

SUMMER TASKS – GCSE TO AS TRANSITION

Subject: Sociology

Title: Introduction to Sociology

Task(s):

Dear Sociologists,

Welcome to sociology! Sociology is the study of society. Everyday things like the family, education and law and order, that you take for granted, you will now see in a totally different light. Sociology will change your life! During your studies you will be following the AQA Sociology course. You will study six topic areas over the course of the two years, which are assessed by a series of external exams.

Over the months leading up to September you should begin preparing yourself for the course. To help you to do this you will need to complete the two activities below ready for your first lesson in September.

Additionally, we also suggest that you purchase the following items ready for your first lesson:

- A4 Level arch file
- Set of file dividers
- Pack of highlighters
- Pens

Any questions, please get in touch. Have fun!

The Sociology Team

Task 1

Whilst some of you may have studied Sociology at GCSE level, for the vast majority of students it will be an entirely new subject. To help get an understanding of what Sociology is, please watch the videos below and make notes. When you have watched all three videos, write a paragraph summarising the main purpose of Sociology. **Please bring this to your first lesson in September.**

Link	Description
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LK5J0-cM-HE	A five-minute video made by a trainee teacher explaining what sociology is.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZJIFxDavpc	A five-minute video from the London School of Economics explaining what sociology is from a university perspective.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWD6g9CV_sc&t=387s	A fourteen-minute TED talk 'The Wisdom of Sociology' by Sam Richards. How can an academic discipline like Sociology be life changing? This talk suggests one

	way by exploring how sociologists teach us to re-imagine our personal problems and ourselves. In the end, we learn that even in our most private and seemingly isolated moments, we may be more connected to others than we realize.
--	--

Task 2

Over the course of your studies, you will look at the research and theories of many different Sociologists who have been influential in the subject. Below are three Sociologists who you will study;

- Karl Marx
- Ann Oakley
- Emile Durkheim

Select one of the Sociologists above to research. Once you have gathered your research, you should create a profile on this person. Your profile can be presented on A4 or A3 paper, can be created by hand or on the computer and must include the following information;

- Name of Sociologist
- Dates alive/active
- What important contributions they have made to Sociology
- Key quote
- Photograph

The following websites will be a useful starting point;

- <https://www.thoughtco.com/famous-sociologists-3026648>
- <http://www.annoakley.co.uk/>
- <https://www.studysmarter.co.uk/explanations/social-studies/famous-sociologists/>
- <https://www.studysmarter.co.uk/explanations/social-studies/famous-sociologists/ann-oakley/>

Please bring your Sociologist Profile to your first lesson in September.

How long should I spend on this? 4-5 hours

How will I get feedback? Feedback will be given when tasks are submitted at the beginning of term.

Contact email:

John Hattam: jhattam@yorkcollege.ac.uk

John Wooldridge: jwooldridge@yorkcollege.ac.uk

Sian Mantovani: smantovani@yorkcollege.ac.uk

Vicky Horton: vhorton@yorkcollege.ac.uk