

Sociology Summer Assignment

You are **all** to complete task 1 and 2. Task 3 is optional.

You will hand this into your teacher on your first lesson. If you complete this on a computer, please print it off before your lesson (you are all provided with printing credit so you can print at college.)

Task 1: Self-Reflection

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. Please write in full sentences and try to give as much detail as you can by providing examples or explaining how and/or why.*

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Were you ever in a class / school that was being inspected by Ofsted? Did behaviour in the class or school change during this time?
- ❖ 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?

Task 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?

Task 3: Optional

Write a review of the following article (using the link below) - your review should include the following:

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2021/jan/17/why-are-increasing-numbers-of-women-choosing-to-be-single>

1. Date of article; author of article; source of article
2. A brief summary of the article - should be between 50 and 100 words.
3. What you think about and the subject matter / issues raised by the article. Are there certain points that you agree/ disagree with, if so why? Do you think that there is any truth to this article? You could if you wanted to, discuss the article with someone at home to really develop your understanding of this.

If there are words that you do not understand, research their meaning or ask someone at home to explain it. Do not worry if there are parts that you find hard to read, you will get used to reading articles like this.

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