

Social sciences are a group of

Social Institutions are the structures

Sociological Imagination means the

Values are the goals that society

Norms are the unwritten rules of

Socialisation means

Definition of Sociology.

The systematic study of
society and its institutions

Social Groups

C	Class
A	Age
D	Disability
G	Gender
E	Ethnicity
S	Sexuality



Who is Auguste Comte?

Sociological Perspectives

	Outline	Key Thinkers
Functionalism		Durkheim Parsons Merton
Marxism		Marx Engels Althusser Gramsci
Feminism		Oakley Firestone
Interactionism		Goffman Cooley Weber
Postmodernism		Lyotard Baudrillard Foucault Giddens

A consensus theory is one which believes that the institutions of society are working together to maintain social cohesion and stability.

A structural theory is one which

Value Consensus means that a

Anomie means a feeling of

What are Social Facts and who is the key thinker?

Durkheim's Ideas of Society



What is the Organic Analogy and who used it?

Talcott Parsons
Society acts in a similar way to the human body through the way that social institutions interact in the same way as human organs.

Three similarities between society and biological organisms.

1	
2	
3	

Two means of maintaining value consensus and social order

1	
2	

The Four Basic needs of society

G	Goal Attainment (Political Function) – Societies set goals and decisions about how power and economic resources are allocated.
A	Adaption (Economic Function) – every society has to provide for the needs of its members in order of the society survive.
I	Integration (Social Harmony) – specialist institutions develop to reduce conflict in society. For example education and media create sense of belonging.
L	Latency: The unstated consequences of actions – there are 2 types of latency: Pattern Maintenance: Maintaining value consensus through socialisation and Tension Management. Opportunities to release tension in a safe way.

Internal Criticisms of Functionalism



Key Thinker
Robert K. Merton

Three Main Criticisms of Parson's Assumptions

1	
2	
3	

A Manifest Function is the intended function of a social institution.

An example of a manifest function is

A Latent Function is the unintended function of a social institution.

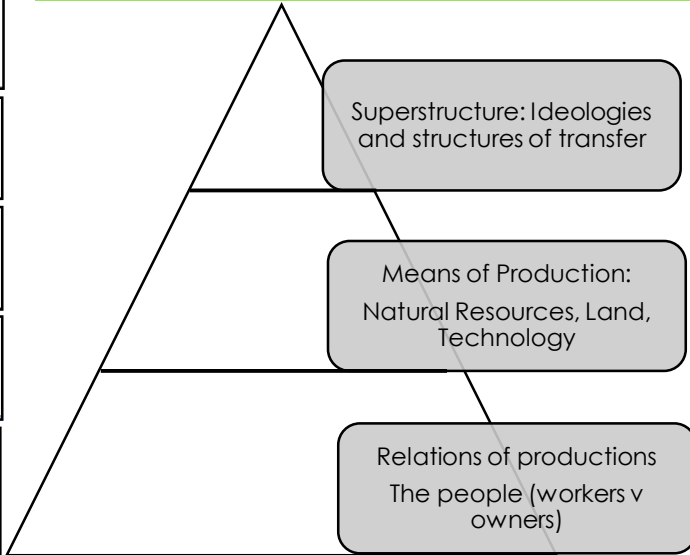
An example of a latent function is

External Criticisms of Functionalism

Logical Criticisms	
Conflict Perspective	
Action Perspective	
Postmodern Perspective	

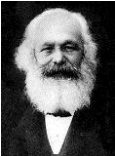
A conflict theory is a theory that
Bourgeoisie means the owners of the
Proletariat means the workers who are
Alienation means the process whereby
False Class Consciousness means the

Marxist Structure of a Capitalist society.



Evaluation of Marxism

Over Simplified	
Economic Determinism	
Lack of Revolution	
Out of date	



Five Stages of society according to Marx

1	Primitive communism – Classless society
2	Feudal Society – Landowners V Peasants
3	Capitalist Society – Bourgeoisie V Proletariat
4	Socialism – Government Owners V Workers
5	Communism – Classless Society

The features of Capitalist Society .

1	
2	
3	

The features of Communist Society .

1	
2	
3	

Humanistic Neo-Marxism



Ruling Class dominance is maintained by....

1	
2	

Reasons why Ruling Class hegemony is never complete

1	
2	

Organic Intellectuals are class conscious workers who organise themselves into a revolutionary political party who will help to create the counter hegemony

Structural Neo-Marxism



State Apparatus

1	Repressive State Apparatus:
2	Ideological State Apparatus:

3 Levels of Structural Determinism

1	Economic Level – All activities which produce something to meet a need. Dominates capitalism.
2	
3	

Relative Autonomy means partial autonomy from the economic level. This means that the political and ideological levels are more than a reflection of the economic level but there is in fact 2 way causality. Economic level dominates in capitalism but the political and ideological functions are indispensable as well.

