



Are you interested in studying A Level Sociology?

These activities are designed to give you a flavour of the key topics we study in Sociology, and to start developing your 'sociological imagination'.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnCJU6PaCio

What is Sociology?

Sociological concepts, theories and methods

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Section 2

Research Methods

Watch the clips on research methods and complete some reading.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVNfmtXtnpl

www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwhK-iEyXYA

<https://revisesociology.com/research-methods-sociology/>

Complete the grid on methods and the research proposal task

Challenge include advantages and disadvantages of your chosen method

Section 3

Perspectives

Read the information on the main types of perspectives in sociology

Complete the which sociologist are you task.



Section 4

Education

A. Watch Back in time for school and describe how education has changed over time

www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWTPDs6Azqc&t=1433s 1980's

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0bx7lxc/clips

B. Watch the film *Educating Rita* on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4z8OcnIWU-Y>. Write a sociological review of the film, commenting on what it tells us about social class, gender roles and education. What did you think of the key characters, Rita, Frank and Rita's husband Denny?

Challenge: How do their social backgrounds influence their behaviour?

Describe the trends in achievement between a) The sexes, b) Ethnic Groups c) Disadvantaged and Advantaged students

6. Attainment by gender (Tables 1d & 2a)

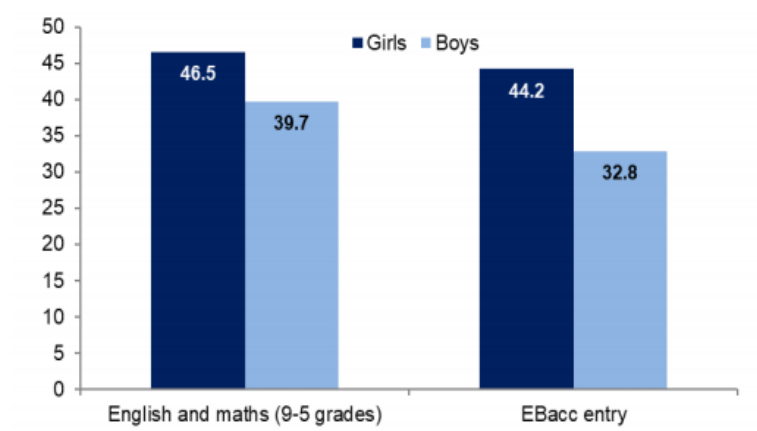
As in previous years, girls continue to do better than boys in all headline measures. The gender gap for Attainment 8 has increased to 5.6 points, an increase of 0.3 points. The gender gap has also increased for the English and maths attainment measure to 6.8 percentage points, as shown in Figure 9, an increase of 0.6 percentage points since 2017.

Table 10: Attainment 8 and Progress 8 by gender
England, state-funded schools, 2018

	Average Attainment 8 score	Average Progress 8 score	Progress 8 lower confidence interval	Progress 8 upper confidence interval	EBacc average point score
Boys	43.6	-0.25	-0.26	-0.25	3.79
Girls	49.2	0.22	0.21	0.22	4.28

Source: Key stage 4 provisional attainment data

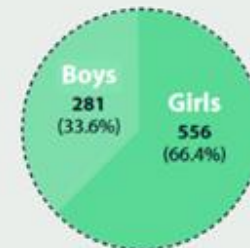
Figure 9: Performance in threshold measures by gender
England, state-funded schools, 2018



Source: Key stage 4 provisional attainment data

All grade 9s in all subjects taken

Number of GCSEs taken	Number of students
7	78
8	93
9	240
10	293
11	123
12	10
Total	837



Those with straight grade 9s in reformed subjects
- does not include any student who got less than a grade 9 in any reformed subject, nor any results of unreformed subjects.

ofqual

August 2019 - Ofqual/19/6535

Title:Percentage of pupils getting a strong pass (grade 5 or above) in English and maths GCSE by ethnicity. Location: England. Time period: 2017/18. Source: Key stage 4 and multi-academy trust performance 2018| Ethnicity Facts and Figures GOV.UK

