



DIXONS  
SIXTH FORM  
ACADEMY

# SUMMER WORK:

## A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY

2023

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# About the Summer Work

This booklet contains a number of tasks that students are expected to complete to a good standard in order to be able to be enrolled in this subject.

Please complete this work on A4 paper using black ink. You should bring your completed summer work with you to your first Sociology lesson in September. Please make sure you take pride in the presentation of your work and make a great first impression.

The work handed in should be:

- written in black or blue ink on A4 lined paper
- written in full sentences with no copying and pasting from external sources
- have all compulsory tasks completed
- have students full names on each sheet
- multiple sheets should be connected together

This booklet also contains significant additional information. You must complete all the tasks to fully prepare for Sixth Form study.

# Welcome to Sociology

## Subject outline

Sociology is, in essence, the study of people in society. It examines the values, attitudes, culture and organisation of the society in which we live and explores how these influences impact on our social behaviour.

Students study 5 content topics over two years.

- **Topic 1 – Families and Households**
- **Topic 2 – Education and Methods in Context**
- **Topic 3 – Stratification and Differentiation**
- **Topic 4 – Crime and Deviance**
- **Topic 5 – Theory and Methods**

100% Examination; three exams at the end of the course.

- Paper 1 - Education, Methods in Context and Theory and Methods - 2 hours, 33.3%
- Paper 2 - Families and Households and Stratification and Differentiation - 2 hours, 33.3%
- Paper 3 - Crime and Deviance and Theory and Methods - 2 hours, 33.3%

The complete specification can be viewed on the AQA website. [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

## Careers & Higher Education

Students who have studied sociology have gone on to a vast variety of degree courses and have accessed a full range of top institutions including Russell Group universities. Sociology can lead to a variety of careers such as:

- Counselling • Crime scene investigator
- Solicitor • Human resources officer
- Social worker • Policy officer
- Social researcher • Special educational needs coordinator

### **Sociology and the Local Labour Market**

Students who study Sociology at A Level or university level often go into Health and Social Care, Education, the Criminal Justice System, Research or Professional Services. Sociology students are well suited to many professional roles vital across different institutions: management, human resources, leadership and marketing. There is significant demand for these roles in Bradford, particularly within the headquarters of major businesses such as Morrison's, Yorkshire Water, Hallmark and the Yorkshire Building Society.

Within Bradford, 10.7% of the employed population work in management and 9.3% work in the care sector- both figures are slightly higher than the national average. The main sectors predicted to grow in the future are within health and social care, professional services and retail. Sociology is the ideal course to prepare you for these sectors.

## Useful resources:



## Sociology summer work

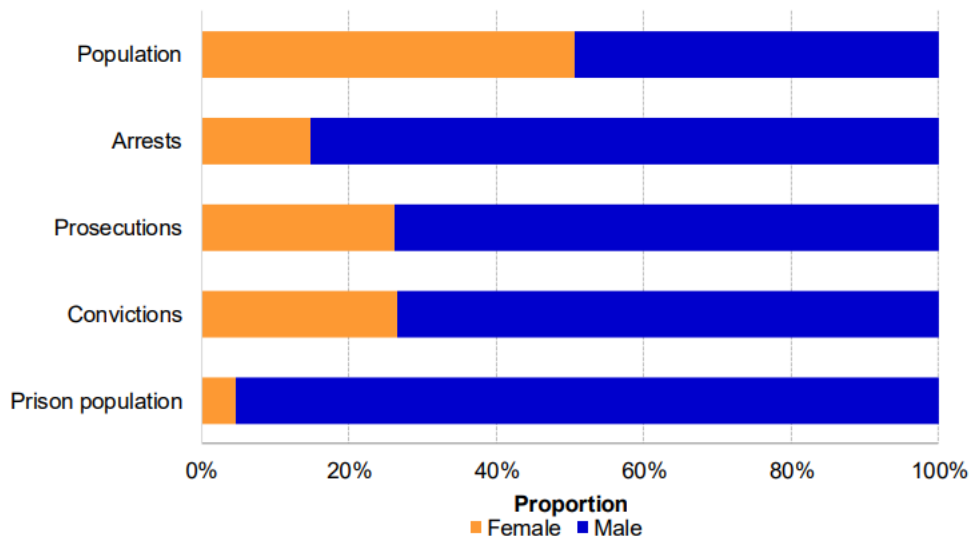
Please complete this work on A4 paper using black ink. You should bring your completed summer work with you to your first Sociology lesson in September. Please make sure you take pride in the presentation of your work and make a great first impression.

### Section 1 – Using data

In sociology we often use official statistics as a starting point. We then look to use theory to explain why patterns exist.

#### Gender and the Prison Population

**Figure 1.01: Proportions of males and females throughout the CJS, 2017**



Using the information above and your own research, write detailed responses to the following questions.

- Roughly what percentage of the prison population is female?

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b) Women make up around a quarter off all prosecutions, but disproportionately few of these prosecutions end in prison sentences. Outline and explain 3 reasons.

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c) In recent years the number of women committing crimes has risen. Why might this be?

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d) Is there a difference between the type of crime committed by men and women? How can this be explained?

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## Section 2 – Inequality and Education

### Task 1

Watch the following video clip and complete the questions below.

[BBC Poor Kids Documentary](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvoV8BnlbhM&t=1399s>



1. In 2011 how many children were living in poverty in the UK?

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2. How much do additional credit interest and higher fuel charges cost poor families each year?

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3. How many times less likely are poor children to have access to safe outdoor space compared to other children?

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4. One fifth of low income families report skipping meals. How much more likely is this amongst the children of single parents?

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5. How much more likely are poor children to suffer chronic illness than other children?

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6. What percentage of children grow up in poverty in the Gorbals in Glasgow?

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7. What percentage of children living in deprived housing suffer breathing problems?

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## Task 2

Read the BBC article below:



[Poorest pupils 'two years behind when they sit GCSEs'](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-40801167)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-40801167>

Write an extended response (at least 1 side of A4) to the following:

***'Explain the impact of poverty on educational achievement'***

You should aim to use evidence/statistics to support your points.

**Extension task:** Identify any strategies that the government have put in place to try to tackle this issue.

Poorest pupils 'two years behind when they sit GCSEs'