Requirements for socialism to come about

Humanistic Neo-Marxism	Structural Neo-Marxism

Evaluation of Neo-Marxism

Humanistic Neo-Marxism	
Structural Neo-Marxism	

Feminism in general means the belief in the social, economic, and political equality of the sexes.

Malestream means viewing social phenomena as mainstream and usual, from the point of view of the man, without regard to gender.

Patriarchy means male dominance over women.

Three Waves of Feminism

Early 1900's

1

1960's

2

1990's

3

6 Structures of Patriarchy - Walby

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

General Features of Feminism

1	There are inequalities between men and women based on power and status.
2	Inequalities create conflict between men and women.
3	Gender roles and inequalities are generally socially constructed.
4	The importance of the concept of patriarchy: A system of social structures and practices which men dominate, oppress and exploit women.

Type	Outline	Thinkers	Evaluation
Liberal Feminism			
Radical Feminism			
Marxist Feminism			
Intersectional Feminism			
Dual systems Feminism			

5 Features of Social Action

1	Social structures are a social construction created by individuals. Not a separate entity above them.
2	Voluntarism, free will and choice of people to do things and form their own identities rather than being dictated by social institutions.
3	Micro Approach, focus on individual or small groups rather than large scale trends.
4	Behaviours is driven by beliefs, meanings and feelings people give to the situation they are in, or the way they see things.
5	The use of interpretivist methodology in order to uncover the meanings and definitions individuals give to their behaviour.



Key Thinker

Max Weber

Micro Approach means:

Verstehen means

Summary of Social Action Theory

Example: The Protestant Work Ethic

Structural cause:

Subjective Meaning:

2 levels of sociological explanation

1	Cause:
2	Meaning:

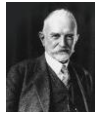
4 Types of Action

1	Instrumental Rational Action: Social actors work out the most efficient way to achieve a goal. E.g. the most efficient way to make profit is to pay low wages.
2	
3	
4	

Evaluation of Weber

Alfred Schutz	
Application	
Verstehen	

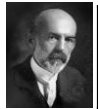
Key Thinkers



G.H. Mead



Herbert Blumer



Charles Cooley



Erving Goffman

Symbol Versus Instinct

Instinct means responding to stimulus in an automatic, pre-programmed way.

Symbol means the words, objects, expressions and gestures that an individual attaches meaning to.
For example: the shaking of a fist can mean many things.

Interpretive Phase means the process between experiencing the stimulus and reacting to it, where the situation is interpreted in order to choose the appropriate response.

Taking on the role of the other

Thinker: **GH Mead**

Taking on the role of others

How do we take on the role of the other?

Key Principals of Symbolic Interactionism

Thinker: Herbert Blumer

- 1 Our actions are based on the meanings we give to the situations, events and people.
- 2 These meanings are based on the interactions we have experienced and are not fixed but are negotiable and fluid to some extent.
- 3 The meanings we give to situations are the result of interpretive procedures we use such as taking on the role of others.

Labelling Theory

Definition of the situation	WI Thomas –
Looking Glass Self	Cooley –
Career	Becker and Lemert –

Dramaturgical Model

Thinker: Goffman	
Presentation of self	
Impression Management	
Roles	

Evaluation

	1	2	3	4	5

Phenomenology



Edmund Husserl: The world only makes sense because we impose meaning and order on it. We construct mental categories to classify and file information that we experience through our senses. Therefore the world as we know it is a product of the individual mind.



Alfred Schutz:

Typifications means...

Life World means...

Recipe Knowledge means...

Natural Attitude means...

EVALUATION: Berger and Luckman

Ethnomethodology



Harold Garfinkel -

Social order is created from....

Ethnomethodology studies

Indexicality means..

Reflexivity means

Breaching Experiments

What are they	What is their purpose?	What did Garfinkel conclude?

EVALUATION: Carib



Key Thinker

Anthony Giddens

Duality of Structure

How does language illustrate the duality of structure

Two elements of structure

Two ways that action reproduce existing structures.

1	
2	

Ontological Security means the need to feel that world around us is as it appears to be, orderly and stable. This encourages actions that maintain the structures rather than changing them.

Two ways that the structure of society, action or agency changes society.

1	
2	

Evaluation

Margret Archer	
Craib	

4 Characteristics of a Modern Society.

1	
2	
3	
4	

Globalisation means... the increased interconnectedness of people across national boundaries.