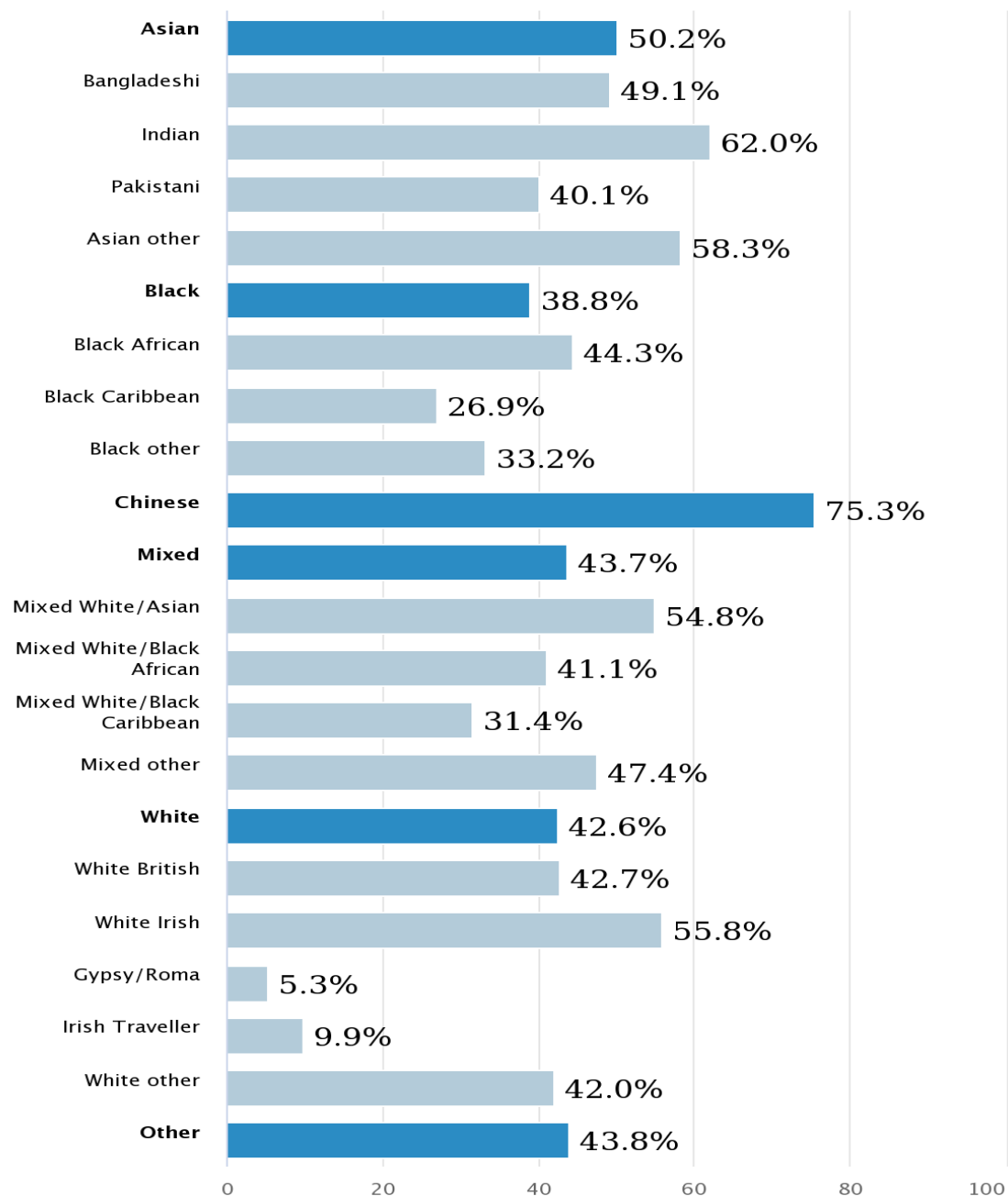
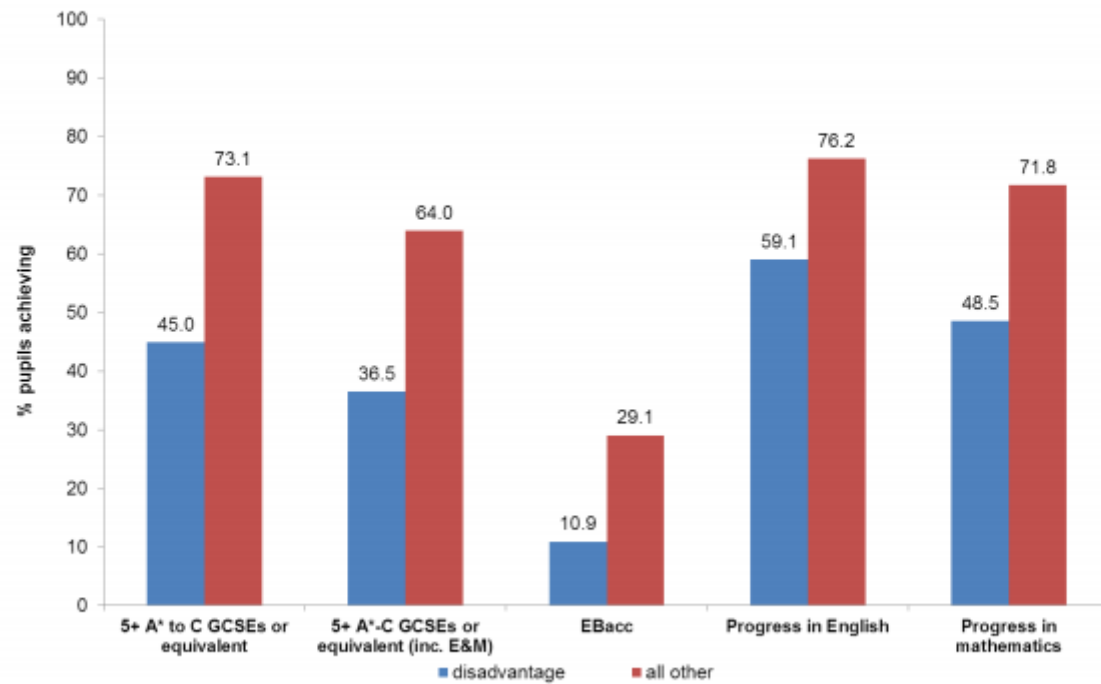


