

# Year 9 GCSE Sociology Sociological Concepts revision



Learning area	Pages in booklet	Tick when complete it <i>Red Amber Green</i> your understanding
1. What do we study in sociology? Culture, norms and values revisit	Pages 2 and 3 Complete in Wk beginning 1 <sup>st</sup> June	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Socialisation Primary and secondary	Pages 4 - 5 Complete in Wk beginning 8 <sup>th</sup> June	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Agencies of Socialisation	Pages 6 - 7 Complete in Wk beginning 15 <sup>th</sup> June	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Case studies	Pages 8 - 9 Complete in Wk beginning 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. How important is socialisation ?	Page 10 Complete in Wk beginning 29 <sup>th</sup> June	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Social Control and Key Theory	Pages 11 - 14 Complete in Wk beginning 6 <sup>th</sup> July	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Sociological Theory	Pages 15-16 Complete in Wk beginning 13 <sup>th</sup> July	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Learning Session 1

What do we study in sociology? Culture, norms and values revisit



Think about it. How does the Queen embody British Culture?

**Task 1**  
Fill in the second boxes

<p>The term <b>culture</b> refers to the whole way of life of a particular society. It can involve values norms , customs and beliefs</p>	<p><b>Values</b> refer to the ideas and beliefs that are worth striving / trying for. So for example striving to the best at what you do is a value.</p>	<p><b>Norms</b> are what we consider appropriate social behaviour in certain settings. Norms are enforced by sanctions ; positive and negative.</p>	<p>There are many <b>social structures</b> parts that make up society) One example of a social structure in society is the education system.</p>	<p>Sociologists also study social processes , things that make society as it is . This is things like the why we are brought up .</p>
<p>Sum up British <b>culture</b> below :</p>	<p>Give examples of what some people may consider <b>values</b>.</p>	<p>Give examples of what are social norms in the UK .</p>	<p>Can you think of some other Social structures?</p>	<p>Can you think of any <b>social processes</b>?</p>

Task 2 : **Social issues** are things that affect communities , groups and individuals lives. What social issues have arisen due to the coronavirus? I,e the people without less money could not stock pile food so have ended up without. List your ideas below

**Task 3** : Britian V American Culture quiz. Watch this clip and list some cultural differences between countries

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

British Culture

American Culture

## Learning Session 1



[Task 1 : Watch this clip on social norms](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cLfd50BdcE)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cLfd50BdcE>

Task 2 : Think about ***Covid 19*** and its impacts. What ***social norms*** have temporarily changed due to covid 19. List your ideas below

Explain ***why social norms*** may be considered important in society. What might happen without them?

## What do we mean by socialisation?

1. **Socialisation** is the **process** through which we learn about our culture and how to fit in to our culture. It also defines how we behave (norms) and our beliefs ( values). It allows us to fit-in with those around us.

Highlight this definition above it is very important

Please think. Who socialised you and how did they do this write your ideas below . How old were you when you learned certain things i.e to say please and thank you:

There are 2 types of Socialisation

### ***Primary Socialisation***

It is the process by which children learn the cultural norms and values of society by their parents and family members.

***can you think of examples?***

### ***Secondary Socialisation***

This takes place outside the home later in childhood and continues throughout childhood. It teaches people ways to behave in different situations

***can you think of examples?***

## Nature V Nurture

Watch this first [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbBm\\_YLwowc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbBm_YLwowc)

Then watch this :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W72vC48kWyo>

Watch the clips and read the extract then think of the answer :

### Explain What makes you , you?

Do you think it was because of the way you are brought (nurture ) up or just something within (your nature)

Write a paragraph explaining whether you think it is Nature or Nurture that makes you, you

Reading to support your ideas :

### ***The Nature argument***

Supporters of the Nature argument argue that our behaviour is mostly determined by our genetic makeup which we inherit. This would support the idea that you inherit certain characteristics not that you are brought up to have them . An example is intelligence.

Many Sociologists argue ***that nurture*** is more significant as human behaviour is learned. Individuals are socialised into the culture of their family and society. What do you think? Nature or Nurture

## What are the agencies of Socialisation?

There are different ways we are socialised. The different ways we are socialised are called **Agencies of Socialisation**. Read the information carefully below to help you. Highlight whether you think it is a primary agent in one colour or a secondary agent in another. If you are not sure leave it blank

### Parents / Family

For most people, the process of socialisation begins in the family. **Family is their first source through which they commence their social communication.** It is with the aid of the older family members that he/she becomes familiar with social culture. It is through family that 'socially acceptable' ways of thinking and behaving are imparted to a child. Values such as **sharing, honesty, idealism, discipline**, etc., are also cultivated in a person through his family. Therefore, it is vital how parents treat their children, and also **how parents behave** in front of them because children will copy this behaviour and think it is the socially acceptable way to behave. .

