

A-Level Sociology

LO: To gain an understanding of the A-Level Sociology course.

Starter Questions:

- 1) If you could change one thing about the school what would it be? Why?
- 2) If you commit any crime but afterwards it would never happen again what crime would you commit?

Assessments in Sociology

Component	Maximum raw mark	Scaling factor	Maximum scaled mark
Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods	80	x1	80
Paper 2: Topics in Sociology	80	x1	80
Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods	80	x1	80
		Total scaled mark:	240

Each Exam will last 2 hours

Assessment skills in Sociology

Assessment objectives (AOs)	Component weightings (approx %)			Overall weighting (approx %)
	Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3	
AO1	15	13	16	44
AO2	11	11	9	31
AO3	8	9	8	25
Overall weighting of components	33.33	33.33	33.33	100

AO1: Knowledge AO2: Application AO3: Analysis

Paper 1: Education

“Do schools benefit everyone equally?”

Think, Pair, Share: Who do you think is most likely to succeed in education?

Task: Read the scenarios, would this person succeed in education? If not what might be the barriers?

Key terms pre teaching

Social class A way of grouping people based on things like income, job and education.

Material deprivation Lacking basic resources (like internet, books, quiet space) that help with schoolwork.

Cultural capital Knowledge, skills and attitudes passed down by middle-class families that help in school.

Labelling When teachers make assumptions about students (e.g. calling someone “lazy” or “bright”).

Self-fulfilling prophecy When a student lives up to the label they’re given – positive or negative.

Meritocracy A system where people succeed based on ability and effort, not background.

Inequality When people don’t have the same opportunities or access to success.

State school A school funded by the government and free to attend.

Private school A school that charges fees and often has more resources.

SEN (Special Educational Needs) Support needed by students with learning or physical difficulties.

Task: Read the scenarios, would this person succeed in education? If not what might be the barriers?

Make sure to include some of the key terms we have just looked at

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance

Crime

Definition:

A *crime* is an action that breaks the law and is punishable by the legal system.

Deviance

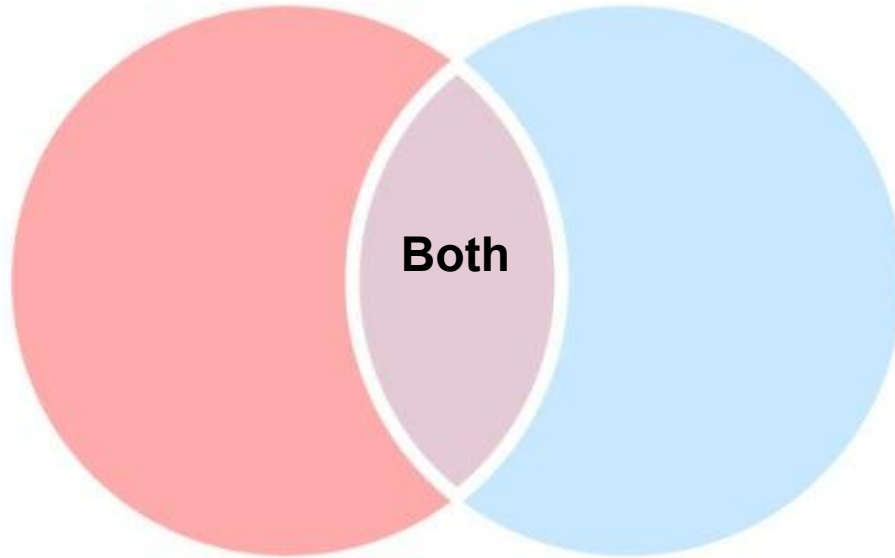
Definition:

Deviance refers to behaviour that goes against the norms or expectations of a society or group. It's not always illegal, but it's seen as unusual or unacceptable.

Crime v Deviance

Criminal

Deviant



Is crime real?

Time

Place

Culture

Circumstance:

Summer Homework: Fact files

Over the summer, you'll complete a **Sociological Perspectives Fact File** to help you prepare for A-Level Sociology. This task will introduce you to the **five key sociological approaches** that you'll refer to throughout the course.

Functionalism

For **each perspective**, your fact file must include:

Marxism

Feminism

Interactionism

New Right

1. A Brief Overview

- What does this perspective believe about society?
- What are its key ideas?

2. Key Sociologists

- Name **at least two** sociologists linked to the perspective.
- Briefly explain what each one is known for.

3. View on Education

- What does this perspective say about the role of education?
- Do they see education as positive, negative, or something else?

4. View on Crime

- What does this perspective say about crime and deviance?
- Do they see crime as functional, harmful, or a result of inequality?

5. Strengths and Criticisms

- Include **one strength** and **one criticism** of the perspective.