



Sackville School GCSE Sociology Curriculum Map



These are the **BIG QUESTIONS** we aim to answer in GCSE Sociology. They need a lot of **THOUGHT**. Sociologists will disagree about the possible answers/explanations.



These questions really challenge us to think **HARD!**

To be able to answer the **BIG QUESTIONS**, we first need to tackle these smaller ones, it's like filling in gaps in a jigsaw puzzle.

For the AQA GCSE there are **25 Key Studies** which you will need to learn. They are shown in **red** on the roadmap:
KS SOCIOLOGIST'S SURNAME



What are the roles and functions of the family according to:

- Functionalists? **KS: PARSONS**
- Marxists? **KS ZARETSKY**
- Feminists? **KS: OAKLEY**

5. How do sociologists explain the role of the family in society?



What is the Symmetrical Family?
KS YOUNG & WILLMOTT

How has industrialisation affected the family?

6. How have roles & relationships within families changed?

Year 10 contd.

What big decisions do sociologists have to make about their research and why?



What is a family and what are the alternatives to it?

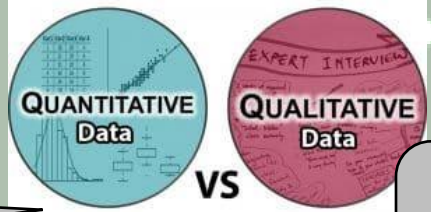
How do family types differ in a global context?

How far is there equality within the family?

Why are feminists so critical of traditional families? **KS: DELPHY & LEONARD**

What are conjugal roles and how are they shared within families

What secondary data do sociologists use and what are the strengths & weaknesses?



What is the difference between valid data and reliable data?

What sampling methods do sociologists use and why?

What practical and ethical issues do researchers face?



4. How do sociologists carry out their research?

What are social sciences and what is sociology?

10



2. What is the nature v. nurture debate?

Which is more important in shaping human behaviour?

What are agencies of socialisation and what do they do?

What are the strengths & weaknesses of these different perspectives?



3. How do different sociologists explain the world?



1. What is the sociological approach?

What are culture, norms & values?

What is socialisation and why is it important?

What do we mean by a perspective in sociology?

What are the key perspectives in sociology?

- Functionalism
- Marxism
- Feminism
- Interactionism



Year 11

12. How do sociologists research education?

What are the practical and ethical issues involved in studying education?

What are social order and social control?

How do time, place & culture affect what is seen as deviant or criminal?

What secondary data is available on education?

How do different sociologists explain the differences in achievement?

How does ethnicity link to achievement?

How do setting & streaming affect achievement?

KS BALL

What are the links between gender & subject choice?

What are the strengths & weaknesses of different research methods for studying education?

13. How can we define crime & deviance (C&D)?

Are crime & deviance socially constructed?

10. How have education policies changed since 1944 and what has their impact been?

Why were comprehensives introduced?

What different types of schools exist in England today?

11. How can we explain differences in educational achievement?

Are in-school or out-of-school factors more important in explaining achievement?

How does gender link to achievement?

KS: WILLIS

How does social class link to achievement?

KS: HALSEY, HEATH & RIDGE

What is marketisation in education?

KS: BALL, BOWE & GEWIRTZ

9. How do sociologists explain the role and functions of education in society?

What are the roles and functions of education according to:

- Functionalists? KS: DURKHEIM & PARSONS
- Marxists? KS: BOWLES & GINTIS
- Feminists?

Does the education system have a 'hidden agenda'?

7. How have sociologists explained family diversity?

What family types have become more/less common and why?

KS: THE RAPOPORTS

How do ethnicity, social class and the life course affect family structures?

Does the nuclear family still matter in modern Britain?

What are the practical and ethical issues involved in studying the family?

8. How do sociologists research the family?

What are the strengths & weaknesses of different research methods for studying the family?

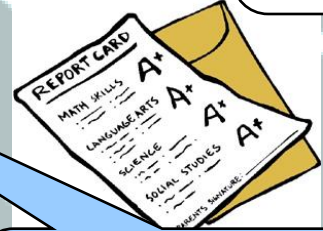
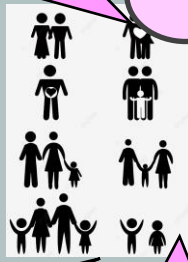
What secondary data is available on the family?

What do sociologists mean by the 'dark side' of the family?

What are the causes and consequences of increased divorce rates?

What are the trends in marriage, divorce and lone-parent families and how can we explain them?

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How far is
UK society
meritocratic?

How can we
explain social
class? **KS: MARX**
KS: WEBER

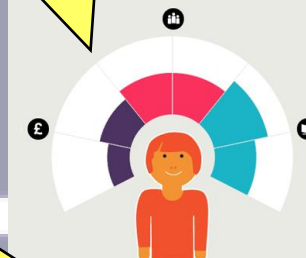
What is social
class and how do
we measure it?