Figure 6: Attainment at key stage 4 by disadvantage
Percentage of pupils achieving each indicator:
England, 2013/14 (2014 methodology)



Source: Key stage 4 attainment data (2013/14)

C BOYS: Read this article on 'The Lost Boys':

<https://www.newstatesman.com/politics/education/2016/09/lost-boys-how-white-working-class-got-left-behind> and create a table of all the reasons why white working class boys are failing at school. One column should be headed 'Internal school factors' (e.g. interactions with teachers, peer group etc) and the other 'external factors' (e.g. poverty at home, wider community).

Challenge what is the most important factor? ? If you wanted to research the most important factor, which method would you use and why? How would you go about it?

- **Internal factors** relate to what happens within school and educational settings themselves.
- They can be to do with the interactions between people such as fellow students or teachers.
- They can also be related to the way schools are organised and run, the rules and procedures within them.
- **External factors** relate to what happens outside of schools and educational settings.
- They are usually linked to experiences that students have in their own homes.
- They can also be related to how the students themselves are brought up.



Topic 5 Families and Households

Submit at least 1 of the following activities :

A. Watch these adverts for McCain chips, and Persil

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r94nqVN1G2U> 1980's

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJ9fjN1az9g> 2017

www.youtube.com/watch?v=GeFZ9MS340M 1986

www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pVM1okMN8o 2016

www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qfibUSAiFw 1979

Create a similarities and differences chart showing how family life has changed over this time period.

Do some further research into changes to family life, and edit your table using the findings.
Challenge what may have caused the changes?

<https://courses.lumenlearning.com/boundless-sociology/chapter/recent-changes-in-family-structure/>

<https://goffssociology.wordpress.com/changing-family-patterns-family-diversity/>

Challenge: How are the following groups represented in these adverts?

How many males, female, different ages, different ethnicities, different social classes were in them? How were they portrayed? Have they changed over time?

C Alice and her 6 Dad's

www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8ADEzyNOYM

What does this program suggest about what makes a family?

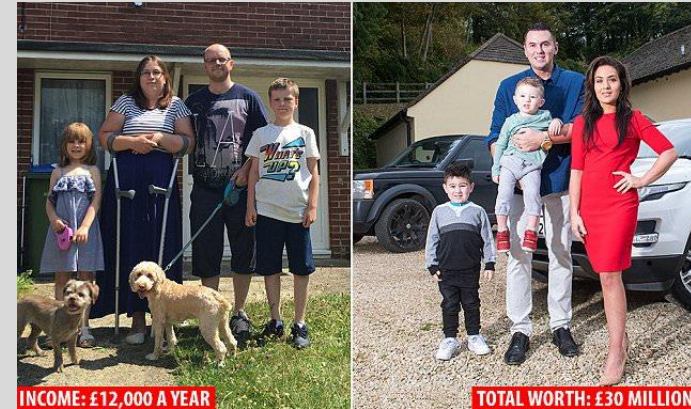
What are the advantages and disadvantages of having 6 people she considers to have been Dad.

