

# TCOLC Sixth Form

Yr11 – 12 Transition Activities

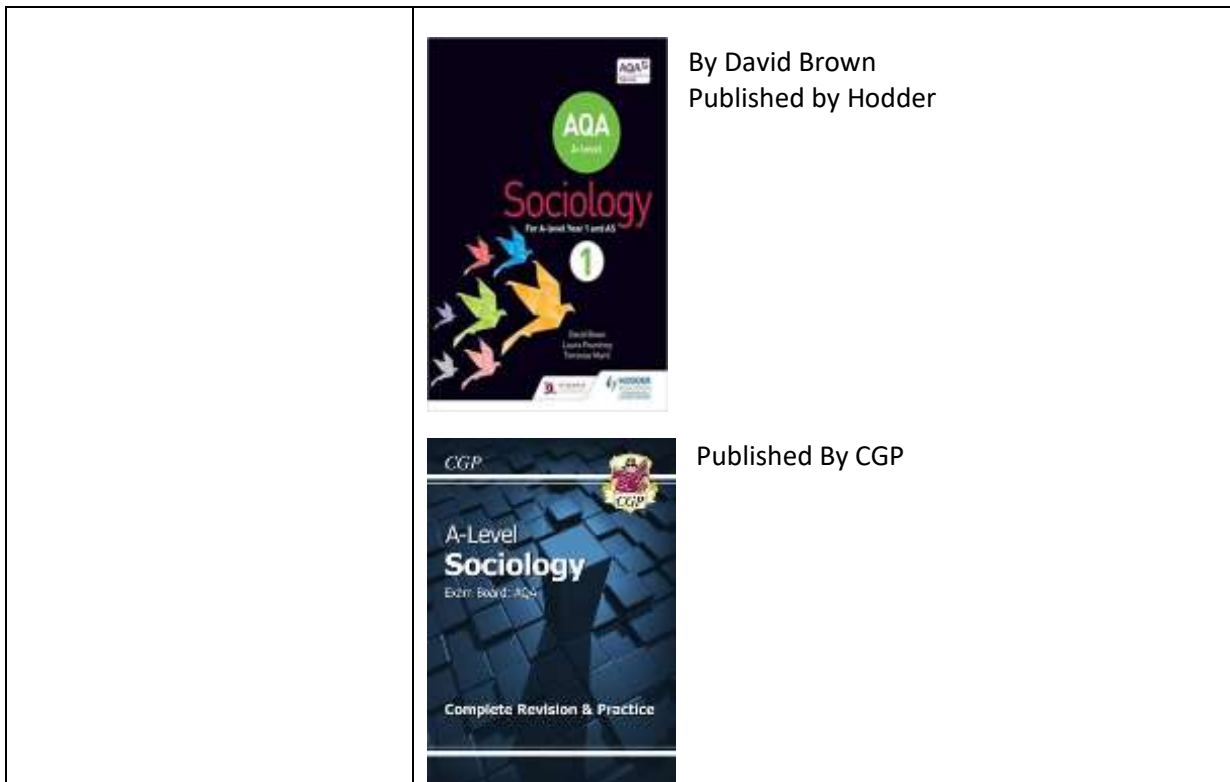
Subject: Sociology



THE CITY OF LEICESTER COLLEGE

## 6<sup>th</sup> Form Transition Pack

QUALIFICATION	A-level Sociology
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Exam board and link	AQA <a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk">www.aqa.org.uk</a>
Specification details	7192
Recommended online learning	<a href="https://revisesociology.com/">https://revisesociology.com/</a> <a href="https://www.senecalearning.com/">https://www.senecalearning.com/</a> <a href="https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology">https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology</a> <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192</a> <a href="https://thesociologyguy.com/a-level-sociology/">https://thesociologyguy.com/a-level-sociology/</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6VpoZj33Df_rNb8KymCczw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6VpoZj33Df_rNb8KymCczw</a> <a href="https://napierpress.com/">https://napierpress.com/</a>
Textbooks that are used	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>by Rob Webb published by Napier Press</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>Published by Collins</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>By Steve Chapman Published by Collins</p> </div> </div> </div>



In addition, the transition pack may contain resources like PowerPoints, assessments and activities for you to try at home over the summer.

