

A Level Sociology

Guide & Summer Challenge

Paper 2:

Families and Households

This unit covers different types of families and households, power relationships, childhood, domestic violence, demography, perspectives on the family and how the family is an integral part of British and international societies.



Paper 1:

Education with Research Methods

This unit covers issues in education such as:

- Who achieves and why? (gender, ethnicity, class)
- What impact do government policies have on education?
- What is the purpose of school?

This unit also looks at the methods sociologists use to gather their research, and why they select these methods. You will examine the advantages and disadvantages of these and relate them to educational issues.

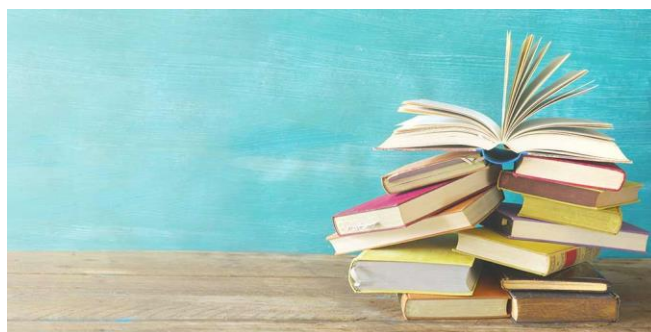
“The function of sociology, as of every science, is to reveal that which is hidden.”

Pierre Bourdieu



Reading List:

- **CHAVS, The Demonization of the Working Class**, Owen Jones
- **The Establishment**, Owen Jones
- **Freakonomics**, Steven D Levitt
- **The Tipping Point**, Malcolm Gladwell
- **1984**, George Orwell
- **No Logo**, Naomi Klein
- **How to be a woman**, Caitlin Moran
- **The Female Eunuch**, Germaine Greer
- **The God Delusion**, Richard Dawkins
- **Fat is a Feminist Issue**, Susie Orbach
- **Prozac Nation**, Elizabeth Wurtzel
- **Gang leader for a day**, Sudhir Venkatesh
- **Introducing Feminism**,
Watkins, Rueda, Rodriguez (1992)
- **Introducing Postmodernism**,
R.Appignanesi and C.Garrett (1999)
- **Globalization: A Very Short Introduction -
Very Short Introductions**, Manfred Steger
- **The Lucifer Effect**, P. Zimbardo (2007)
- **Why I'm No Longer Talking To White
People About Race**, R. Eddo-Lodge
(2017)
- **Britain ETC: The Way We Live And How We
Got There**, M. Easton (2013)
- **Poverty Safari: Understanding the Anger
of Britain's Underclass**, D. McGarvey
(2017)
- **Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind**, Y.
Harari (2011)
- **Toxic Childhood**, S. Palmer (2006)



Ones to read a chapter from:

The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life
Erving Goffman (1990)

Das Capital, Karl Marx

Postmodernity, D.Lyon (1994)

Outsiders, Howard Becker (Crime and
Deviance)

Thinking Sociologically,
HYPERLINK

"http://www.amazon.co.uk/Zygmunt-Bauman/e/B000APS9V2/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_1" Zygmunt Bauman

Summer Challenge 2023:

Over the summer holiday you will need to complete a task and some reading which will help you to prepare for your A Level course.

What do I need to do?

Pick EITHER **one** book or one journal article from the list.

Then, pick EITHER **one** film or **one** current TV programme.

For each, create a short fact file reviewing the book/article and the film/TV programme:

- What did you learn from it? What quotes were particularly interesting? Why?
- What links the film/programme to Sociological ideas? (think power, class, socialization, nature/nurture)

Summer task: Action Research and observation

Visit a busy public place (e.g. High street, train station, Covent Garden). Position yourself to sit and take notes on the activities of those around you. Be prepared to feed back your observations. **Your observation should take a minimum of an hour**

Other:

Films and Documentaries

Made in Dagenham

Bowling in Columbine

An Inconvenient Truth

Louis Theroux – Behind Bars

The Up Series – Documentary spanning 49 years

Back in time for Dinner, BBC2

How the rich get richer (Channel 4)

Meet the Mormons, Channel 4

Murdered by my boyfriend

Horizon 'Inside the Dark Web.' (BBC1)

'My Murder' Documentary on Shakilus Townsend

Current Affairs TV, Radio, Print

Some are live and ongoing weekly programs. Others you will need to watch via Netflix or i-player.

Question Time (BBC1, Thursday evenings)

Newsnight – Nightly Monday to Friday, BBC 10.30pm

The 'Today' program, BBC Radio 4, Daily from 6.30am

Women's Hour, BBC Radio 4, Daily from 10am to 11am

The Economist (weekly current affairs, politics and economics magazine)

The Spectator – as above

Journal articles

All from Sociology Review – copies held in Miss Kingscott and Mrs McLoughlin's classroom

Education:

The education gender gap

Schools and social mobility

How long should young people remain in school?

Families:

Re-thinking the history of the family

Working parents – family life and children's wellbeing

Fatherless Families – are they the future?

Ethnicity and ageing – what is life like for older people in Britain?

Religion:

What is radicalization?

Why do they do it? Western girls joining Isis.

Crime:

Functionalist views of Crime

Headline Homicides – Murders and mass media reporting

Gender and white-collar crime

What is hate crime?