

A Level Sociology Transition work



This research-based project is designed to give you an ideal grounding for A-level study. Research and complete the tasks to give you a good idea of what to expect on a Sociology course.

Present the tasks in any format you like – this could be a PowerPoint, posters, a leaflet, or as Cornell Notes. A template for Cornell Notes is attached to the end of this pack

This work will need to be completed prior to you commencing the course in September

The AQA Course

A level Year 1

Topics:

Families and Households
Education
Research methods



A Level Year 2

Topics:

Beliefs
Crime
Theory and
Methods



100% Exam (3 x 2 hour papers), 0% Coursework

Task 1, Topic: Families and Households: Socialisation



Socialisation is how we learn our culture, including language, beliefs and many behaviours.

Sociologists are interested in the role that people play in helping socialise children.



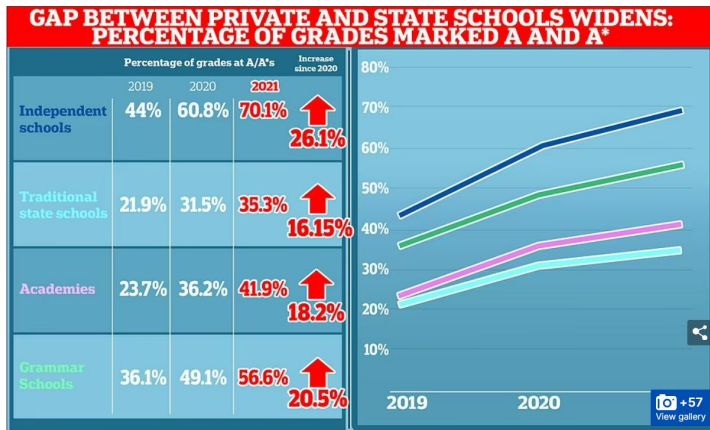
Most Sociologists think that upbringing (nurture) plays a key role in socialising children into different cultures

Feral children are children who spend time growing up without any human contact.

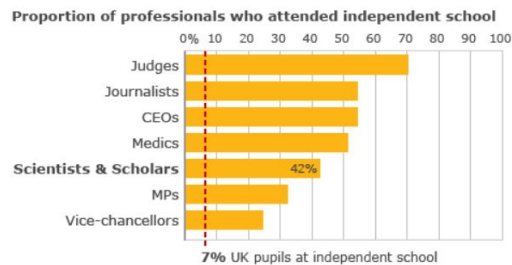
Your tasks are:

- 1) Investigate at least 3 cases of 'feral children'. Youtube has some good documentaries of these to help your research.
- 2) Produce a summary of the 3 cases.
- 3) What do these cases tell us about the importance of early socialisation?
- 4) Were your cases able to learn normal human behaviour once they had been discovered? If not then why do you think this is?

Task 2, Topic Education: VAT on independent school fees dabate



[The debate: Would Labour's plan to tax private school fees work? - BBC News](#)



Source: The Sutton Trust 2006-2009

Your tasks are:

- To research both sides of the debate. Watch these videos and read the articles on the issue and read the articles linked above. And identify the main arguments and evidence for both isdes of the issue.

[House of Commons Westminster Hall debate Independent school fees and VAT - 21/02/2024](#)

[Should UK private schools pay VAT tax? Sky News debate with teacher Bobby Seagull. 2 July 2024](#)

[The schools debate is asking all the wrong questions](#)

- What position does each of the other political parties (conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat, Independence Party, SNP) take on this issue? You will need to research this and find the details. It could be best to record this as a comparison table.

- What do you think?

- Should VAT be applied to independent school fees ?
- Should private schools be abolished ? Explain your reasoning in detail.

Task 3, Topic: Crime: What caused the London Riots?



In 2011 riots occurred in the UK. They started in London and then spread to other cities such as Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool.

5 people were killed and many homes and businesses were looted or burnt down.

Your tasks are

- 1) Research the London riots, produce a summary of the events, how long they lasted and how the disorder spread.
- 2) Research the reasons for these riots; watch Youtube videos and read accounts in news articles at the time. Give reasons for the riots from different perspectives, for example, what did the rioters say – is there any reason to disbelieve their account? What did people from local communities (where the rioting happened) say were the causes, what did the government say were the reasons? State problems/strengths of these reasons as you discuss them.
- 3) In your own personal opinion, what was the main reason why people were rioting? Give reasons for your answer.

