



SOCIOLOGY: BRIDGING ACTIVITY

Name:

The topics that you will be studying are:

Year 12

- Families and Households
- Education with Methods
- Research Methods

Year 13

- Beliefs in Society
- Crime and Deviance
- Theory and Methods

Textbooks are not mandatory but may support you in your private study periods and at home. If you do wish to purchase a book, feel free to come and see me and we can discuss the textbooks that are available.

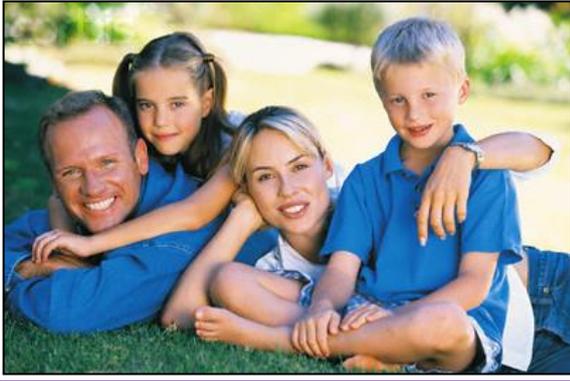
Please come prepared to your first lesson with an A4 ring binder folder, pens, pencil and highlighters. Throughout the course you will also need a calculator. It would be a good idea to also purchase plastic A4 wallets.

TASK 1 – Theories and approaches

Within your sociological studies you will be expected to discuss several sociological approaches/theories to society. You are to research functionalism, the New Right, Marxism, Feminism and Postmodernism and complete the table below:

	Key thinkers	Views of society	View of the role of institutions such as the family, education, religion and crime	Similarities and differences to other approaches/theories
Functionalism				
The New Right				
Marxism				
Feminism				
Postmodernism				

TASK 2: Families and households



Sociologists are interested in researching different aspects of family life. You are to conduct research which should address the following questions:

- Are husbands and wives today equal?
- Has the position of childhood changed in today's society?
- Are family sizes changing?
- Are family types changing?
- Are government policies/laws impacting families?

You are to interview at least five people and present your findings in a table and produce a written report.

TASK 3: Education



Statistically there are certain groups in society that achieve more highly than others in education. There are several factors that are argued to influence this such as class, ethnicity and gender. You are to complete an essay which answers the following question:

“Discuss the factors which lead to differences in educational achievement”

Please include statistics and specific examples.

TASK 4: Beliefs in Society

In contemporary society, there has been a growth in the number of different religious organisations and spiritual movements.

Please complete the following table:

KEY QUESTIONS	Churches (e.g. world main religions such as Islam, Christianity, Judaism)	Denominations (Baptists, Methodists)	Sects (Peoples Temple)	Cult (Scientology, TM Meditation)
Belief (monopoly of truth, extreme, literal, conservative) and practice (attendance, public, private)				
Impact of globalisation				
Secularisation				
Social change				
Conservative force				
Social groups (gender, class, ethnicity)				

TASK 5: Crime and deviance



In 2011 riots occurred in the UK. They started in London and then spread to other cities such as Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool. 5 people were killed and many homes and businesses were looted or burnt down.

Research the reasons for these riots; watch Youtube videos and read accounts in news articles at the time.

Create a poster on the London Riots answering the following questions:

- What were the reasons given by the government at the time for the riots?
- What view would the different theories and approaches in sociology have?
- Who was blamed for the riots?
- Lastly what do you think was the cause of the riots?