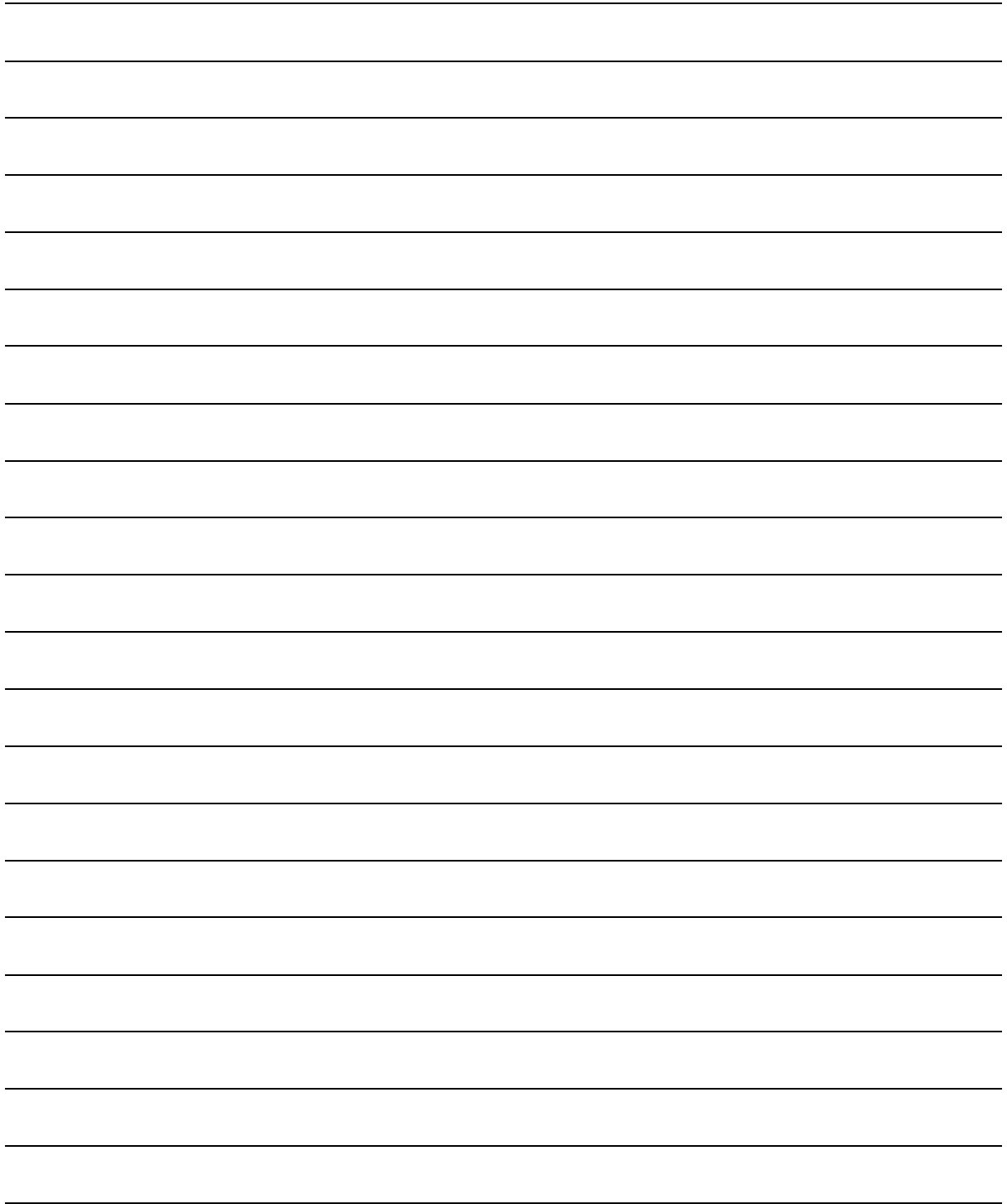
By Hannah Richardson  
BBC News education reporter

