

Task 1, Topic: Families and Households: Socialisation



Socialisation is how we learn our culture, including language, beliefs and many behaviours.

Sociologists are interested in the role that people play in helping socialise children.



Most Sociologists think that upbringing (nurture) plays a key role in socialising children into different cultures

Feral children are children who spend time growing up without any human contact.

Your tasks are:

- 1) Investigate at least 3 cases of 'feral children'. Youtube has some good documentaries of these to help your research.
- 2) Produce a summary of the 3 cases.
- 3) What do these cases tell us about the importance of early socialisation?
- 4) Were your cases able to learn normal human behaviour once they had been discovered? If not then why do you think this is?

Task 2, Topic Education: The Selective Education Debate

“The attainment gap between rich and poor pupils is reduced to almost zero for children in selective schools.”

Prime Minister Theresa May



In September, The Conservatives announced they would be expanding the number of grammar schools in the UK.

There has been an extremely fierce debate over the fairness of grammar schools (selecting by ability) since their conception in 1944., with some arguing that grammar schools unfairly benefit the middle-classes, while others argue that it gives working-class children a chance that they otherwise wouldn't have had.



Your task is...

- 1) To research both sides of the debate. Mail on Sunday columnist Peter Hitchens outlines his position on his blog (in favour of grammar schools <http://hitchensblog.mailonsunday.co.uk/grammar-schools/>), and Wikipedia has a good overview of this debate.
- 2) What position does each of the other political parties take on this issue?
- 3) What do you think? Explain your reasoning.

Task 3, Topic: Media: Is the internet a force for good or for evil?



The Media has changed at a phenomenal rate in the past thirty years. The impact of this new type of media (the New Media) and in particular, the internet, has been widely debated by Sociologists.

Cultural pessimists take a negative view on the New Media and argue that the internet has intensified problems or allowed new issues to develop.

Neophiliacs are more optimistic, and argue that the New Media has allowed much more information-sharing and freedom than ever before.

Your task...

- 1) Research advantages and disadvantages of the internet
- 2) Create a summary of these advantages and disadvantages, give real world examples wherever possible .
- 3) Pick one recent news story (for example, the US election or Brexit). Summarise the story and then outline how the internet may have influenced the outcome of the story.
- 4) What do you think? Is the internet a force for good or for evil? Give your reasoning.

Task 4, Topic: Crime: What caused the London Riots?



In 2011 riots occurred in the UK. They started in London and then spread to other cities such as Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool.

5 people were killed and many homes and businesses were looted or burnt down.

Your task is...

- 1) Research the London riots, produce a summary of the events, how long they lasted and how the disorder spread.
- 2) Research the reasons for these riots; watch Youtube videos and read accounts in news articles at the time. Give reasons for the riots from different perspectives, for example, what did the rioters say – is there any reason to disbelieve their account? What did people from local communities (where the rioting happened) say were the causes, what did the government say were the reasons? State problems/strengths of these reasons as you discuss them.
- 3) In your own personal opinion, what was the main reason why people were rioting? Give reasons for your answer.