We recommend you use Cornell Notes to prepare for your new course. Please see this video to help you develop the technique:

<https://youtu.be/WtW9lyE04OQ>

Please complete the activities in this booklet in readiness to begin your studies when we are told Sixth Form may reopen. This will show us your commitment and may be used alongside your GCSE grades and behaviour log as entry criteria – Sixth Form study is hard work and there are no short cuts. Commitment to your studies is essential.

Good Luck and Stay Safe!



## **Welcome to A-level Sociology!**

You have chosen a subject that will 'keep you on your toes' and make you think in ways you couldn't imagine. You will certainly have a very different outlook on society by the end of your course.

## Overview of the course:

This is a two-year course which ends with **three** two-hour papers each carrying an equal weighting towards your final A-level grade (A\*-E).

Topics we will cover will include:

### Year 12

Theories of Sociology  
Methods of Sociology  
Families & Households  
Education

### Year 13

Crime and Deviance  
Beliefs in Society  
Methods of Sociology  
Theories of Sociology

Look at the specification for more detail about these topics. You can find this at:  
<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/sociology/specifications/AQA-7191-7192-SP-2015.PDF>

You will be expected to know and understand **(AO1)** the information about the topics, to be able to apply **(AO2)** that knowledge and understanding and to be able to analyse and evaluate **(AO3)** that knowledge and understanding.

## Expectations of the course:

- Lessons consist of taking notes, group discussions, watching relevant DVDs/documentaries, group work and PowerPoint presentations.
- Homework consists of note making, wider reading, research, past exam questions, power points and essays.
- The **Reading and Watching List** on the following page will help you to gain wider knowledge and a broader framework in which to apply your knowledge. You will be expected to choose something to watch/read every half term and to feed back to the rest of the class. You may do this individually, in pairs or groups.
- Your progress will be reviewed on a regular basis. The review process will provide feedback at specific times throughout the year. You will also be expected to be within two grades of your target grade on each piece of work.
- You are expected to use the resources available to you in the library and common room here and are strongly encouraged to use libraries outside of school, not just the internet.
- Make a Sociology chat/whatsapp for discussion.
- Your folders of notes will be checked on a regular basis to see if you are organised and up to date with your work.
- USE YOUR STUDY TIME AND BE PRO-ACTIVE.

## Reading List - Sociology

- Brave New World – Aldous Huxley
- Animal Farm – George Orwell
- 1984 – George Orwell
- Chavs: The Demonisation of the Working Class – Owen Jones
- The Establishment and How They Get Away With It – Owen Jones
- The Handmaid's Tale – Margaret Atwood (also a series)
- Vox – Christina Dalcher
- The God Delusion – Richard Dawkins
- Outsiders: Studies in Sociology of Deviance – Howard S Becker
- Folk Devils and Moral Panics – Stanley Cohen
- A Glasgow Gang Observed – Patrick James
- Gang Leader For A Day – Sudhir Venkatesh
- Haralambos
- A wide range of newspapers including The Guardian and Independent

## Watching List - Sociology

- Any documentaries, including Panorama, Louis Theroux, Stacey Dooley, Mind of a Murderer etc
- Black Mirror series (Netflix)
- Years and Years (BBC i-player)
- Goodfellas
- The Godfather (part 2 is the best)
- Legend
- My Scientology Movie
- The 'Up' series (eg. 56 Up, 63 Up) on Netflix or Youtube
- The Secret Life of 5 year olds
- McMafia (previously BBC i-player)
- Freedom Writer's Diary
- Dangerous Minds
- Chernobyl (drama)
- When They See Us (Netflix)
- The Society (Netflix)
- Blood Diamond
- A Bug's Life or Antz (for Marxism)
- Ted Talks/Sociology

**Task 1**

Choose something from the Reading and Watching List that you are going to report on in your first Sociology lesson.

**Task 2**

Each group of statements represents a sociological theory. Say which ONE statement out of each group you agree with and give reasons why you have chosen it.