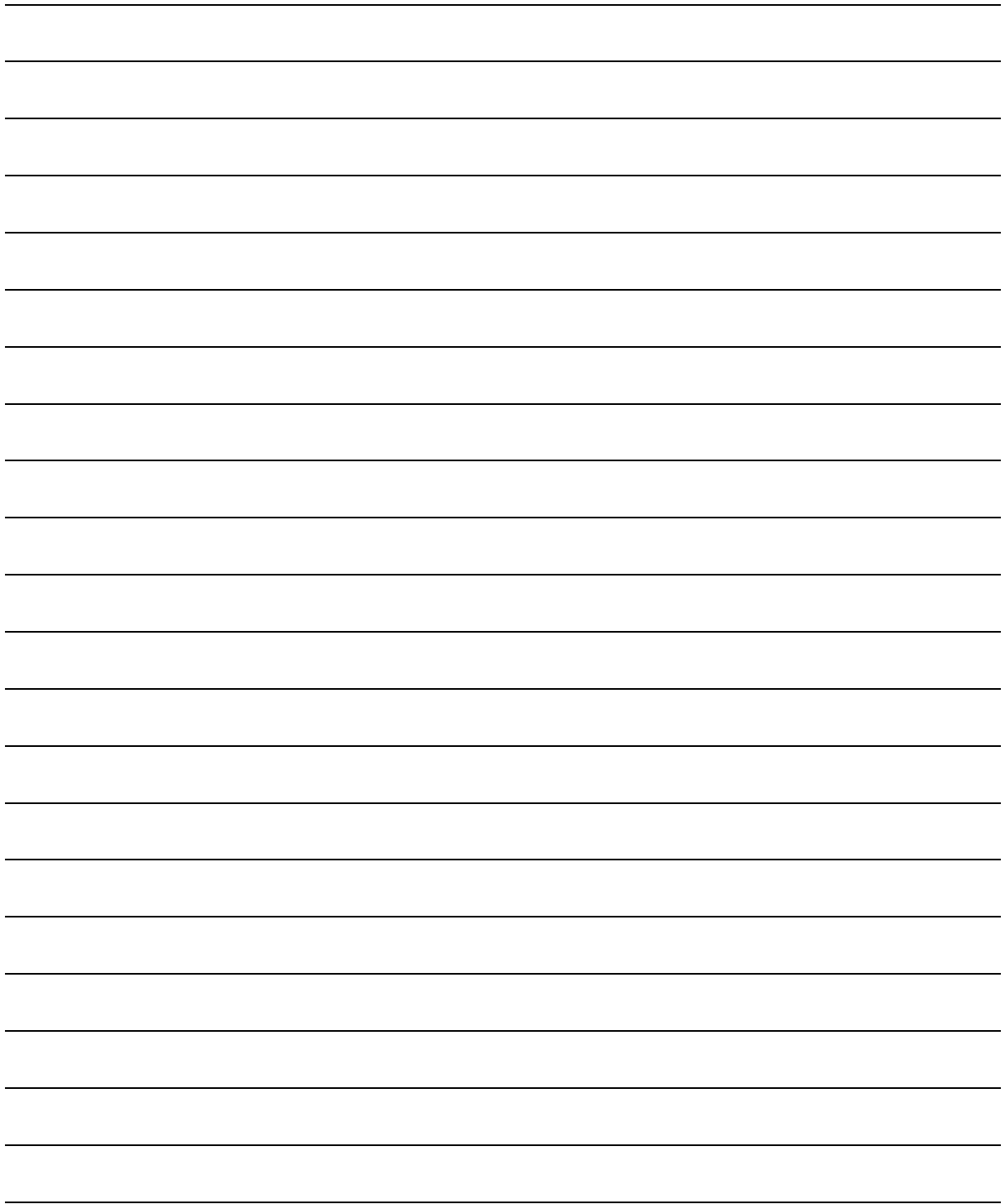
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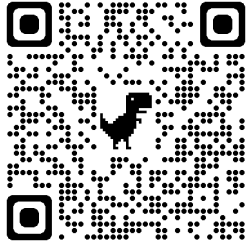






## Task 1

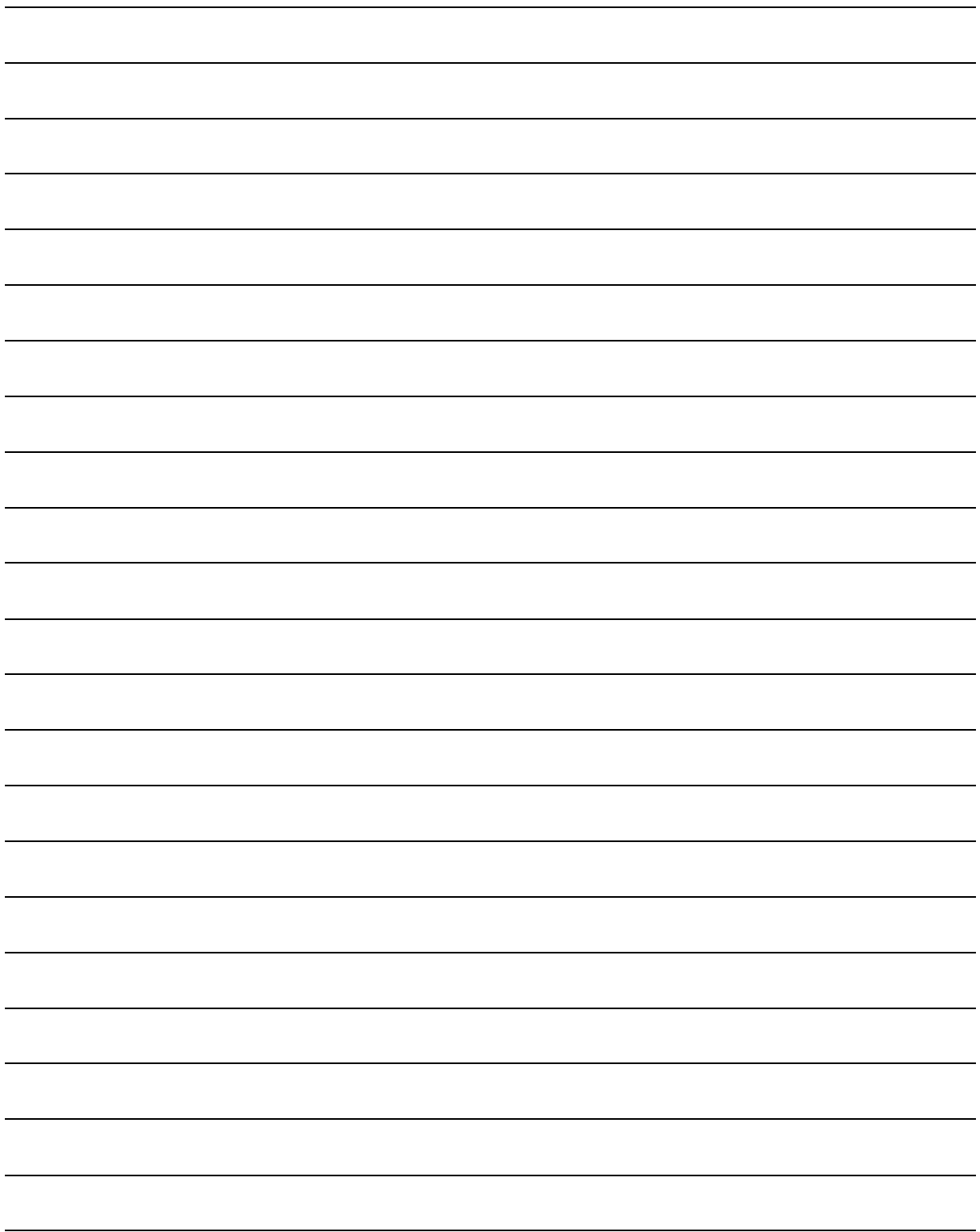
A woman with a pink headband and a young girl with pigtails are looking at a tablet together. A young boy in a red plaid shirt is standing next to them, looking at the screen. In the background, a man is sitting at a table, looking down at something in his hands. The scene is indoors, likely a home or a community center. A blue chair is visible in the foreground. The image is credited to GETTY IMAGES.



Write an extended response (at least 1 side of A4) to the following:

**Extension task:** Identify any strategies that the government have put in place to try to tackle this issue.

[illegible]



## Section 4 – Key Sociological Perspectives

## Functionalism

## Feminism

## Marxism

The three perspectives listed above each have unique ideas about how society works. Complete the table below with the key ideas for each perspective. You may wish to include theorists, but this is not compulsory.

Starting points:

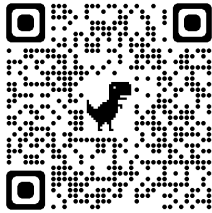
- What are their main beliefs about society?
- Do they believe that society is fair? Why/why not?
- Where did the perspective originate? What was the context?

	Define the key terms associated with each theory.	Summary (use the questions on the left to help)
Marxism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are their main beliefs about society?</li> <li>Do they believe that society is fair? Why/why not?</li> <li>Where did the perspective originate? What was the context?</li> </ul>	<u>Capitalism</u>       <u>Communism</u>              <u>Conflict theory</u>	

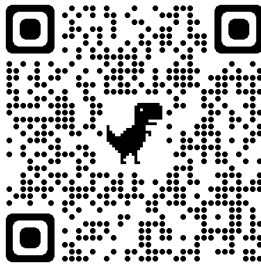


# Reading list

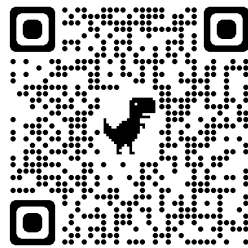
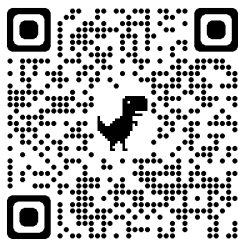
Subject specification:



Watch this:



Read this:



Listen to this:

