



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



**Year 10
contd.**

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?

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

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



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?

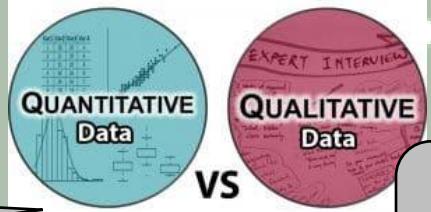
Why are feminists so critical of traditional families? KS: DELPHY & LEONARD

What are conjugal roles and how are they shared within families

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

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 methods are used in primary research and what are their strengths & weaknesses?



What is the research process in sociology?

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?



3. How do different sociologists explain the world?



What are the strengths & weaknesses of these different perspectives?

1. What is the sociological approach?

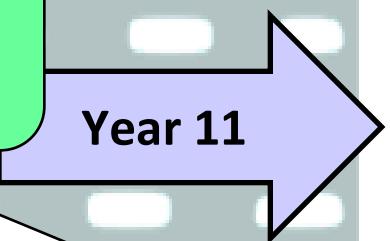
What are culture, norms & values?

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



12. How do sociologists research education?

What secondary data is available on 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 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?

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?

Has marketisation mainly benefited the middle classes?

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?

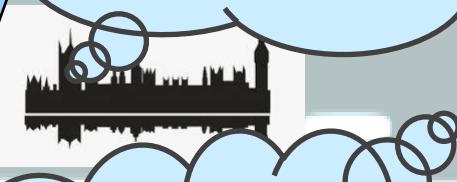
11. How can we explain differences in educational achievement?

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?

10

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

What are the causes and consequences of increased divorce rates?

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

What secondary data is available on the family?

8. How do sociologists research the family?

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



How far is UK society meritocratic?

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

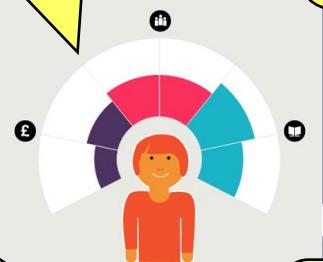
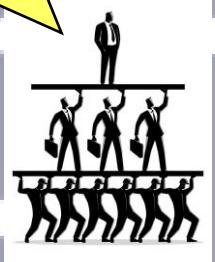
What is social class and how do we measure it?

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?



How can crime be functional for society?

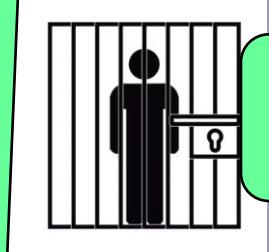
Does the media cause crime?

14. How do different sociologists explain crime?

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

15. How do we measure crime?

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



Does the law favour the rich?

Do 'outsiders' get labelled? **KS: BECKER**

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How far do sociologists agree about the causes of crime?



How does strain theory explain crime? **KS: MERTON**



What are victim surveys and self-report studies?

How far can we trust crime statistics?

How are official crime statistics created?

Is the CJS institutionally racist?

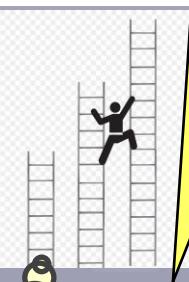


Which measures of crime are most reliable/valid?

What are the trends linking crime with:
• Social class?
• Gender? **KS: CARLEN**
• Ethnicity?
• Age?



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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?



23. What affects people's life chances?

What are the strengths & weaknesses of the different measures?

Is there an 'underclass'?
KS: MURRAY

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

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

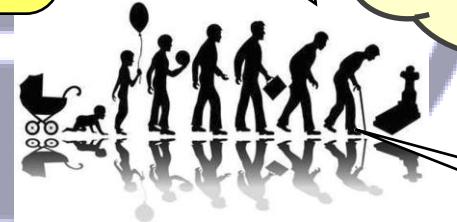
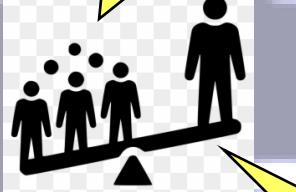
What is the Welfare State?

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?



Does society work in the interests of the elite?

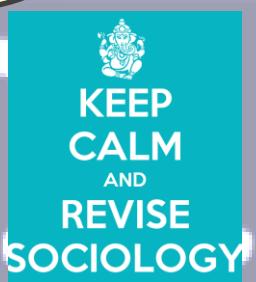
What are political power, democracy & nation states?

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

- 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]

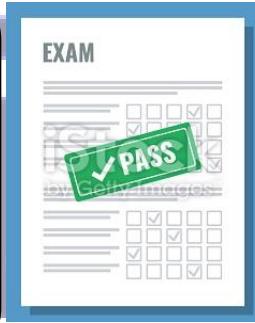
27. How do sociologists research social stratification?

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