

Sociology Summer Assignment

Task: conduct your own research

Part 1: preparation

Sociology is concerned with the relationship between the individual and society. As part of your course you are going to study the Sociology of Education. For most of you, Sociology will be a new subject but you can all draw upon your own unique individual experiences.

*For your summer homework we would like you to reflect on your own **education** experiences. Below is a list of questions to answer. You may choose to complete the project in continuous prose or answer each question individually. Please write in full sentences and try to give as much detail as you can.*

What was your favourite lesson at school and why?

What was your least favourite lesson and why?

What makes a good teacher in your opinion?

Do you think you have ever been treated unfairly at school? If so, explain how.

If you had the power to add extra lessons, what do you think should also be taught to students today?

What else have you learnt by going to school apart from subject knowledge?

Part 2: research

*Sociology also involves asking questions. We would like you, as a beginner sociologist, **to interview** a friend or family member from an older generation to yourself e.g. friend of the family parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle etc. and **compare their experiences to your own**. The questions below are designed to help you with the interview. You need to write up the interview as part of the summer assignment. Briefly introduce the person you interviewed e.g. my Grandfather, but you do not need to name them.*

What kind of school did they attend?

How long did they go to school for?

What qualifications did they gain?

Were they educated in this country or elsewhere?

What forms of discipline did they have at school?

What are their best memories of school?

What are their worst memories?

How do they think education has changed since they were at school?

Good luck, The Sociology Department

Preparation for your first lesson

Please bring the following equipment to your first lesson:

A lever arch or ringed folder

Dividers

A4 lined paper

Highlighters

At least three different coloured pens

