

Sociology

Subject level A-level

Resource site www.wqe.ac.uk/tasteractivities

Subject context Sociology is referred to as the 'science of society'. It involves the study of society and of people and their behaviour. Sociology is an academically rigorous subject that involves studying society and people from a range of different points of view, while developing critical thinking skills.

Deadline Please try and complete this before your normal summer holidays would begin, but at least before the start of college in September.

Estimated time required to complete activity 3 hours

Resources required Internet

AQA endorsed A-Level Sociology text book, preferably AQA Sociology for A Level Book 1 Authors: David Bown, Laura Pountney, Tomislav Maric, Natalie Meadows
Publisher: Hodder Education
ISBN-13: 978-1-4718-3939-9

(The textbook is desirable but not essential at this stage – you will have access to a copy in September 2020)

Assignment details

TASK 1

In the first section of the A level sociology course, you will learn about some key concepts that are of particular importance to sociologists. To prepare for these lessons you should complete the following questions:

1. What is meant by the following terms? Define them:

- Culture
- Norms
- Values
- Socialisation
- Status
- Roles

2. With regard to norms, can you give some examples of when these may change in society? (HINT: think about over time and across cultures – you could consider the impact the CV19 Pandemic has had or may have in future).

3. In terms of status, what is the difference between ascribed and achieved status? List 10 well known people who have high achieved status, and 10 well known people who have high ascribed status. Are people more deserving of their status if they achieve it or if they have been ascribed it? Explain your view.

TASK 2

Create a montage of British culture—either electronically (IMovie or Microsoft Stream are very good, include a soundtrack!) or on paper (Hint: use old magazines and newspapers if you have them and artistic talent). You should include as many different aspects of culture as you can, the following will give you some ideas:

Food and drinks	Work	Fashion	Religion
Hobbies	Advertising	Technology	Media

Consider: How have they become part of British culture? Are they just British? Have these elements evolved over time? How? Why?

TASK 3

The Covid-19 virus led to ‘lockdown’ in the UK on 23rd March 2020.

Create a mind map of the different ways in which ‘lock down’ has impacted the following areas of life. You can do one large mind map or different mind maps for each area.

These are four key topic areas that you will study across the Sociology course. You can draw on your own experiences as well as research from media reports, TV and the internet.

- Education
- Family life/relationships
- Crime and policing
- Beliefs & religion

Extension Activity

Some Sociologists believe society may never be the same after Covid-19 and lock down. Identify key arguments they may use to support this view, you can include your own view but remember to use writing etiquette. Include relevant examples to support your arguments.