



Revision Schedule 2026

Year 13 Revision Schedule 2026

Subject/Course:	SOCIOLOGY A LEVEL - AQA
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Topic	Key knowledge/skills/questions	R	A	G	Revised	Resources/activities/links
Paper 1: Education, Theory and Methods						
EDUCATION:						
1. The role of education	Functionalism Marxism New Right / Neo-Liberalism					Applying material from Item A (pg. 75) and your knowledge, evaluate the view that "while Marxists and Functionalist approaches focus on similar issues, they reach very different conclusions about the role of education". (30 marks)
2. Class differences in achievement – external factors	Cultural deprivation Material deprivation Cultural capital					Applying material from Item A (pg. 35) and your knowledge, evaluate the claim that factors outside school are the main cause of working-class underachievement. (30 marks)
3. Class differences in achievement – internal factors	Labelling Streaming Pupils' class identities					Applying material from Item A (pg. 35) and your knowledge, evaluate the view that social class differences in achievement are the result of what goes on within schools. (30 marks)

Revision Schedule 2026

4. Ethnic differences in achievement	Cultural deprivation Material deprivation Racism in wider society Labelling Pupil identities Pupil responses and subcultures Institutional racism					Applying material from Item A (pg. 49) analyse two factors inside schools that lead to ethnic differences in educational achievement. (10 marks)
5. Gender differences in achievement	The impact of feminism Changes in the family Changes in women's employment Girls' changing ambitions Equal opportunities policies Positive role models in schools GCSE and coursework Teacher attention Challenging stereotypes in the curriculum Selection and league tables Identity and class Boys and achievement Subject choice Pupils' sexual and gender identities					Applying material from Item A (pg. 65) and your knowledge, evaluate the claim that although girls outperform boys in terms of achievement, the experience of schooling reinforces traditional gender identities. (30 marks)

Revision Schedule 2026

6. Educational Policy	Educational policy before 1988 Marketization Coalition government policies The privatisation of education					Applying material from Item A (pg. 85) and your knowledge, evaluate the claim that marketization and privatisation policies have increased educational inequality. (30 marks)
METHODS IN CONTEXT:						
1.	Practice essay questions					See revision booklet for practice questions
RESEARCH METHODS						
1. Choosing a research method	Factors influencing choice of methods Practical issues Ethical issues Theoretical issues Factors influencing choice of topic					
2. Research Methods	Experiments					
	Questionnaires					
	Interviews					
	Observations					
	Secondary sources					
	Official statistics					
	Document					
THEORIES						
1. Sociology and science	Positivism Interpretivism Karl Popper					

Revision Schedule 2026

	Kuhn Realism, science and sociology					
2. Objectivity and values	Classical sociologists Value freedom and commitment					
3. Functionalism	Society as a system Merton's internal critique of functionalism External critiques of functionalism					
4. Marxism	Marx Gramsci Althusser					
5. Feminism	Liberal or reformism feminism Radical feminism Marxist feminism Difference feminism					
6. Action Theories	Weber Symbolic interactionism Phenomenology Ethnomethodology Structure and action					
7. Modernity / Postmodernity	Modernity Postmodernism Theories of late modernity					

Revision Schedule 2026

	Marxist theories of postmodernity					
8. Social Policy						
Paper 2: Families and Beliefs						
Families and Households						
1. Perspectives on the family	Functionalism and family Marxism and family Feminism and family Personal life perspective on family					Applying material from Item A (pg. 197) and your knowledge, evaluate the usefulness of structural approaches to our understanding of families and households. (20 marks)
2. Couples	Domestic division of labour Couples / Gender roles – Power Domestic Violence					Applying material from Item A (pg. 177) and your knowledge, evaluate the view that the division of labour in couples is now equal. (20 marks)
3. Childhood	Childhood as a social construct Future of childhood					Applying material from Item A (pg. 187) and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of changes in the status of childhood. (20 marks)
4. Demography	Births Deaths Ageing population Migration					Outline and explain two effects of the changing birth rate on gender roles and relationships. (10 marks)
5. Changing family patterns	Divorce Partnerships Parenthood					Applying material from Item B (pg.223) analyse two reasons for ethnic difference in family and household patterns. (10 marks)
6. Family diversity	Modernism and the Nuclear family Postmodernism and family diversity					Applying material from Item A (pg. 233) and your knowledge, evaluate sociological contributions to our understanding of family diversity. (20 marks)

