**Sociology summer work**

**Paper 1 Education:**

1. Make an analysis of this summers’ GCSE and A level results:

* Refer to newspaper reports. Include reports from 2 tabloid newspapers and 2 broadsheets for each set of results.
* What were the headlines? Summarise the main points made by each report.
* Who were the sources quoted in the articles and what did they comment on?
* Organise the material you have referred to into fact and commentary.
* Expand your analysis by searching the internet for references to the educational experiences/ attainment of males/females, working class/middle class students and students from an ethnic minority background.
* Refer to 2 sources for class, gender and ethnicity and outline their content.

**Statistics on educational achievement are collected by class, gender and ethnicity; they allow for comparison of different groups and to monitor trends over time.**

1. Using the report and tables produced for the Department for Education:

* What were the 3 most popular subjects at A level for males? How many entries did they have for males? How many entries were made for the same subjects for females?
* What were the 3 most popular subjects at A level for females? How many entries did they have for females? How many entries were made for the same subjects for males?
* Who were most successful at A level, males or females?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/559505/SFR49_2016__A_level_and_other16-18_results_in_England_SFR_provisional.pdf>

* Using the report produced on GCSE performance, outline differences in attainment in gender, ethnicity and class.

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-gcses-key-stage-4#attainment-by-pupil-characteristics>

**Researchers and theorists have attempted to explain the experience of different groups in education through factors that originate in the home and/or those that exist in school.**

* Identify and explain factors that you think have contributed to your educational attainment and any that you believe to have been barriers to success.
* Define ‘cultural capital’.
* Outline the ideas of Basil Bernstein (1975) on language and how these operate in education.
* Explain what is meant by the ‘hidden curriculum’.
* What is meant by ‘self-fulfilling prophecy’? How does this concept apply to education?
* Outline the work done by Paul Willis(1977) in relationship to school subcultures in ‘Learning to Labour’