# Richard Challoner School Sixth Form

# Preparation for A level Studies: Sociology Induction Tasks



# **Specification:** AQA Sociology – (7192):

The first two tasks are compulsory, when you have completed them choose from the Films/Documentaries/Podcasts listed below, you need to choose **at least two in addition to the two compulsory tasks (ideally do three and choose one from each area)**. You should complete a separate Sixth Form Induction Task Worksheet for each activity you undertake.

### The first two tasks are compulsory:

#### Task 1

Your task will be to research the History of Education in the UK 1800 – 2020.

The focus of your research will be to answer the following questions:

However, feel free to include as much additional information as you wish.

What types of schools were available for the rich and the poor in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century?

When did the State first get involved in education and why? What did they provide?

What are some of the major changes that have taken place in education in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries? Why is education such a hotly debated Political Issue?

Write up your findings on an Induction Task Worksheet – no need to follow the headings on the sheet for this task.

#### Task 2

#### ITEM A

Understanding social differences.

Some people argue that social class is no longer relevant in a Postmodern Society because there are other more important factors that separate people into different social groups (gender, ethnicity etc.) It is suggested that although some people may be brought up to identify with one particular social class, things can happen within a lifecycle that allow that person to move from one social class to another. Others argue that social class is still relevant today because the working class are still below the middle class in terms of their status, power and life chances.

Answer the following questions:

- 1. Explain your understanding of the term 'working class'
- 2. Explain your understanding of the term 'middleclass'
- 3. Suggest ways in which social classes may still be separated in today's society, using examples to support your ideas. 4.
- 4. Do you think people can be socially mobile and move from one social class to another? Explain your answer making sure you give multiple reasons; use examples to support your ideas and suggest why some people may disagree with your view (evaluation).

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#### **Films**

- Mandela: A long walk to freedom
- Made in Dagenham

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- ARGO
- Suffragette
- Billy Elliot
- One flew over the Cuckoo's nest
- Hotel Rwanda
- Philomena
- Pride

#### **Documentaries**

- Grayson Perry 'All Men Series' Any of the three programmes first shown on Channel 4 now available on YouTube which look at issues of masculinity.
- The Seven up Series It is a longitudinal study which began interviewing 20 children in 1964 from different social classes and has continued every seven years since. The documentary looks at the influence of class on life chances.
- Grayson Perry Examine and explain his six tapestries 'The vanity of small differences' which look at class and taste. Several programmes on YouTube which interview him and he explains his work.
- The Amish, 'A Secret Life': A BBC Documentary now available on YouTube.
- Louis Theroux Americas most hated Family, which looks at Christian Fundamentalism.
- Reggie Yates' Extreme Award winning film maker travels around the world tackling big issue around the world like gun violence, racism, gay rights, Nationalism in Russia.
- Panorama Programmes related to education, crime, poverty or any contemporary social issue.
- Britain's Forgotten Men: Series 2

#### Podcasts/Radio series

# Radio 4 Thinking allowed website – Go to 'Episodes' on Home page (643 to choose from) Examples:

- Glasgow gangs
- Decline of the weekend; British riots of 2011
- Men and Violence
- Division of Labour & Gentrification and Working Class Residents
- Working Class alienation Nottingham council estate

It is a good idea to complete the Sixth Form Induction Task Worksheet immediately after you have watched a Film or Documentary, or listened to a podcast (before you forget). Write as much as you can, and explain yourself fully – something you will always have to do in Sociology. I hope you enjoy these Induction tasks. They will be collected in September.