**Slide 1 Statements:**

- a) Men dominate.
- b) Gender inequalities exist.
- c) Women are systematically disadvantaged.
- d) All men hate women some of the time. Some men hate women all of the time.
- e) Women are the takers of shit.

I agree with .....

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.....

**Slide 2 Statements:**

- a) Society exists in a state of balance.
- b) Society works for the benefit of all.
- c) Structures in society exist to help people and the smooth operation of society.
- d) We live in a democracy.
- e) People are judged only in terms of their merit / skills / intelligence.

I agree with .....

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**Slide 3 Statements:**

- a) Life is unfair.
- b) People are not paid enough.
- c) The world is run for a very small group of people.
- d) Most people cannot see that they spend their entire lives being exploited.
- e) Our current system for organising the economy does not work.

I agree with .....

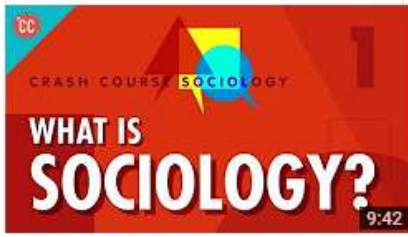
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### Task 3

Watch the following clip and jot down 5 things that tell you what Sociology is.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnCJU6PaCio>



1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

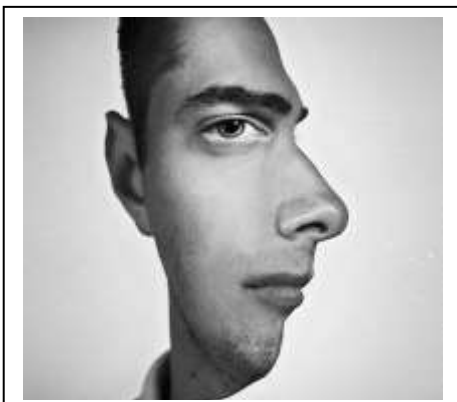
3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

### An Introduction to A-level Sociology

**Sociology** is the study of human social life. There are many different aspects of Sociology to address, so you must be curious and attentive to looking at the world in a different way!



Look at this photograph; not everything is as it seems!

There is usually another way of looking at things – and that is what we do as sociologists.

We take normal, taken-for-granted life and turn it upside down, looking for meanings. And very often we end up seeing things very differently.

Social Change

The social world is changing. Some argue it is growing; others say it is shrinking. The important point to grasp is: society does not remain static over time; it constantly changes - through decades and centuries and across countries, societies.

**Task 4**

Think of 3 different ways society has changed over the last 100 years. Try to be specific about the change eg. homosexuality is no longer illegal.

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Now, name 3 ways in which British society is different to another (America, Italy etc.)

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**Task 5**

Why do you think has society changed? Why are societies different?

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## Identity

Who are you? Are you part of a group, an individual, a student, a sister, a brother?

**Identity** is about how we see and define ourselves – our personalities – and how

other people see and define us. Many aspects of our individual identity are influenced by

**agencies of socialisation.** These are structures or groups of people.



### Task 6

Suggest two examples of structures or groups of people that impact upon you:

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Individuals are like moulded putty, squished and squashed by society and its structures, but there are decisions we make that are driven by internal motivations. Behaviour that comes from within us – decisions we make in order to do things - is called agency. Agency behaviour is meaningful and a reflection of self-will. Sometimes we can challenge and oppose structures, and in this way we help construct a part of our identity.

**Task 7**

List three agency decisions you have made or will make today.

- 1. ....
- 2. ....
- 3. ....

**Nature vs Nurture – The Big Debate**

There are many ways of explaining why certain people do things in certain ways. For example, biologists think that people behave as they do because they are controlled by nature. This is known as **Nature theory**. Humans are compared to animals and seen to act on **instinct**.

Sociologists believe that people behave as they do because they are taught how to behave. For example, the sociologist Michael Haralambos states, 'Human beings learn their behavior and use their intelligence whereas animals simply act on instinct.' This is known as **Nurture theory**. Nurture means the way you are brought up. It is also a reference to **socialization**, the lifelong process by which we learn our culture, values, norms and how to behave.



