

A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY	
2 Years: 3 Exam papers	AQA

<b>Paper 1:</b> Education & Methods in Context	<b>Paper 2:</b> Culture & Identity; Media	<b>Paper 3:</b> Crime & Deviance and Theory
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**An Introduction to Sociology**

Sociology is the study of human social life. There are many different aspects of Sociology to address, so you must be curious and attentive to looking at the world in a different way! There is usually another way of looking at things – and that is what we do as sociologists. We take normal, taken-for-granted life and turn it upside down, looking for meanings. And very often we end up seeing things very differently. Turn this sheet upside down – it’s a bird, right? Or is it a cat?



To prepare you for the kind of learning and topics we cover in Year 12 and Year 13, we would like you to showcase your studying habits – your organisation, your research skills, and your ability to know and understand details.

Therefore, please complete all sections of Task 1, then for Task 2, choose between Option A or Option B. All work should be completed on file paper, with your name on, this front cover attached, and handed in to your tutor on the first day of term. If you’d like to do both Options, by all means, do so!

**Task 1**

a) Key Word Glossary: Find the *sociological* meaning of the following key terms:

culture	socialisation	meritocracy	hidden curriculum
folk culture	social norms	deviance	anomie

b) Read the paragraph below, then answer the questions in full prose:

*Feral Children*

*Feral or “wild” children are those who, for whatever reason, are not brought up entirely, or at all, by humans. One example is the case of Oxana Malaya. She was born in 1983 and at the age of 8 she was found in the Ukraine living in a kennel at the back of her house and spending her time with wild dogs. Although she had been raised by her parents until she was 3, the parents were alcoholics who were incapable of looking after her. She, therefore, moved into the kennel and started associating with the wild dogs which roamed the streets rather than with humans. As a result, she had developed several dog-like habits such as growling, sniffing her food and crouching like a dog. Her sense of smell and her sight were very acute. When she was found, Oxana could not talk, and she ran around on all fours. She was taken to live in a home for the mentally disabled and only lost her dog-like habits slowly. Even at 23, she would still bark occasionally, though by this time she had learnt to count (though not to add up) and she could speak, though with little or no tone or inflection in her voice. She continued to have learning difficulties but found work outside the home milking cows.*

You might also like to watch this video, and make additional notes to help with your responses:

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

1. Who is Oxana Malaya and what happened to her? Why is she considered to be a feral child?
2. Describe the ways in which Oxana Malaya behaved differently to most 8-year-olds when she was found.
3. What skills do you think she would have that other 8-year-old children would not have and vice versa?
4. Why do you think she continued to have some learning difficulties?
5. How important is nurture (socialisation) for human beings and society? Is this more important than nature? Explain your answer.
6. Can you find any other cases of feral children (extreme neglect). What has happened to these children? Can they ever live a “normal” life in society? Why/why not?
7. What do these cases tell us about the nature of society and the causes of human behaviour?

## Ripley St Thomas Year 11 6<sup>TH</sup> Form Bridging Unit

### A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY

2 Years: 3 Exam papers

AQA

**Paper 1:**

**Education & Methods in Context**

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**Paper 3:**

**Crime & Deviance and Theory**

### Task 2: Please choose which task you would like to complete

#### Option A

Human behaviour is largely learned through a process called **socialisation**. Therefore what is termed as **culture**, which is our way of life, including the ways in which we behave relates to: - The language we speak - The clothes we wear - The food we eat and whether we eat it with knives, forks and spoons - The homes we live in - To the things we believe about the origins of life - What is good or bad? - Or the ways in which we should be governed.

Culture is a social blueprint, a guide for living. It refers to all the aspects of human behaviour that are learnt rather than genetically transmitted.

Task:

Research two different cultural groups of people and consider specific attributes of their norms and values.

- Here are some suggested cultural groups:
  - Chambri (Tchambuli)
  - Ik tribe
  - Nyishi
  - Hijra
- Consider these aspects:
  - Gender roles
  - Traditions
  - Beliefs and religion
  - General living
- Now answer this question: how do we learn culture and behaviours?

#### Option B

Get into the habit of checking out the news headlines every day – become socially and politically aware! Take note of examples of inequality, social research findings, major social and political events that arise.

Check or have notifications/ pop-ups for:

- BBC news page every day - [www.bbc.co.uk/news](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news)
- Newspapers - The Guardian – On Tuesday there is a useful 'Education' supplement, and on Wednesday there is a useful 'Society' supplement; The Independent; The Times; The Observer; The Telegraph; The Financial Times.

Task:

Find some news stories that you think have sociological relevance for Education and Crime & Deviance

- Specifically, read about **TWO** contrasting news stories that are about **Education and schooling** – write a summary about the news article, and how they present events and people from different viewpoints
- Specifically, read about **TWO** contrasting news stories that are about **Crime** – write a summary about the news article, and how they present events and people from different viewpoints
- Now answer this question: How can the way a news article is written influence the way we (the reader, the listener, the public) view the world?

### Self reflection

*This is an opportunity for you to explain why you have chosen A Level Sociology as one of your option subjects. This will also give me an indicator about your interests, and what you are looking forward to studying.*

Answer the following questions;

- Why have you chosen sociology? (be honest- some students pick sociology because it is something new- tell me what you are looking forward to doing in the lessons)
- What do you think sociology is about?
- How do you think sociology will help you in the future?