

What is Sociology?

Sociology is the study of society and of people and their behaviour. Sociology is evidence-based, not just about opinions, but backed up by research carried out by sociologists.



Sociologists argue that much of human behaviour is learned, and not instinctive. Much of this learning occurs in our early years and has a huge influence on our behaviour and development.

Please complete the tasks below in order to prepare for the start of your Sociology course in September. I will set work for you each week. I have included very basic definitions, you may need to use the internet to find out further detail to support your understanding.

This week's work will focus on: **Culture, Norms & Values**

First watch this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LK5J0-cM-HE>

Write a summary of what sociology is:

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Find a sociological definition of culture and write it below;

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Brainstorm what you think of when you think of British culture:



Members of society share norm and values. Values are general principles or beliefs. They tell us what is good, what is important and what we should aim for. Write down three British values below;

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....

Norms are specific rules that govern behaviour in certain situations. They tell us how we should conduct ourselves. Each culture has detailed norms governing different aspects of behaviour such as food, dress, jobs etc. Write down three social norms below;

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....



Different cultures will have very different norms and values. Write down three norms or values from other cultures that differ from British culture;

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....

Groups that have their own culture, apart from the mainstream culture, are called subcultures. Write down three examples of subcultures and a norm or value associated with each one;

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....

Cultures and their norms and values change over time. For example, attitudes to smoking have changed in the recent past. Give three examples of norms and values that have changed significantly in British culture in the recent past;

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....