**Task 8**

Write down a list of things that you were taught by other people about how to behave eg. how to speak etc.

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

Sociologists reject nature theories for two particular reasons. If people behaved as they do because of nature, they would all act the same as each other. The following reasons show why people do not all act the same:



1. **History:** people acted differently in the past from the way that they do today. They had different ideas and different beliefs.
2. **Anthropology:** this is the study of different human societies. Wherever you go in the world, people act differently from the way they do in Britain.

## Social behaviour and culture

Sociology is the study of human groups and social life in modern societies.

Sociology recognises that as members of society we have to learn social behaviour and this is done through a variety of social institutions and social groups right throughout our lives.



### Task 9

WHAT MAKES US HUMAN?

- Are we meant to live alone?
- What would a person be like if they grew up without human contact?
- What would a person be like if they were then introduced into a society?
- Do we need a society in which to survive?
- Can someone be truly human if they grew up without human contact?
- Are we ruled by our instincts? (An instinct can be defined as a complex, unlearned pattern of behaviour that is universal in a species).

Watch the video and compare how, as children, we behave and how Oksana behaves. What has been the impact of the lack of human contact?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nv3ocntSSUU>

It should have become clear that humans, more than most other animals, are dependent upon other humans for the most basic needs such as food and shelter.

We do not arrive in this world equipped with a collection of instincts inherited from our parents that will enable us to survive in a potentially hostile environment.

# What is Culture?

Virtually all the things that we do have to be learned from others, for example walking, speaking, knowing what to eat, defending ourselves etc. A desert island baby is unlikely to survive, therefore we need other people.

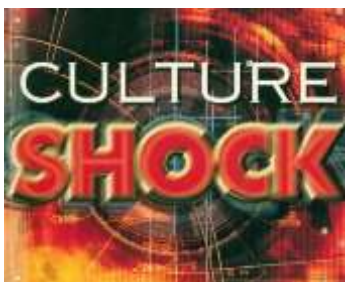
We have now established an important principle. Human behaviour is largely learned through a process called **socialisation**. Therefore what is termed as **culture**, which is our way of life, including the ways in which we behave relates to:

- the language we speak
- the clothes we wear
- the food we eat and whether we eat it with knives, forks and spoons
- the homes we live in
- to the things we believe about the origins of life
- what is good or bad
- or the ways in which we should be governed.

The above are all acquired from other people (this involves the process of **socialisation** into the **culture** of our society)

## Task 10

Using the above list, describe the British culture.



It is through our membership of social groups that we acquire an understanding of the ways in which behaviour is patterned and organised and of the **values**, customs, **norms** and **roles** of our society. Sociologists refer to this as **culture** — the learned, shared behaviour of members of society. Culture is a social blueprint, a guide for living. It refers to all the aspects of human behaviour that are learnt rather than genetically transmitted. The following activity shows you the importance of culture.

A **subculture** is a culture within a broader mainstream culture, with its own separate values, practices, and beliefs eg. Bikers, goths, skateboarders, scousers, yuppies, hippies etc.

## **Recommended reading list- A Level Sociology**

Titles marked with a \* are directly studied in the A-Level sociology curriculum.

\*Ain't no black in the Union Jack - Paul Gilroy

At the Existentialist Café- Sarah Bakewell

Brave new world- Aldous Huxley

Chavs- Owen Jones

Dead White Men and Other Important People: Sociology's Big Ideas- Angus Bancroft and Ralph Fevre

\*Discipline and Punish- Michel Foucault

Flowers for Algernon- Daniel Keyes

Half a Wife: The Working Family's Guide to Getting a Life Back- Gaby Hinsliff

How to be a woman - Caitlin Moran

I live Sapiens by Yuval Noah Harari

Natives: Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire- Akala

\*Policing the crisis - Stuart Hall

Poverty Safari - Darren McGarvey

Sociology of fun- Ben Fincham

The handmaid's tale- Margaret Brown (some upsetting/ adult content)

The presentation of self in everyday life- Erving Goffman

The prison doctor- Amanda Brown

1984 and The Power- Naomi Alderman

Podcasts- the sociology show <https://www.spreaker.com/show/the-sociology-show>