### Peer Group

A peer group is a **group of people of approximately the same age**, sharing similar interests and probably belonging to similar backgrounds. A person may belong to several peer groups at a single point in time. For instance, peer groups of a child may include his schoolmates, his friends at the sports' club, and the children staying in his neighbourhood. Even though all these groups are different, he may mingle with them every single day. What makes a peer group an important factor in socialization is that it enables a child to engage in experiences which he/she would otherwise never experience within his/her family. Things such as competition, conflict and cooperation as well as the concepts of hierarchy can be learned through a peer group.

### School

Children spend about seven to eight hours in school. So, there is no denying the fact that school has an important and lifelong impact on their socialization process. Apart from teaching children to read and write, and initiating them in subjects such as math, languages and science (which is schools' main function), they also have a latent function of nurturing within the students, the value of teamwork, punctuality and following a set schedule. In other words, a lesson stressing on the need for discipline in doing one's day-to-day activities is pinpointed. Schools also play a major role in fostering the values of national pride and citizenship in the children.

In schools, children also learn about concepts such as gender and race, not only through their textbooks but also practically. For example, segregating the seating arrangements of boys and girls may affect their behaviour with the opposite sex thus elevating gender differences. Also, school is technically the institution wherein a child is first exposed to a hierarchical bureaucratic setup under which everything takes place within a set framework of rules and regulations. This means that a child, in order to get something done, has to follow a certain procedure and that makes this kind of setup a basic factor for making the child understand the importance of social rules and regulations.

## What are the agencies of Socialisation?

### Workplace

Workplace is another agent of socialization. Just as the children spend a significant part of day at their school, the adults spend much of their day at their workplace. At the workplace, a person meets people of different age groups and belonging to different social and cultural backgrounds. This makes him come in close contact with different thought processes, belief systems, etc. The interaction that then happens, helps a person to broaden his/her horizons in terms of social acceptance and tolerance towards the others

Apart from imbibing punctuality (e.g. target achievement) and following procedures (e.g. whether to approach the boss directly or not), a person also becomes well-versed with the importance of regularity in work and behaving mannerisms with respect to superiors as well as juniors and subordinates.

There are different ways we are socialised. The different ways we are socialised are called **Agencies of Socialisation** . Read the information carefully below to help you. Highlight whether you think it is a primary agent in one colour or a secondary agent in another . If you are not sure leave it blank

### Government

Government or state is an indirect agent of socialization. This means, though we do not come in contact with the institution directly, it does have an impact on our social life and well-being. The government sets rules and regulations (most of which often become laws), which the people of the state/country need to follow

### Media

Mass media is the strongest and the most argued indirect agent of socialization. It puts across to us, lot of ideas and mannerisms without having any kind of interpersonal communication. Despite this, it influences our lives to a great extent, as we tend to learn a lot from mass media, which include newspapers, magazines, radio, Internet, video games and of course, the most dominant of them all, television. However, research shows that most people, adults and children alike, often tend to get so carried away by the influence of media that they get confused between the notions of 'reality' and 'fiction'.

On the other hand, the amount of violence that is involved in case of the media might have an adverse effect on the people. For instance, children might behave more aggressively towards others, and this can make them 'socially unacceptable'. Nevertheless, the fact is that mass media does help in building ideologies and beliefs of people and making them so strong and deep-rooted that they stay with them throughout their lifetime.

Add an example for each to show how they affect our behaviour. This clip might help:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-RvJQxqVQc>



## ***Task 1 :***

Spend 20 minutes learning these key words off by heart.

You could :

Make a word Wall

Turn these words into pictures

Use cover / test technique

Get someone at home to test you these key words

**Norm-** Rules that define expected and appropriate behaviour.

**Value-** Beliefs and ideas we see as desirable in society

**Socialisation-** The process of how we learn norms, values and our culture.

**Culture-** A way of life, values, beliefs, religion, knowledge, skills.

**Secondary Socialisation** – Our second wave of Socialisation. The process of learning how to act in different settings and with different people.

**Agents of social control-** the groups in society that control people's behaviour.

**Primary Socialisation** – The process of early childhood learning, usually by family.

**Social Process-** The interaction between people and groups to learn socialisation.

**Social Issue-** Somethings that impacts groups and people's lives e.g. poverty

**Society-** A group of people who share a culture and a way of life.



## What happens when socialisation doesn't happen ; Feral Children

Evidence used by sociologists to support the *nurture* side of the argument are provided by the cases of feral children. Feral means wild or unsocialised. Feral Children are children who have been removed from normal human contact and have missed out of normal processes of human socialisation . There are two cases that we are going to look at

**OXANA** : Who was brought up with dogs

**GENIE** : who was brought up without any contact.

Study the two cases using the clips and then answer the following exam question. 'The case of Oxana and Genie proves family is the most vital source of Socialisation in order to become a fully functioning member of Society.'

Would Sociologists agree with this statement? why?

*Sociologists may agree that the case of Oxana and Genie proved family is the most important vital source of socialisation. One reason I think this is*

...