4 Changes of Globalisation

1	Technological Changes
2	Economic Changes
3	Political Changes
4	Changes in culture and identity

Postmodernism

Postmodernism is

Meta Narrative means...

Relativist Position means...

Baudrillard and Simulacra

Lyotard and language Games

Evaluation

Philo and Miller	Best and Kellner	Enlightenment Project

Late Modernity

Giddens: Key Features of Late Modernity

1	Disembedding
2	Reflexivity

Ulrich Beck: Risk Society

Manufactured Risk: The risks that we face today have been created by human activity rather than by nature.

Individualisation: we are no longer governed by tradition in terms of how we act, instead we think for ourselves and reflect on the possible consequences of our actions.

Risk Consciousness: we have become much more aware of risks to ourselves than we ever used to be and work to avoid and minimise them.

Evaluation

Rustin	Hirst	Risk & the Poor

Hypothesis means a supposition or

Correlation means the relationships

Ethnographies means the scientific

Pilot Study is a small

Qualitative data is virtually any type of

Longitudinal Study means a study that

Case Study means

Quantitative data is data that can be

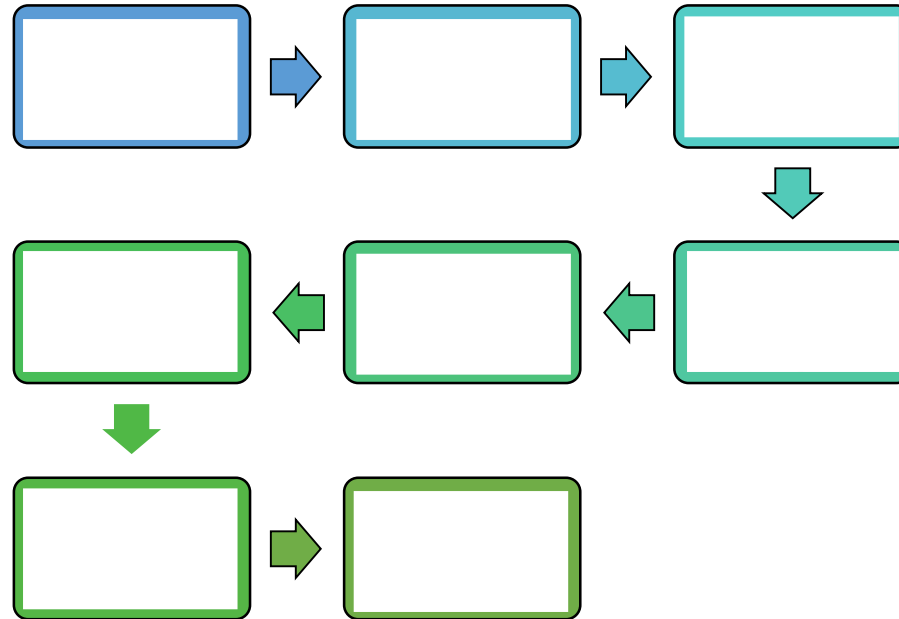
The Hypothetico-Deductive Model

Factors when choosing a topic

Reliability means the extent to which a

Validity means how well a piece of

Triangulation means using more than



1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

Practical Factors

Access to the Participants

Type of data required

Time Available

Personal Characteristics of the Researcher

Cost / Funding

Subject Matter

Research Opportunity

Size of the sample

Ethical and Moral Factors

Informed Consent

Confidentiality

Covert Research & Consent

Privacy

Pre-emptive Consent means

Harm

Deception means deliberately lying

Legality

Gate keepers are the people that

Method	Description	Practical		Ethical		Theoretical	
		+	-	+	-	+	-
Open Questionnaire			Low response rate Misunderstand the question Answer may not fit those given (closed) Leading Questions	Informed consent given by completing Anonymous	Questions may be sensitive.	Detailed data (Open) Reliable Large Sample Easy to quantify and analyse (Closed) Detachment and objectivity	Participants may lie Someone other than the intended participant may answer Right answerism Lack of rapport
Closed Questionnaire							
Web based Questionnaire							
Unstructured Interview							
Structured Interview							
Group Interview							
Overt Observation							
Covert Observation							
Participant Observation							
Non-Participation Observation							
Experiments - Lab			Time Cost				
Experiments - Field							

Method	Description	Practical		Ethical		Theoretical	
		+	-	+	-	+	-
Official Statistics		Cheap Easily accessible	May not ask the questions specific to the research			Large sample Valid Reliable	
Unofficial Statistics	Numerical data that is collected by charities and other organisations.		May not ask the questions specific to the research				Could be biased to the views of the organisation.
Personal Documents	Documents such as personal diaries, letters and other personal correspondence.	Cheap	Can be hard to access		Invasion of privacy Informed Consent Confidentiality	In depth and detailed	
Public Documents		Some can be easy to access. Cheap	Can take time to gain access under FOI Act			In depth data	Unreliable Open to interpretation Biased
Historical Documents					Confidentiality Invasion of Privacy	In depth data	
Prior Research	Research that has been carried out in the same area or on the same topic.				No ethical considerations		
Content Analysis	Formal Content Analysis is a quantitative approach to analysing mass media content and involves developing a system of classification to analyse the key features of media sources	Cheap Easy to access				Reliable	Open to interpretation

A population is the people who live within a society.

