

Sociology bridging work

Previously there a booklet in the form of a powerpoint set on the Sociological perspectives, the perspectives are an integral part of Sociology so I do recommend you get to know the perspectives. If you have done some work on the perspectives the tasks on this page are to do with the two topics you will study in year 12; Family and Education.

Different forms of the family and marriage

Even though the family is found in nearly every society, it can take many different forms. Marriage and family life in earlier times in Britain and today in many other societies, can be organised in quite different ways from family life in modern Britain. Sociologists use a number of different terms to describe the wide varieties of marriage and household type.

Task 1:

Complete the table below to find out more about these family types.

Forms of:	Description
Marriage	
Monogamy	
Serial monogamy	
Arranged marriage	
Civil partnership	
Polygamy	
Polygyny	
Polyandry	
Family and household structure	
Household	
Nuclear family	
Extended family	

Beanpole family	
Patriarchal family	
Matriarchal family	
Symmetrical family	
Reconstituted family or stepfamily or blended family	
Lone parent family	
Same-sex family	
Single person household	
Cohabitation	
Living Apart Together	

Task 2:

Explain what is meant by the 'expressive role' in the family (2 marks)

Explain what is meant by the 'instrumental role' in the family (2 marks)

Explain two characteristics of the 'cereal packet family' (4 marks)

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Task 3

Read the article on the underachievement of white boys in education and answer the following questions:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-27904204>

1. To what extent does poverty lead to underachievement according to the article?
2. What is suggested to be the main reason for the underachievement of white boys?
3. Any other findings...

Read the article on the underrepresentation of ethnic minority students in universities and answer the following questions:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/universities-bame-students-inequality-oxbridge-race-a8837771.html>

1. To what extent are BAME (Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic) students underrepresented in UK Universities?