Revision Schedule 2026

Beliefs in Society						
1. Perspectives on religion	Functionalism Marxism Interactionism Feminism					Applying material from Item B (pg. 11) and your knowledge, evaluate the claim that religion performs an ideological function in the interests of powerful groups. (20 marks)
2. Social change	Religion as a force for change (Weber) change (Bruce) Marxism and change (Bloch, Liberation Theology, Gramsci, Class Conflict)					Applying material from Item B (pg. 19) and your knowledge, evaluate the extent to which religious beliefs are a force for social change. (20 marks)
3. Organisations	Churches Denominations Sects Cults NRM New Age Growth of movement					Applying material from Item B (pg. 57) and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations for the existence of sects, cults and New Religious Movements. (20 marks)
4. Social groups and religion	Class Age Gender Ethnicity					Outline and explain two reasons for differences in religiosity between social groups. (10 marks)
5. Secularisation and Globalisation	Secularisation arguments for Secularisation arguments against Religious market theory Existential security theory					Applying material from Item B (pg. 37) and your knowledge, evaluate the impact of postmodernity on religious and spiritual beliefs and practices. (20 marks)

Revision Schedule 2026

	Fundamentalism Global religion					
6. Science and Ideology	Science as a Belief Ideology and Religion (Marxism, Nationalism, Feminism, Mannheim)					Outline and explain two criticisms of the view that science is an open system. (10 marks)
Paper 3: Crime and Deviance, Theory and Methods						
Crime and Deviance						
1. Theories of crime	Functionalism Marxism Interactionism (Labelling) Realism					Applying material from Item B (pg. 77) evaluate the contribution of strain theories to our understanding of crime and deviance. (30 marks) Applying material from Item B (pg. 85) evaluate the contribution of labelling theory to our understanding of crime and deviance. (30 marks)
2. Class	Merton's Strain Theory Subcultural Strain Theory (Cohen, Cloward and Ohlin) White Collar Crime Corporate Crime					Applying material from Item B (page 95) and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of corporate crime. (30 marks)
3. Gender	Why women commit more crimes (Chivalry thesis, Liberation Thesis...) Why women commit less crimes (Sex role theory (Functionalist view), Bedroom Culture...) Why men commit more crimes (Types of Masculinity: Subordinate and Hegemonic)					Applying material from item A (pg. 113) analyse two reasons why men commit crime. (10 marks)

Revision Schedule 2026

	Gender as victims of crime (Domestic Violence, Rape...)					
4. Ethnicity	Ethnic minorities as criminals Ethnic minorities as victims of the Criminal Justice System Ethnic minorities and Realism (reasons why they commit crimes) Ethnic minorities as victims of Crime					Applying material from item B (pg. 121) and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of the relationship between ethnicity and offending. (30 marks)
5. Media	Deviancy Amplification (Wilkins) Moral Panics (Jock Young, Cohen, Goode and Ben- Yehuda, Marxism) News Values Neo- Marxism and Media (Hall et al, Left Realism					Applying material from Item A (page 129), analyse two ways in which the media may cause crime.(10 marks)
6. Globalisation	Global crimes Green Crime State Crime					Applying material from Item B (page 141) and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of the relationships between globalisation on crime. (30 marks)
7. Control, Punishment and the Criminal Justice System	Crime Prevention and Control Crime Control and Punishment Victims					Applying material from Item A (pg. 153) analyse two functions of punishment. (10 marks)