*Some Sociologist may disagree that family is the most vital part of socialisation as they may say that ..... Has a bigger part to play ...*

Oxana



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93HymGXC\\_wM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93HymGXC_wM)



Genie

Watch these two clips to revise the case studies and make notes on both to explain how they became feral and the effects on their short-term and long-term health.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjZolHCrC8E>

Test. Write in a definition and an example for each of these key sociological ideas

Society	Social Process	culture	Norms
Social Structure	Social issue	Values	Socialisation
Primary Socialisation	Secondary Socialisation	Agents of Socialisation	Nature V Nurture
Feral children	Oxana	Genie	Conform

Test question. Explain what Socialisation is and explain how people are socialised. Make sure you talk about the difference between Primary and Secondary Socialisation.

## What are the agents of Social Control?

Complete the following... Social Control is the process of controlling our behaviour. Socialisation is the process of learning the N\_\_\_\_\_ and V\_\_\_\_\_ of a culture to help them fit-in. When we do not conform, social control uses P\_\_\_\_\_ and N\_\_\_\_\_ sanctions. There are two types of social control, F\_\_\_\_\_ and I\_\_\_\_\_. The difference is if controlling our behaviour is their main job.

*Fill in the table below showing your understanding of agents of social control.*

Agent	Formal or Informal?	Example of a positive sanction	Example of a negative sanction
Family			
Education			
Peers			
Media			
Police			
Court			
Prison			

- Karl Marx's ideas inspired the Marxist perspective, or Marxism. He wrote at an early stage in the development of capitalism and wanted to explain the social changes taking place at that time.
- Marx argued that it is important to examine how we produce things within a society, this is called the mode of production.
- There are two main social classes, the bourgeoisie are the ruling class, who own property and business and the proletariat who are the workers. The proletariat are exploited by the bourgeoisie to increase profit. The gap between the two gradually increases.
- Marx argued that a class struggle between the two social classes was inevitable and would lead to social change. Eventually the proletariat gain class consciousness where they realise they have been exploited and work together to overthrow the ruling class leading to a period of revolution and a move to communism with a classless society.
- This is a conflict perspective

### Criticisms of Marx:

Marx only looks at economic inequality. Weber focuses on the importance of status.

Marx ignores gender and ethnicity

Critics argue that very few revolutions have taken place since the start of capitalism.

**How would you explain the difference between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat?**

- A key functionalist
- Functionalists see society as a puzzle made up of lots of pieces which fit together and perform important functions/jobs for society, they compare the agents of society to organs within the human body (organic analogy) e.g. the family is known as the heart.
- A consensus approach (focuses on the positive not negative features of society).
- Durkheim focuses on the positive role of aspects of society e.g. he argues that punishing criminals brings people together. He reminds us of the importance of shared values, this is called social cohesion.

### Criticisms of Durkheim:

Overlooks the negative and harmful aspects of things like crime, especially for the victims.

Some argue functionalist ideas are outdated.

*Can you identify examples of Social Cohesion which we have seen as a result of the COVID-19 virus? How have communities come together?*

## The key ideas of Max Weber

- Both Marx and Weber identify class as something identified by money (economy)
- Weber agrees that the divide between ownership and non-ownership is important. However he also thinks that class divisions are based on status, those with qualifications which lead to professional jobs have more status and respect than others e.g. judges and doctors.
- Status does not always match income, some people earn a lot of money but do not have high status whereas others have a lot of status but not high wages.
- An individual or group exercises power when they get what they want despite opposition.
- Like Marx, Weber is criticised for not focusing on gender and ethnicity as types of inequality.

Identify one similarity between Marx's and Weber's views on social class.  
Identify one difference between Functionalist and Marxist perspectives.

# Interactionalism

## Learning Session 7

WHETHER YOU  
THINK YOU CAN,  
OR THINK YOU CAN'T,  
YOU'RE RIGHT.

(HENRY FORD)

- <https://sites.google.com/site/7arosenthal/>
- Read the summary of Rosenthal's study in 1963 and the video on the overview of the Rosenthal experiment. Explain how this shows an example of labelling causing a self-fulfilling prophecy.

# Feminism

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=niuQFoggABM>
- What do radical feminists want?
- What does patriarchy mean?



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-44779292>

Look at the salaries of the top tv stars at the BBC, why do you think there is a gap between the pay of men and women? Can you remember what this gap preventing women from being paid the same as men is called?

# Sociology and COVID-19

- Answer the following: How would Sociologists cover the topic of COVID-19? How would different sociologists feel about government policy? How has the media covered the virus? How has it affected communities?
- You could include the closure of schools, the different elements of lockdown, the daily government briefings, Nightingale hospitals, the shortage of PPE, the process of furloughing workers, the weekly clap for the NHS, concern for the elderly in care homes.
- Think about the perspectives of Marxists/Feminists and Functionalists.