

Flying Start – Year 12 Sociology

Purpose of task

You will be learning about why certain groups of students do worse than others in their GCSE exams. One area of difference is in terms of social class. Statistics reveal that children from a middle class background are more likely to do better than children from a working class background. In everyday language, children from families with more money, do better than those who do not. Sociologists are interested in why this happens.

Task

Investigate different explanations (including your own ideas) as to why this difference happens. What do you think is the reason for this pattern?

Here are some ideas to consider:

- Genetic differences/different biological intelligence
- Parenting skills
- How children raised – the attitudes they are taught
- Type of school
- Literacy levels in the home
- Resources paid for by parents
- Teachers having favourites
- Friendship groups

Find out about these different ideas from:

- Sociology textbooks
- Google searches
- Youtube clips on : Social class and education/educational attainment

You will write 2 sides of A4 (maximum) on your findings.

- Comment on these different views
- Summarize your view and why