



## A Level Sociology – Summer Work 2025

Dear Sociologists,

Welcome to A Level Sociology! Please find below a range of activities to give you a flavour of the subject and help you to start developing your sociological imagination.

### Task 1: What is Sociology?

Read the following blog post: <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/blog/what-is-sociology>

Watch the following video: <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/blog/video-resource-crash-course>

Using this info and your own research, **write a short summary** of what sociology is and the types of topics it covers.

### Task 2: Sociological Research

Being a successful A Level student involves being able to read a textbook, case study or research paper and summarise this reading in the form of notes.

Read the “Social mobility and elite universities” paper by Lee Elliot Major and Pallavi Amitava Banerjee.

<https://www.hepi.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/HEPI-Policy-Note-20-Social-Mobility-Challenge-FINAL.pdf>

Create a **one-page summary** of this information. This summary can be in any form you want.

You may wish to do your own research on what social mobility is. Elliot Major is a good start as he was the first Professor of social mobility in the UK: <https://experts.exeter.ac.uk/32198-lee-elliott-major>

The Sutton Trust may also be a useful site to look into:

<https://www.suttontrust.com/our-research/>

### Task 3: Sociological Theories

A sociological theory is a set of ideas that tries to explain human society. In sociology there are lots of different theories and each theory explains human behaviour in a different way and sees different positives and negatives in society. We would like you to find out about three of the main

sociological theories we will study using the resources identified below: **Functionalism, Marxism and Feminism**.

For each, produce a **written summary** of their main views and ideas about society. Which theory do you agree with most and why?

These resources will get you started in learning about each of these perspectives and help you with ideas to include in your summaries:

**a) Functionalism** <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/what-is-functionalism-introduction-to-sociology>

<https://revisesociology.com/2016/09/01/functionalism-sociology/>

**b) Marxism**

<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/what-is-marxism-introduction-to-sociology>

<https://revisesociology.com/2016/04/10/the-marxist-perspective-on-society/>

**c) Feminism**

<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/what-is-feminism-introduction-to-a-level-sociology>

<https://revisesociology.com/2017/02/03/feminist-theory-summary-sociology/>

All of these tasks should be written in your own words (NOT copy and pasted).

Good luck and we look forward to discussing them with you in our first lesson after the summer.

If you have any questions, we can be contacted via email on:

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