R= Relate it to some form of evidence (statistics / some research etc)
  - C= Critic it – what are its strengths and limitations of the argument?
  - Y= What impact has this point had?
- Conclusion- Has the impact of the coronavirus been small or big? Has it affected lots of society or just small parts? Are its effects temporary or long lasting?

**Some links to get you started (please do your own research too)**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/31/how-will-the-world-emerge-from-the-coronavirus-crisis>  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/coronavirus-lockdown-uk-poverty-parks-gardens-classism-supermarkets-ocado-a9461426.html>  
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/03/20/world-order-after-coronavirus-pandemic/>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/apr/07/lockdown-britain-victorian-class-divide>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52506979>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52219070>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52492662>  
<https://metro.co.uk/2020/05/06/mums-are-homeschooling-lockdown-teaching-still-considered-womens-work-12663148/>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52506979>  
<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/news/nr/depression-anxiety-spiked-after-lockdown-announcement-coronavirus-mental-health-psychology-study-1.885549>  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/bulletins/coronavirusandthesocialimpactsongreatbritain/7may2020>  
<https://phys.org/news/2020-04-sociologist-coronavirus-world.html>  
<https://news.sky.com/story/coronavirus-how-lockdown-is-affecting-learning-for-working-class-pupils-11975696>

*This work will need to be typed and emailed to [KLJ@churchdownschool.com](mailto:KLJ@churchdownschool.com) by 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021.*

# ONCE A SOCIOLOGIST, ALWAYS A SOCIOLOGIST!



The following are suggestions, they are **not compulsory**, but we would love for you to engage in any that you find interesting.



	<p><a href="http://www.theguardian.com/education/sociology">www.theguardian.com/education/sociology</a>  <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/topic/subject/sociology">www.nytimes.com/topic/subject/sociology</a>  <a href="http://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/blog">www.tutor2u.net/sociology/blog</a>  <a href="http://www.nortonbooks.typepad.com/everyday sociology/">www.nortonbooks.typepad.com/everyday sociology/</a></p>	<p><a href="http://www.sociologysal.blogspot.com">www.sociologysal.blogspot.com</a>  <a href="http://www.gendersociety.wordpress.com">www.gendersociety.wordpress.com</a>  <a href="http://www.creativesociology.blogspot.com">www.creativesociology.blogspot.com</a>  <a href="http://www.sociologylens.net">www.sociologylens.net</a>  <a href="http://www.blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/">www.blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/</a>  <a href="http://www.soc.washington.edu/news">www.soc.washington.edu/news</a></p>
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	<p><a href="http://www.anchor.fm/allsociology">www.anchor.fm/allsociology</a>  <a href="http://www.measureradio.libsyn.com/podcast">www.measureradio.libsyn.com/podcast</a>  <a href="http://www.socialsciencespace.com/author/socialsciencebites">www.socialsciencespace.com/author/socialsciencebites</a></p>	<p><a href="http://www.thesocialbreakdown.com">www.thesocialbreakdown.com</a>  <a href="http://www.soundcloud.com/thesociologicalreview">www.soundcloud.com/thesociologicalreview</a>  <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qy05">www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qy05</a>  <a href="http://www.anchor.fm/digital-sociology-podcast">www.anchor.fm/digital-sociology-podcast</a></p>
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	<p><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/topics/Sociology_of_culture">www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/topics/Sociology_of_culture</a>  <a href="http://www.blackmirror.com">Black Mirror</a>  <a href="http://www.channel4.com/programmes/dispatches">www.channel4.com/programmes/dispatches</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Poor Kids: Life on the Breadline (Child Poverty Documentary)   Real Stories</a>  <a href="http://www.ted.com/talks?topics%5B%5D=sociology">www.ted.com/talks?topics%5B%5D=sociology</a>  <a href="#">BBC Panorama</a></p>
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	<p>Future Learn course – What is Sociology? 3 week course  <a href="https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/what-is-sociology">https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/what-is-sociology</a></p>
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