



Saint Benedict
Catholic Voluntary Academy

2026

**BE
PREPARED**

Sociology



St Ralph
Sherwin
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

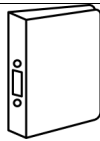
Sociology – ‘Be Prepared’

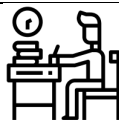
WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW

A-level Sociology Specification At a glance

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192/specification-at-a-glance>

EQUIPMENT THAT YOU WILL NEED FOR EVERY LESSON

Basic Stationary	Lined paper	A4 Ring Binder	Pack of highlighters
			

File dividers	Textbook	Homework	Boost work
			

TASK 1: SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Theoretical perspectives are at the core of Sociology and you will be required to apply and evaluate these throughout your A-level journey

For all the following theories listed below:

1. Functionalism
2. Marxism – *including Neo-Marxism*
3. Feminism – *including liberal, Marxist, radical and Black feminism*
4. Labelling theory
5. Post-modernism

You must complete the following three parts for each of the five theories above:

- **A01 and A02 Focus:** Produce a trigger sheet on each individual theory– this can be a picture collage with images to illustrate what the theory is about with written annotations applying your research on the theory, or you might choose to produce a Cornell note taking sheet on each of the theories – blocks of written text will not be accepted
- **A03 focus:** Add the strengths and weaknesses of each of theory
- What is your perspective on the approach to society? Justify your reason

Useful sources to help you:

[Crash Course Sociology - YouTube](#)

[Tutor2U theory playlists](#)

<https://www.hectic-teacher.co.uk/sociology-support/theory-and-methods>

TASK 2: EDUCATION TOPIC FOCUS TASK

Use the information and links below, as well as your own research to write at least a 500-word response to idea that the education in Britain may is not fair for all students

You must make sure you reference specific research, sources and evidence to support your ideas throughout.

You Must Reference at least three pieces of evidence.

Here are some sources you might find useful in your research

- Podcast: Professor Cecil Wright [discussing the ethnic inequalities in education](#), including her experiences at school
- Podcast: Professor Lee Elliott Major [Interview with Professor Lee Elliot Major on social class and education \(spreaker.com\)](#)
- Article: Diane Reay [explaining the unequal treatment](#) of working class children in education
- [Report \(just read the executive summary\): The impact of attitudes and expectations on educational attainment](#)
- Documentary: [Too Poor for Posh School?](#)
- Clip: [Should we abolish private schools?](#)
- Documentary: Professor Green, [Living in Poverty](#)

TASK 3: SOCIAL ISSUE TASK

As a sociology student you will also be expected to keep up to date with the news and current events, the textbook will only get you so far. This why watching or listening to what is happening in society around you will help you on this course

YOU MUST:

Choose a social issue that is of interest to you then complete the following tasks

- Describe what your issue is and the barriers or problems that people who the issues affects are
- Explain why the issue interests you – why did you choose this issue in particular?
- Create a media collage of articles on your issue and annotate them to explain what the highlight or show
- Apply at least what two sociological perspectives would say about the issue
- Any research or policy laws which deals with your issue? Name and explain them!

TASK 4: Beyond the textbook

Your independence tasks will often require you to engage with podcasts, articles and the news in order to bring in wider contextual knowledge that can be used to demonstrate your application and analysis skills. This is the number one feature of A and A* candidates

Sample podcast:

David Gillborn podcast questions:

https://open.spotify.com/episode/0kUYEI3Ok2mH4Pw95tUjv4?si=PULdnAjhQfq57_S-uK1fEw

PART ONE:

1. Listen to the podcast and make notes as you go
2. Use your notes to answer the following questions based on the podcast:
Questions:
 1. Gillborn research focus on?
 2. How many reports and books has he written?
 3. When did the term critical race theory start?
 4. What is critical race theory when you boil it down?
 5. What does CRT allow people to understand?
 6. Describe the origins of CRT as outlined by Kimberley Crenshaw
 7. What does CRT offer people?
 8. What has happened to CRT globally since it originated in the states?
 9. Why does Gillborn use the idea of Stephen Lawrence to show that racism couldn't be hidden behind the idea of 'a few rotten apples'?
 10. What does systematic racism look like in education?
 11. Plot the experience of a Black child as outlined by Gillborn from primary school to the labour market
 12. Why did Gillborn look at Black middle-class families?
 13. What was Gillborn's thoughts of teacher predictions for the Summer guidance in relation to unconscious teacher bias for minority groups?
 14. In relation to education how would Gillborn 'seize the moment' if he could wave a magic wand in relation to the attainment gap?
 15. Changing the curriculum -- will it have an impact?
 16. Changing the curriculum -- will it have an impact?
 17. Gillborn says that curriculum is only part of the solution, what else do we need to look at?
 18. What points does Gillborn make about racism in today's society?
 19. What was Gillborn's parting word?

PART TWO

Use your answers to create an independence task – you might choose to create your own Cornell sheet, or transform his ideas into a series of images