



# STEP UP TO 6TH FORM

KIMBERLEY SCHOOL TRANSITION INFORMATION

## Sociology A Level AQA

### COURSE DETAILS

UNIT 1

#### Education with Theories and Methods

- Education – Why do girls outperform boys? Are there social class differences in achievement? What about ethnic differences? What are the effects of teacher labelling? What is streaming? What is the self-fulfilling prophecy? What do functionalists think about the education system? What about Marxists? What educational policies have been implemented?
- Theories and Methods – What methods do sociologists use to conduct research? What are the strengths and weaknesses of these methods? Is Sociology a science?

UNIT 2

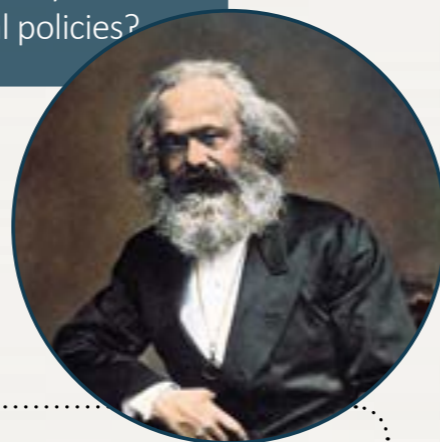
#### Topics in Sociology

- Families and Households – Why has the birth rate and death rate in the UK decreased? Why are more people getting divorced? Why has domestic violence increased? What are the different sociological views on family diversity?
- Beliefs in Society- What do feminists think about religion? Are people more or less religious than in the past? Is religion simply changing? Are New Age movements replacing traditional religions? Is Science? How has religion led to social change?

UNIT 3

#### Crime and Deviance with Theories and Methods

- Crime and Deviance – What are functionalist views on crime? What is labelling theory? Are there gender differences in crime rate? What about social class or ethnic differences? Why do people commit crime? What role does the media play? How can crime be prevented and controlled? Does rehabilitation work?
- Theories and Methods- What is the Functionalist perspective on society? What do Marxists and Feminists argue? How is research used to inform social policies?



### EXAMS

3 x 2hrs (33.3%)



### LINK TO THE SPECIFICATION

See a detailed document of what we will cover in this course:  
<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/sociology/specifications/AQA-7191-7192-SP-2015>



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### Work you can do to prepare for A Level study

#### Wider Reading

- Hochschild, A.R. (2012). The Second Shift: Working Families and the Revolution at Home.
- Beeden, A. (2015). The Sociology Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained.
- Perez, C.C. (2020). Invisible Women: Exposing Data Bias in a World Designed for Men.

#### Research preparation for key Sociologists in the course. Find out their studies and/or theories.

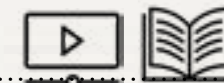
- Emile Durkheim
- Karl Marx
- Ann Oakley
- Tony Sewell
- Anthony Giddens and Ulrich Beck
- Max Weber
- Charles Murray
- Pierre Bourdieu
- Howard Becker
- Basil Bernstein



#### Current Affairs

As Sociologists, we are interested in what is happening in UK society so please watch the news – you could download the BBC app to your phone.  
 The AQA exam board are really keen for students to include what they call ‘contemporary’ (current, real-life) examples in their essay answers to earn A02 marks.  
 Keep a look out for any incidences/events that happen in the UK that link well to any of the 5 topics we study at A-level.  
 Things we have considered recently include: Covid-19, Brexit, the cost of living crisis, public sector strikes, issues of racism/sexism/homophobia in society, distrust of the police, increase in crime, cases such as that of George Floyd, Stephen Lawrence, Sarah Everard, and Child Q.

### FILM/TV/BOOKS



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|--|--|
| Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.                   | Police in Britain (ITV)                |
| Marriage Expectations vs. Reality – Andy Stanley.                | Crime: Are we Tough Enough?            |
| ‘Max Weber and the Protestant Ethic’ - BBC Radio 4 wStephen Fry. | When They See Us (Netflix)             |
| ‘Karl Marx on Alienation’ - BBC Radio 4 wGillian Anderson        | Selma                                  |
| Educating Greater Manchester (Channel 4)                         | On the Basis of Sex                    |
| Growing Up Poor (Channel 4)                                      | Instant Family                         |
|  | Freedom Writers                        |
|  | The Handmaid’s Tale Atwood, M. (2017). |

### USEFUL RESOURCE LINKS

For Documentaries: [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer) - Louis Theroux - Behind Bars, Love without Limits.  
 For Podcasts: [www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/category/podcasts](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/category/podcasts) - The Secret History of Science and Religion.  
 For TED talks: [www.ted.com/topics/sociology](http://www.ted.com/topics/sociology) E.g. 3 Ways to Build a Happy Marriage and Avoid Divorce.

