A Level Sociology – summer work

Dear sociologists,

Welcome to A Level Sociology. Please find below a range of activities to give you a flavour of the subject and help you to start developing your sociological imagination.

Task 1: What is Sociology?

Watch the following video:
https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/blog/video-resource-crash-course

Using ideas from the video, write a **short summary** of what sociology is **and** how it is different to common sense.

Task 2: Some key introductory ideas

Being a successful A Level student involves being able to read a textbook and summarise this reading in the form of notes. Read the pages provided in the pdf which introduce some key concepts in sociology.

Create a **one page summary** of this information (you do not need to include the information in the Activity Boxes). This summary can be in any form you want but you will be tested on the content in our first lesson.

Task 3: Sociological theories

A sociological theory is a set of ideas that tries to explain human society. In sociology there are lots of different theories and each theory explains human behaviour in a different way and sees different positives and negatives in society. We would like you to find out about three of the main sociological theories we will study using the resources identified below: **functionalism, Marxism** and **feminism**. For each, produce a **written summary** of their main views and ideas about society. Which theory do you agree with most and why?

These resources will get you started in learning about each of these perspectives and help you with ideas to include in your summaries:

a) Functionalism

https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/what-is-functionalism

https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/sociological-theory-functionalism

https://revisesociology.com/2016/09/01/functionalism-sociology/

b) Marxism

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0GFSUu5UzA&t=53s

https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b0b2kpm0

https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/classic-texts-karl-marx-selected-writings-1857-1867

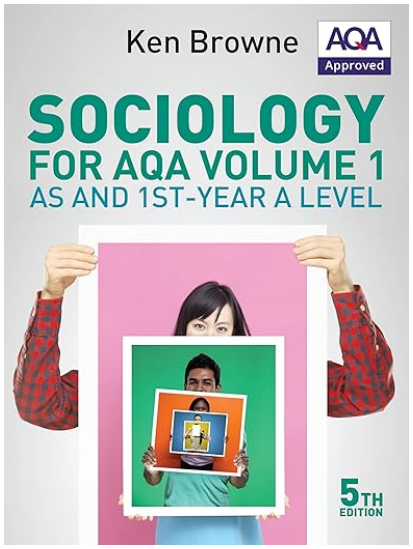
c) Feminism

https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/reference/sociological-theory-feminism

https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_we_should_all_be_feminists

https://www.forbes.com/sites/kathycaprino/2017/03/08/what-is-feminism-and-why-do-so-many-women-and-men-hate-it/#3d59eab07e8e

Don't forget to answer this question once you have completed your summary: ***Which theory do you agree with most and why?***

All of these tasks should be written in your **own words**. Good luck and I look forward to discussing them with you in our first lesson after the summer.

Textbook required for September: