

Post-16 Transition Support

A Level Sociology

Transition Project

In preparation for your course, you should consider completing the following tasks so that you become more familiar with using a range of current resources and developing your ability to work creatively and independently. These tasks will enable you to create connections between sociological theories and methods and what is happening in contemporary society.

Knowledge Topics – Developing understanding of sociological theories

Task 1:

Read the following summaries of these three key sociologists on the Tutor 2 U website. Then create one of the following to illustrate their key ideas about how society works, either:

A storyboard or cartoon, or a poster or presentation:

- i) Karl Marx <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/classic-texts-karl-marx-selected-writings-1857-1867>
- ii) Emile Durkheim <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/classic-texts-emile-durkheim-moral-education-1925>
- iii) Sylvia Walby <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/classic-texts-sylvia-walby-theorising-patriarchy-1990>

Knowledge Topics – Developing understanding of sociological methods

Task 2:

Watch the following you tube clip and answer the questions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwhK-iEyXYA>

- i) What is research in sociology and why is it important?
- ii) Describe four research methods that sociologists might use.

Knowledge Topics – Developing understanding of contemporary society

Task 3:

Keep up to date with daily news (some websites suggested below). What do you think has led to these events? What will be a consequence of them? Discuss your thoughts with adults and peers.

<https://news.sky.com/uk>

<https://www.channel4.com/news/>



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<https://www.theguardian.com/uk>

Suggested Reading or Viewing

i) Watch Educating Rita on youtube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GnKp7geT6-I&list=PL-QNaq2AJGI-SBLoJ-Pf1PbtE_2l1ygA

Write a sociological review of the film, commenting on what it tells us about social class, gender roles and education. What did you think of the key characters, Rita, Frank and Rita's husband Denny? How do their social backgrounds influence their behaviour?

ii) Read the following article on "The Lost Boys"

<https://www.newstatesman.com/politics/education/2016/09/lost-boys-how-white-working-class-got-left-behind>

Create a table of all the reasons why white working class boys are failing at school. One column should be headed "factors inside of school" (e.g. interactions with the teachers, peer group) and the other "factors outside the school" (e.g. poverty at home, wider community).