What was the
'Affluent
Worker' study?

21. Is
embourgeoisement
taking place?

Year 11
contd.

20. How do different
sociologists explain social
stratification?



What are the strengths &
weaknesses of different
research methods for
studying crime?



How is society
organised?

Do those who work
hard 'get on' in life?
KS: DAVIS & MOORE

What is the evidence for &
against embourgeoisement?
KS: DEVINE

19. How do
sociologists research
crime?

What
secondary
data is
available on
crime?

18. What are
the issues of
public concern
about crime?

17. What is the
relationship
between crime
& the media?

16. Why are some
social groups
more/less
involved in the
criminal justice
system (CJS)?

What are the practical and
ethical issues involved in
studying crime?

What are the
debates about:
sentencing, youth
crime, prisons,
ASB?



What is a
moral panic?



Does the law
favour the
rich?

How can crime be
functional for society?

Does
capitalism
cause crime?

14. How do different
sociologists explain
crime?

Why do some
people join criminal
subcultures?
KS: A. COHEN

15. How do
we measure
crime?

Does the
media cause
crime?

How does control
theory explain
women's
conformity?
KS: HEIDEONSOHN

Do 'outsiders'
get labelled?
KS: BECKER



How are official crime
statistics created?

Is the CJS
institutionally
racist?

11



How far do sociologists
agree about the
causes of crime?

How does strain theory
explain crime?
KS: MERTON



How far can
we trust crime
statistics?



What are victim surveys
and self-report studies?

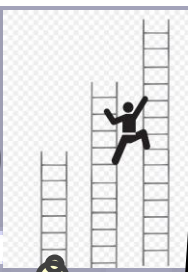
Which measures of crime
are most reliable/valid?

What are the trends
linking crime with:

- Social class?
- Gender? **KS: CARLEN**
- Ethnicity?
- Age?



11



What are the different forms of social mobility?



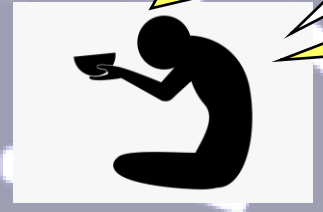
What impact do social class, gender, ethnicity & age have on life chances?

24. What is poverty and how do we measure it?

What are absolute and relative definitions of poverty?
KS: TOWNSEND

? Is poverty a structural or a personal issue?

How has globalisation impacted on social stratification in the UK?



What have New Right, Feminist, Marxist, & Social Democratic sociologists said about the Welfare State?

23. What affects people's life chances?

What are the strengths & weaknesses of the different measures?

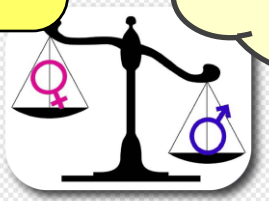
Is there an 'underclass'?
KS: MURRAY

22. What is social mobility and how far is it taking place?

? Is the UK a socially mobile society?

What are the strengths & weaknesses of different research methods for studying social strat?

What is patriarchy and how is it exercised?
KS: WALBY



26. What are sociologists' perspectives on power?

How can we define power & authority?
KS: WEBER

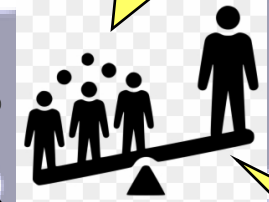
What is the Welfare State?

25. What are sociologists' views about the Welfare State?

What are the practical, ethical and theoretical issues with studying social strat?



How do class & gender affect power relationships?



? Is there a 'culture of dependency' in the UK?

What are political power, democracy & nation states?

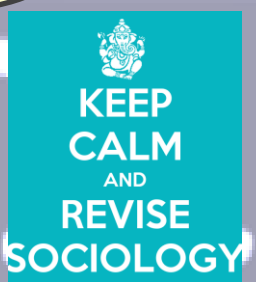
? Does society work in the interests of the elite?

- QUESTION TYPES FOR EACH TOPIC:**
- 2x multiple choice [1]
 - 1x describe [3]
 - 1x identify & describe [3]
 - 1x examine [2]
 - 3x identify & explain [4]
 - 1x identify & explain + item [4]
 - 2x DHFSWAT [12]

27. How do sociologists research social stratification?

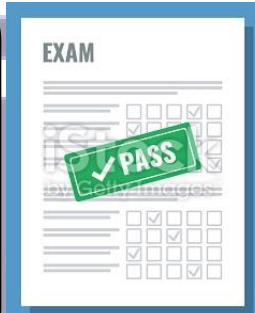


What secondary data is available on social strat?



GCSE PAPER 1:
FAMILIES (50 MARKS)
EDUCATION (50 MARKS)

GCSE PAPER 2:
CRIME & DEVIANCE (50 MARKS)
SOCIAL STRATIFICATION (50 MARKS)



POST 16:

- A Level Sociology
- L3 Applied Criminology