

AS-Level Sociology

Tudor Grange Academy



Revision Booklet 1

This booklet will aid you in your revision for your AS Sociology exam for paper 2.

If you take it seriously and treat it as revision, you will do well in your exam. If you rush through it just for the sake of handing it in, you won't really learn anything.

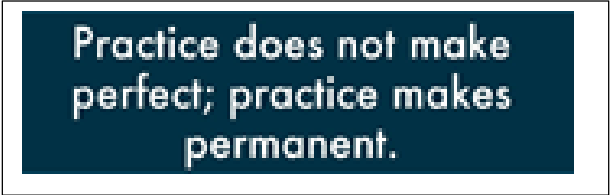


It was only seven weeks ago that you were really excited to be starting your A-Levels. How's that been working out for you?

Hand in date:

**You are to hand in a COMPLETED version of this booklet WB
9/11/15**

2 markers (AS Sociology)
Agents of Socialisation
(Complete the questions below)



Define the term 'norms':

Define the term 'values':

Define the term primary socialisation (2 marks)

Define the term secondary socialisation (2 marks)

Using one example, briefly explain the term resocialisation (2 marks)

What are the SIX agents of socialisation?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)
- 6)

2 markers (AS Sociology)
Agents of Socialisation
(Complete the questions below)

Practice does not make
perfect; practice makes
permanent.

Define the term 'norms':

Socially accepted forms of behaviour.

Define the term 'values':

Beliefs or principles in society that underpin norms.

Define the term primary socialisation (2 marks)

How individuals are taught norms and values from birth to aged 5.

Define the term secondary socialisation (2 marks)

How individuals are taught norms and values after the age of five.

Using one example, briefly explain the term resocialisation (2 marks)

How individuals must re-learn norms and values to adapt to a new social setting. For example, a prisoner will have to wear the clothes of a prisoner and live according to prison life. These norms and values are different to the ones in mainstream society.

What are the SIX agents of socialisation?

Family, Education, Media, Peer groups, Religion, Workplace,

Culture

(you may also gets asked 2 markers on the different types of culture)



Define 'pop culture' (2 marks)

Define 'mass culture' (2 marks)

What is the difference between 'pop culture' and 'mass culture'?

Define 'subculture' (2 marks)

Define 'folk culture' (2mark)

Mr. Arif thinks this might come up in the May paper



Define 'high culture' (2 marks)

How was that? Fun? Now do it again! Why? →

Practice does not make perfect; practice makes permanent.

Define 'pop culture' (2 marks)

Define 'mass culture' (2 marks)

What is the difference between 'pop culture' and 'mass culture'?

What are the names of the two MARXIST theorists that criticise pop culture?

Define 'subculture' (2 marks)

Define 'folk culture' (2mark)

Define 'high culture' (2 marks)

Here are the answers:

Popular culture = Refers to the cultural products and tastes that are fashionable/trending and known to the majority of society.

Mass culture = Refers to the cultural products and tastes that are fashionable/trending and known to the majority of society (the masses).

Marxists use the term mass culture to highlight the idea that pop culture is used to control the proletariat. Marxist thinkers such as Adorno and Marcuse believe this.

Subculture = A subculture is a culture enjoyed by a small group in society. In this sense it is a minority part of majority culture. Subcultures have distinct norms and values which make them a sub-section of society.

Folk Culture

The traditional way of life of local communities that are rooted in local customs, beliefs and practices.

High culture refers to the cultural products and tastes of the upper classes in society: Usually those with an ASCRIBED STATUS.

Now you have checked the answers.

Do it again! Why?



Practice does not make perfect; practice makes permanent.

Define 'pop culture' (2 marks)

Define 'mass culture' (2 marks)

What is the difference between 'pop culture' and 'mass culture'?

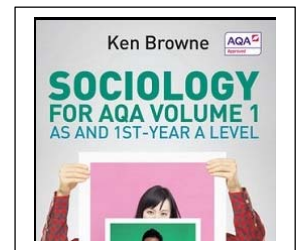
What are the names of the two MARXIST theorists that criticise pop culture?

