

Subject	A Level Sociology		
Context / relevance	Sociology is the study of the society in which we live. Sociology is a new subject for all of you, and so the purpose of these tasks is for you to understand and be confident in using the key concepts that all sociologists use to describe human behaviour and societies. You will also have an opportunity to see how relevant sociology is to social issues that exist in the UK today.		
Securing	Key vocabulary Learn the following key vocabulary and definitions. You will refer to all of these terms regularly throughout the course, and it is really important that you have a good understanding of them from the outset. We recommend that you make a set of flash cards or create a Quizlet and test yourself several times to help you remember them.		
	1	social institutions	The organisations or groups within society that are united behind a common purpose e.g. family, education, media.
	2	culture	The whole way of life of a society: language, beliefs, values and norms, customs
	3	norms	Social rules which define the acceptable behaviour in a society or social group, to which people are expected to conform.
	4	values	Beliefs or ideas about what is right and wrong, desirable and worth striving for in a society. They provide general guidelines for behaviour.
	5	socialisation	The lifelong process through which people learn the culture of the society in which they live.
	6	primary socialisation	The earliest and most important part of socialisation that happens within the family which includes the teaching of norms and values.
	7	secondary socialisation	The socialisation that we receive later in life from institutions such as education, media and work.
	8	social class	A group of people sharing a similar economic situation, such as occupation, income and ownership of wealth.
	9	income	The amount of money that people obtain from work, investments or from the government.
	10	wealth	The property that individuals own which could be sold and turned into cash.
	11	life chances	The chances of achieving positive outcomes and avoiding negative outcomes throughout the course of your life – such as a comfortable home and avoiding ill health.
	12	social mobility	The movement from one social class to another.
	13	ethnicity	The shared culture of a social group which gives its members a common identity
	14	minority ethnic group	A social group which shares a cultural identity which is different from that of the majority population of a society.

	15	gender	Social or cultural expectations and ideas associated with being male or female.									
Processing	<p>Read and highlight '<u>Understanding Key Concepts in Sociology.</u>'</p> <p>Use the reading to help you answer the following questions. Remember to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write in full sentences• Write on paper or on a word document• Questions asking you to identify or describe require shorter answers than questions asking you to explain, which will require a more developed answer (e.g. at least three or four sentences) <p>Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify one example of a norm that exists in British society.2. Identify one example of something that you think most members of British society value.3. Describe the difference between norms and laws.4. Identify one difference between the culture of the Cheyenne and British culture.5. Copy and complete this table: <table><tr><td></td><td>Agent(s) of socialisation include.</td><td>Examples of skills, norms or values learned:</td></tr><tr><td>Primary socialisation</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Secondary socialisation</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Explain which agent of <u>secondary</u> socialisation has had the greatest influence on your life so far.7. Describe what happened to John Ssabunnya and explain what it tells us about socialisation.8. Describe the difference between income and wealth.9. State which social class you think you belong to and explain why.10. Explain how far you agree that there is social mobility in Britain today.11. Identify two reasons why individuals from ethnic minority groups may face unequal life chances in British society.12. Identify two ways in which women are disadvantaged in British society.13. Explain how far you agree that social class remains the most significant cause of social inequality in Britain today, compared to ethnicity or gender.				Agent(s) of socialisation include.	Examples of skills, norms or values learned:	Primary socialisation			Secondary socialisation		
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Exploring	<p>Documentary - Poor Kids: Life on the Breadline</p> <p>Social class inequality and poverty are social issues which link to all aspects of the A level sociology course. In this documentary you follow the lives of three families who are living in poverty in Britain.</p> <p>As you watch the documentary, pause and make notes using the following subheadings OR complete the accompanying Documentary summary sheet. Poor Kids Life on the Breadline Child Poverty Documentary Real Stories - YouTube</p> <p>The effects of poverty on experiences of childhood:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing• Physical health and illness• Mental health and self-esteem											

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition • Social development • Friendships and relationships at school
Reviewing	<p>What interested you most about what you learned and why?</p> <p>What would you like to find out more about?</p> <p>Was there anything that you found challenging or difficult to understand?</p>