

Year 9 - The Road to **Year 10** Sociology



Sociology is a totally new subject to you all, so these activities are designed to introduce you to **everything** that you will do in year 10 and 11, so you know what to expect in September. The icons around the edge are links to useful websites or videos.

Year 9

What is social theory? Find out what 'Marxism', 'Functionalism' and 'Feminism' are. Watch the 'Interactionism' video on YouTube.

How do Sociologists do research? Conduct three interviews about school with three different people. Describe how you did the interviews, and what was good or bad about them.

How have families changed? Find out how family life has changed since 1900. Think about marriage, children, work and how the law has changed. Do you think these changes are good or bad?

Why are there more men than women in prison? Give three reasons why more men than women are convicted of crime.

What makes a student succeed in school? Find out what **material deprivation** and **cultural deprivation** are. Use this to explain what helps students to do well.

Is education fair? Is the education system fair? Ask at least ten people (of different ages) what they think.

Why do we need families? What do we learn at home, that we don't learn anywhere else?

How can we reduce crime? Give five different ways that we could reduce crime in the UK.

Does 'social mobility' exist? 'Social mobility' basically means poorer people being able to become richer. Explain how they might be able to do this.

What are the causes of poverty? People in the UK are poor for a lot of different reasons. Give five of them. Can you also explain why they might **stay** poor?

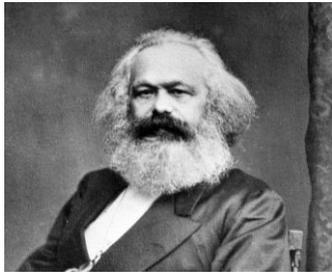
Year 10

Key questions you could be thinking about...



Theory

- What is a 'theory'?
- What is Functionalism
- What is Marxism?
- What is Interactionism?
- What is Weberianism?



Family

- What kinds of family are there?
- What are families for?
- What do different theories say about families?
- How is 'work' shared out among the family?
- How has family life changed over time?
- What is happening to marriage and divorce rates? Why?



Education

- What do different theories say about education?
- What different types of school are there?
- Why do middle class students get the best grades in school?
- What impact do teachers have on students in class?
- Why do girls get better grades than boys?
- Which ethnic groups get the best grades?



Methods

- What is an interview and how do we do them?
- What is a questionnaire and how do we do them?
- What is an observation and how do we do them?
- What are 'ethics' in sociology?

Crime

- What is crime and deviance?
- What do the different theories say about crime?
- How do we know how much crime there is?
- Why do people commit crime?
- What kinds of people commit the most crime?
- What impact does the media have on crime and deviance?

Social stratification

- What is social stratification?
- What is social class?
- Why do some people have better opportunities in life than others?
- What do people have to do to get out of poverty?
- Why do some people get into poverty?
- Which people have the most power in society? What do they do with it?



Sociology in real life; what do you think?

These boys were caught smashing up cars in Dorset. Unpick their lives by answering the questions on this page, based on what you know about people and life.

What do you think they do at the weekends?

They have branded clothes on. How do you think they got them?

What do you think their mum is like?

What do you think their dad is like?

How do you think they're getting on in school?

How do you think they get on with their friends?



Why do you think they live in a poor area of Dorset?

Are the two lads very different?

How do you think they treat their girlfriends?

What are their opinions about racism, sexism, ageism and homophobia?

What do you think their manners are like (e.g. at the dinner table)?

What do you think they're likely to do in the future?

What do you think they think about the police?

What are their houses like?