A research population is the group of people that you wish to study.

A sample is those who are taking part in your study.

Representative means the extent to which a sample mirrors a researcher's target population and reflects its characteristics.

Generalisability means the extent to which their findings can be applied to the larger population of which their sample was a part.

Random	
Description	
+	-

Systematic	
Description	
+	-

Stratified	
Description	
+	-

Quota	
Description	
+	-

Snowball	
Description	
+	-

Opportunity	
Description	
+	-

Reliability means the extent to which a study can be replicated in the same way. You do not need to get the same results but the process should be the same.

Validity means how well a piece of research actually measures what it sets out to, or how well it reflects the reality it claims to represent.

Representative means the extent to which a sample mirrors a researcher's target population and reflects its characteristics.

Generalisability means the extent to which their findings can be applied to the larger population of which their sample was a part.

Factors impacting Reliability

Research Method

Data type

Participants

Factors impacting Validity

Hawthorne Effect

Social Desirability

Data Type

Group Dynamics

Demand Characteristics

Factors impacting Representativeness and Generalisability

Sample Size

Research Method

Interpretivism

Verstehen means empathic

Social Construction means

Approach to sociological research

Natural Science V Sociology

Preferred data type and methods

Types of Interpretivism

Interactionism:

1

Sociological Perspectives

Phenomenology & Ethnomethodology

2

Sociologists

Positivism

Social facts are things such as

Induction involves accumulating data

Approach to sociological research

Causality means the relationships

Objective Quantitative Research

Preferred data type and methods

Quantitative Data

Sociological Perspectives

Sociologists

5 Components of a science	
1	Empirical – Count and measure information
2	Testable – scientific knowledge can be tested and retested.
3	Theoretical – seeks causal relationships and doesn't seek to simply describe but to explain.
4	Cumulative – Builds on previous knowledge.
5	Objective – Personal feelings m prejudices etc have not place in science. It should be unbiased.

Falsification
Thinkers: Popper
Position on Sociology as a science. Sociology is not a science but it could be
Explanation

Realists
Thinkers: Keat and Urry
Position on Sociology as a science. Sociology could be a science depending on definition of science
Explanation

Positivists
Thinkers: Durkheim and Comte
Position on Sociology as a science. Sociology is and should be considered a science.
Explanation

Paradigms
Thinkers: Kuhn
Position on Sociology as a science. Sociology is not a science but it could be
Explanation

Interpretivists
Thinkers:
Position on Sociology as a science. Sociology cannot and should not be a science.
Explanation

Values refer to beliefs, opinion prejudices that everyone holds and are influenced by our class, gender, ethnicity and experiences.

Relativism means that there is no independent way to judge if one view is more true than any other.

Positivists and Value Freedom
Thinkers: Durkheim, Comte, Marx
Explanation:

Committed Sociology	
Explanation: Sociologists shouldn't just spell out their values in their research but should also take sides and espouse the values and interests of certain groups.	
Gouldner	Becker
Feminists	

Value Laden Sociology	
Three areas where sociology cannot be value free.	
1	
2	
3	

Weber	
Explanation: Sociology cannot be completely value free but there are elements which can be. He makes a distinction between facts and value judgements. A fact can be proven or disproven by evidence where as value judgements cannot be proven or disproven.	
Areas where Sociology can be Value Free	Areas where sociology cannot be Value Free

SOCIAL POLICIES refer to laws made by the government which aim to improve society or deal with a social policy.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS refers to social behaviour that causes public friction and misery, and requires a collective response. Examples include Poverty, juvenile delinquency and divorce.

SOCIOLOGICAL PROBLEMS according to Worsley are any pattern of relationships that calls for an explanation. In other words any social behaviour or phenomena which requires explanation.

For example why poor people are more likely to commit crime.

Functionalist View
New Right View

Marxist View

Feminist View
Postmodernist View

Factors affecting the influence of sociology on social policy.

Electoral Popularity	Ideological and Policy preferences	Cost / Funding	Globalisation	Critical Sociology