Challenge: What makes a person a Dad?

Why is it important for Alice to find her biological dad?

B Rich House Poor House

www.youtube.com/watch?v=h-y-plVFChk



Complete a table on the similarities and differences between the two families

Challenge how might a child growing up in one of these families be affected by their experiences growing up?

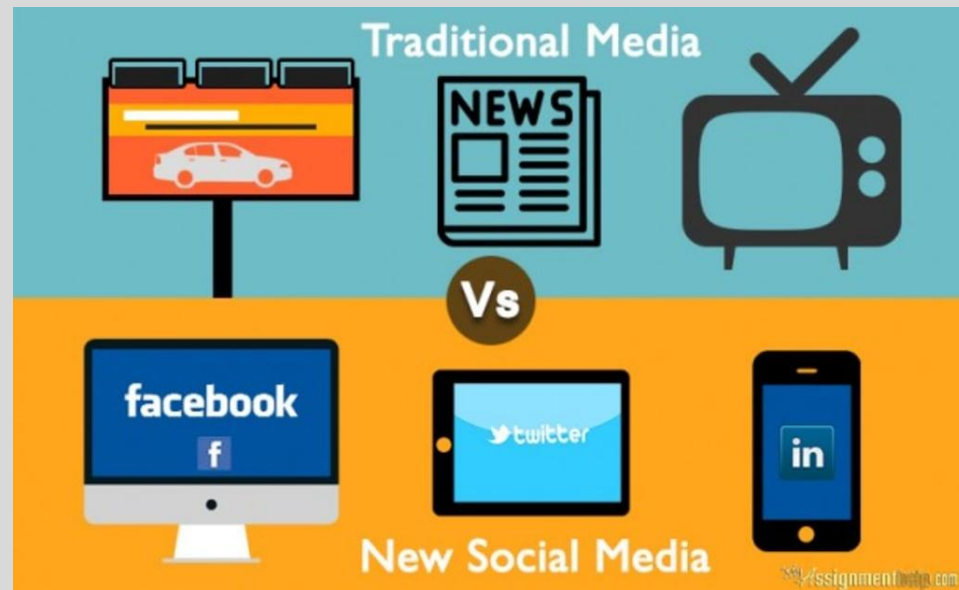
How truthful do you think the documentary reflects these families lives? Why?

Topic 6 Media

A What is the media? How has it evolved over time?

Put the following examples of media in chronological order, starting with the oldest. Challenge, add approximate dates.

1. *Blogs*
2. *Radio*
3. *Analog Television Broadcasts*
4. *Newspapers*
5. *Internet Websites*
6. *Digital Television Broadcasts*
7. *Films*
8. *Social Media Sites*
9. *Computer Games*
10. *Printed Books*



Topic 6 Media

B: What makes the news?

Analyse this recent story and one of your own. Why did it make it into the news?

C How are different groups represented?

Complete primary research into how the different groups in society are represented.

Terrifying moment 'gunman' fires shots from balcony in Kent while rapping to Tupac's 'Hit 'Em Up' sending panicked shoppers fleeing before armed police move in and arrest him



Armed officers and a helicopter from Kent Police raced to Chatham Docksides this morning where a man (left) was seen shooting from his balcony as people shopped in the streets below. Shoppers and pedestrians fled for cover as the man patrolled his balcony appearing to hold a machine gun, rifle and handgun. Police have arrested a man in his 30s on suspicion of firearms offences and four suspected imitation firearms have been found.

Topic 7 Crime and Deviance

- **A: What is a crime? What is deviance?**

Shade the table to illustrate the difference

Complete the flow chart task from the Open University

- What does this task illustrate about what makes something a crime and how accurate statistics can be?

B Crime reduction and prisons

www.channel4.com/programmes/prison and or

www.youtube.com/watch?v=RrD3TEfpRg4&t=2016s

Pick 2 inmates. Explain why you think they are serving prison sentences

What are the main strengths and weaknesses of using prisons as a method of reducing crime and deviancy in society?

Studying Sociology

- After completing this project your final task is to use your sociological imagination to produce a piece of work that demonstrates what you have learnt about sociology. You can choose whichever medium will best show off your knowledge and understanding. It should be something that you can email or present to Mrs. Burton (J.Burton@stmca.org.uk.)

Suggestions include:

1. Presentation
2. College
3. Poster
4. Essay
5. Painting
6. Sculpture
7. Play
8. Word Cloud