Define 'subculture' (2 marks)

Define 'folk culture' (2mark)

Define 'high culture' (2 marks)

Using the textbook: You now have a textbook for AS sociology.



How to use the textbook:

- 1) Reading. Reading is when your eyes look at the page and the letters and words make sense to you as sentences, and then as ideas. Don't do that thing when you read a page and then realise you don't have a clue what you've just read. If this keeps happening, you're taking too much information in at once. Read it in smaller chunks.
- 2) You only need chapters 1-4 (ignore chapters 5-7 completely. Seriously. Don't even look at them)
- 3) All of the theories are on pages 12-21 (for the moment, ignore structuration, and New Right. You do not need these for paper 2)
- 4) The extra detail in the textbook should extend your understandings of classwork. Of course, if you don't understand something, you should always ask.
- 5) As the textbook is quite detailed, it will contain some sociological studies we have not looked at in class. This shouldn't worry you. What do you do about these? Well you have two key choices: 1) ignore studies we haven't looked at in class because your teacher has taught you more than enough to get an A grade. 2) Look at these studies and panic thinking that you have to know all of them to get an A. One of these choices is correct, the other isn't.
- 6) Each section usually has a bunch of activities at the end. Idk. Do them if you like? But since we do activities in class, I'd just use the book for revision/exam questions.
- 7) Importantly, most sections have EXAM STYLE QUESTIONS. **These are definitely worth your time.** How would you know what grade you've got? You could type up the answers instead of writing them down, EMAIL/SCAN THEM TO YOUR TEACHER AND YOUR TEACHER WILL GIVE YOU A GRADE WITHIN 3 WORKING DAYS.

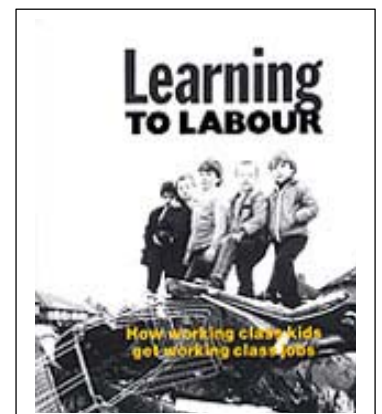
Gender Identity

USING YOUR WORKSHEETS. IN AS MUCH DETAIL AS POSSIBLE:

Explain Oakley's 1972 study entitled 'Sex, Gender and Society'
(include the difference between sex and gender in your answer)



Explain Willis' 1977 study of 'the lads' (use the worksheet and page 218 to help you)



Explain Jackson's 2006 study 'Lads and Ladettes in Schools'



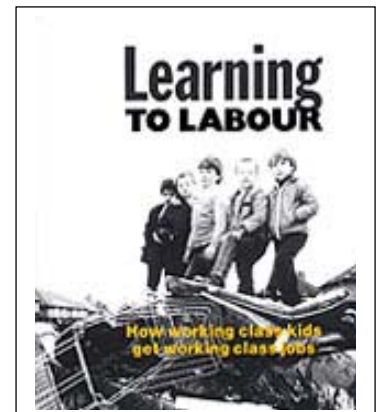
Gender Identity

NOW TRY AGAIN, WITHOUT USING YOUR WORKSHEET. TRY AND WRITE YOUR IDEAS FROM MEMORY!

Explain Oakley's 1972 study entitled 'Sex, Gender and Society' (include the difference between sex and gender in your answer)



Explain Willis' 1977 study of 'the lads' (use the worksheet and page 218 to help you)

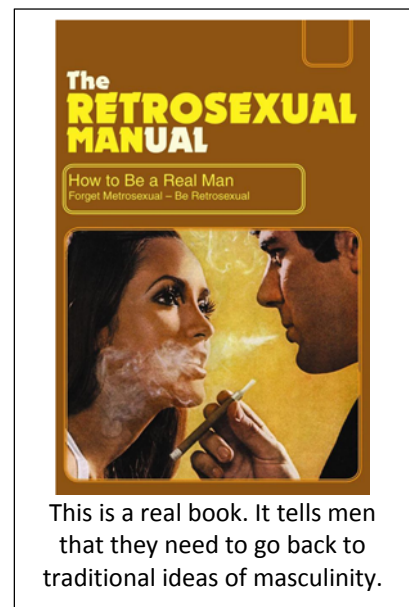


Explain Jackson's 2006 study 'Lads and Ladettes in Schools'



Using page 222-223 – Explain:

1) How male identities are changing in contemporary society:



Explain what the 'crisis of masculinity is' (page 223)

Ethnic Identity

Define 'ethnic identity' (use your worksheet):

Define 'diaspora'

Summarise Jacobson's (1998) study below:



Summarise Sewell's (1996) study entitled 'Black Masculinities' below:



Summarise Fanon's book entitled 'black skin, white masks' below:

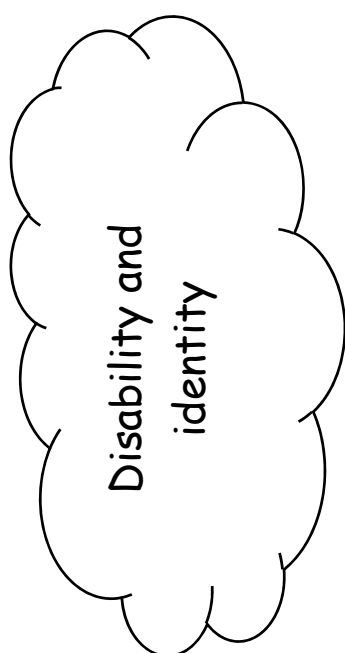
Now read through pages 229-233 & page 237 on ethnic and British identities!

Disability and Identity

We have not studied this in class, but I want you to complete some pre-learning on this topic ready for the first week back.

Task: COMPLETE THE MINDMAP BELOW ENTITLED 'DISABILITY AND IDENTITY' (Use page 238 ONLY)

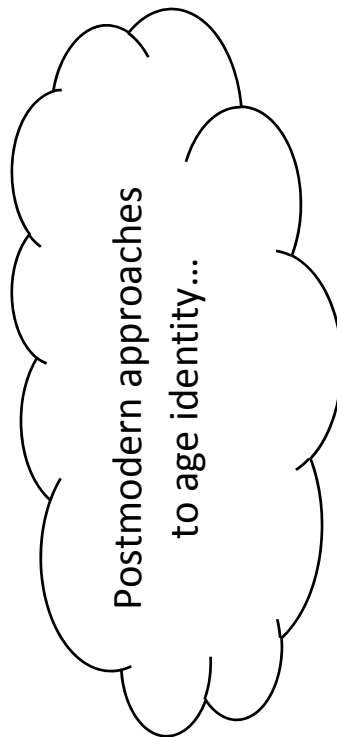
(I am going to be checking this to see that you've actually bothered to revise rather than just write random words down)



Age and Identity

(Some more pre-learning)

READ THROUGH Pages 240-246. Complete the mindmap and question below:



Define 'ageism' (2 marks)

Sociological Theory:

For your 20marker you will need to understand
And criticise theory.

Remember: Think of it like writing an imaginary debate between different sociological theories...



Task:

Learn all of the theories and their key criticisms IN DETAIL!

Some tips to help you revise theory:

- Create revision cards (which means you will have to buy revision cards at some point)
- Create mindmaps. Try and interconnect your mindmaps so that you can connect a criticism of a theory to the theory it is criticising. Or, just mindmaps.
- Posters. Create a poster on each theory and include criticisms of the theory on it.

Functionalism (Read through all of your notes on functionalism)

Can you **explain** ALL of the key ideas below?



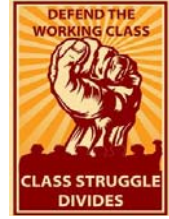
- Structuralist theory (interconnected/ society moulds individual)
- Value consensus (Agreement on values)
- Social integration (all of us as individuals work together to keep society running as a social whole) – Key Theorist: Emile Durkheim
- Organic analogy (Society is like the human body)
- All of the agents of socialisation work together to socialise the individual into a value consensus
- The value consensus is passed on through generations by the family

Criticising Functionalism Can you **explain** ALL of the key ideas below?

- Functionalism over-emphasises the influence of society over the individual. Individuals have choices. Humans can choose to follow the norms and values of society or to go against them. Also, social structure cannot exist without individuals. It is possible to argue that it is individuals that create social structures, not the other way around.
- Functionalist theory does not explain the existence of criminal/intolerant behaviour. If society was really harmonious and we were all working together for a common good, then there should, in theory, be no crime/ intolerance.
- How can functionalists be sure everyone is happy? Functionalists make a judgement that people are living harmonious lives, but they have no proof that people enjoy following the present norms and values.
- Marxists say that society is in conflict not in consensus.
- Feminists say that society is in conflict not in consensus.
- Interactionists say that individuals mould society, not the other way around.

You need to be able to explain Marxism and criticise it!

Marxism



- **Structuralist theory** (interconnected/pyramid/ society moulds individual)
- **Conflict** theory (between the bourgeoisies and proletariat)
- The relationship between the bourgeoisies and proletariat is one of conflict and **exploitation** (the bourgeoisies exploit and control the proletariat)
- **Criticises capitalism** – An economic system where you can own the forces of production (businesses etc.) and private property
- Believe in the proletariat **revolution**
- **Class consciousness/ false consciousness**
- **Marcuse and Adorno** – Media is controlled by the bourgeoisies to promote a bourgeois ideology (way of thinking)
- Bourgeoisies also **control culture**

Criticising Marxism

- Marxists say there are only two classes in society - **But what about the middle classes?**
There is a criticism of Marxism that states that class is highly stratified (organised into many different groups) and that **Marx oversimplifies the relationships between classes.**
- Marxists say that you cannot move out of your class /**Social mobility – the ability to move up/down classes.**
- Marxists **ignore other types of inequality** such as gender and racial inequalities.
- Marxism often sounds like a conspiracy theory and **doesn't offer proof when it says statements like 'the media is controlled by the ruling class to protect ruling class interests'.**
- The bourgeoisies and the proletariat are **Marxist social constructions (only exist in the mind of a Marxist)**
- Who says that the opera is more high class than going to a pub? It is a social construction. **Marxism has an outdated view of culture.**
- **Feminists** – The key relationship in society is the exploitation of women by men through patriarchy, not class conflict.
- **Functionalists** – There is a value consensus in society.
- **Interactionists** – Society does NOT mould the individual.
- **Postmodernism** – Consumerism allows individuals to create their own identity /Metanarrative is dead.

You need to be able to explain feminism and criticise it!

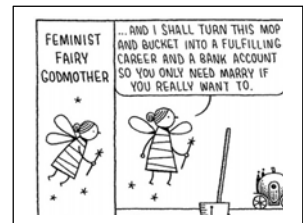
(Read through your notes on feminism/p.18-19 for more detail)



Feminism

- **Structuralist** theory (interconnected/ society moulds individual)
- **Conflict** theory (between males and female)
- The relationship between the males and females is one of **conflict and exploitation (PATRIARCHY)**
- Society is built upon a **patriarchal system and worldview. All of the agents of socialisation present a patriarchal worldview.**
- **Liberal Feminists** - Believe in working within the law to bring about change in legislation
- **Marxists Feminists** - Believe in the revolution of the proletariat as liberating for women.
- **Radical Feminists**- Believe the patriarchal worldview needs to be deconstructed (heavily criticised and dismantled) and society requires a radical shift to give women equality that may need radical action outside the law.
- **Mulvey** – Women are presented in the media through the ‘male gaze’

Criticising Feminism



- Feminists assume that women are like automatons (robots) whose behaviour is controlled by men. **What about personal choice? Each individual woman makes an individual choice to behave the way she does.** Women are not controlled by social structures, but are in charge of the presentation of their own selves. **(interactionist)**
- Feminists ignore the fact that around the world there are **millions of men who are powerless and living in desperate conditions.** There are many **men who are unemployed and in poverty.** There are also **men/boys who are abused by women.** How does patriarchy explain this?
- **Functionalists criticise feminism** by saying that women are biologically determined to be maternal and caring, therefore it is their role to be primary carers of children in society. This is not a social construction, but a biological certainty. **This forms a consensus** in society.
- **Marxists** – Say radical feminists and liberal feminists **ignore class conflict.**
- **Postmodernists** – Women are free to create their own identities through **consumerism.** E.g. Plastic surgery.
- A **postmodernist would say the Bruce Jenner** sex-change story shows that you can be who you want to be and today, nobody is controlled by patriarchal norms/values.

Postmodernism

(Use your worksheets and the textbook p.20 to help you – You must be able to explain all of the ideas below and criticise them)

- **POST-Structuralist** theory (society has changed)
- In postmodernity: **We create our own meaning AND IDENTITY!**
- In postmodernity: **Science and technology** doesn't have all the answers.
- In postmodernity: **There is no such thing as one Truth (or one reality) – there are multiple truths (and multiple realities).** The **metanarrative** is dead.
- For post-modernists, the key way in which we construct our own identities, is through **consumerism** (buying products).
- **Globalisation** has created a worldwide 'global culture' based on the norms and values of consumerism.



Criticising Postmodernism

- We can't create our own identity. **What about primary socialisation?** (Oakley)
- Metanarratives (grand theories) are not really in decline. **In many parts of the world, structural factors are still very important in creating identities.** For example/ Islam has a structural influence and moulds Muslim norms and values around the world.
- Postmodernism is a metanarrative itself. The idea that human society has gone through many changes to get to a consumer society is a grand theory! **So postmodernism is a contradiction.**
- Marxists say that postmodernists are living in a fantasy world. For a Marxist, postmodernists are hiding the reality that the proletariat are being exploited by the bourgeoisies. **For a Marxist you cannot create your own identity.**
- Feminists say that **women will not be able to freely create identity until patriarchy is destroyed.**
- Criticising consumerism – **We are not creating our own identities in postmodern society but we are conforming to what brands and products want us to be like.**
- Bauman – In a globalised world we **treat human being like consumer products.**

Interactionism (you must be able to explain it and criticise it)

Mr. Arif thinks this might come up in the May exam.



- **Non structuralist** (individuals mould society/ society not interconnected)
- Small-scale **interactions** make up who we are and how society works
- It is the **interpretation of these interactions from each individual** that makes up their norms and values.
- **We choose** to follow norms and values.
- Goffman: **Dramaturgy** – The world is a stage
- Goffman: **Symbolic interactionism** – Our identity is based on the use of symbols to present an image of who we are.

Criticising Interactionism (use your notes to explore these ideas in more detail)

- We do not have control over the family we are born into, wealth we grow up with, religion we're born into. **These STRUCTURAL (large-scale) factors make us who we are**, away from any individual interpretation, particularly during primary socialisation, and this often stays with us.
- Criticising Goffman: **You cannot play just ANY** role in society. A poor person cannot play the role of a wealthy landowner as **they do not have access to the symbols and signs of the wealthy**.
- If you focus on small scale interactions **you are ignorant of the political and historical context** that affects them. For example a Nazi soldier killing a Jew in a concentration camp: This has to be explained with reference to Nazi society as a whole in the 1940s, not the individual interaction between the soldier and the Jewish victim.
- **Social institutions such as the government, or the law courts have a responsibility to protect everyone**. This is an example of a social structure overcoming dangerous identities (such as criminals).
- **Functionalist**: A social structure and **VALUE CONSENSUS that controls us** must exist. This is why we have laws that control us and the police and courts that enforce this structure and consensus. Criminal identities are locked up as they have gone against the value consensus.
- **Marxism/Feminism**: If the individual creates society: Why would individuals in society create a world that exploits them?

If you have any questions about ANYTHING email me at:

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