

Defining Socialisation

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| 1 | This is a process by which we learn how to fit into society. This learning continues over our lifetime. |
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Key terms connected to socialisation

1	Norms	Guidelines for appropriate behaviour. Eg. Don't read other people's mail
2	Values	Beliefs that underlie social norms eg. We value privacy
3	Culture	A shared way of life. Includes values, norms, customs, traditions, beliefs, language. Eg people in Ecuador may eat guinea pigs- we keep them as pets in the UK
4	Roles	The pattern of expected and acceptable behaviour of people who occupy a particular social position. Eg mother, daughter, friend
5	Role conflict	Role conflict - where the expectations of one role clash with the expectations of another. Eg between role of mother and work
6	Subculture	a culture within a culture with their own set of norms and values eg a gang
7	Social control	The way in which society ensures that members of society conform to norms and values.
8	Positive sanctions	A reward that encourages people to conform eg. Pay rise
9	Negative sanctions	A punishment that discourages non-conformist behaviour eg Prison
10	Agents of socialisation	The groups/ institutions responsible for socialisation

Types of socialisation

1	Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •takes place within the home and family. •Here we learn the basic norms, values and roles of our culture. • We learn by watching and copying our parents /siblings and also learn via rewards and punishments.
2	Secondary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •takes place outside the home from an early age. •Here we learn general skills and attitudes to help us fit into wider society •We learn from the mass media, education, religious organisations, peers.

Cultural difference case studies

1	Mount Kinabalu Case	Western tourists took semi-nude photographs and reportedly urinated on the sacred mountain. They were arrested and imprisoned- had not considered the differences in cultural values.
2	The Bullet Ant Ritual	The Mawe tribe from the rainforests of Brazil initiate young boys into manhood by wearing gloves containing bullet ants-we may view this cultural difference as cruel as we perceive childhood differently.

Defining Socialisation

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Key terms connected to socialisation

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Norms

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Values

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Culture

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Roles

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Role conflict

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Subculture

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Social control

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Positive sanctions

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Negative sanctions

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Agents of socialisation

Types of socialisation

1

Primary

2

Secondary

Cultural difference case studies

1

**Mount
Kinabalu
Case**

2

**The
Bullet
Ant Ritual**

Defining Nature and Nurture

1	Nature	refers to our genetically inherited characteristics and innate drives/ instincts eg. Intelligence, reproduction , protection.
2	Nurture	refers to environmental influences on our development. Eg. Family, friends, religion. We develop by learning from our interaction with other

Explaining the Nature approach

1	Some biologists feel that our behaviour is shaped by natural instincts.
2	These instincts are inherited- they are fixed and pre-programmed patterns of behaviour.
3	Instincts are often automatic responses to stimuli in the environment.
4	They suggest that we are governed by instinctive behaviours like non-human animals.
5	They claim that we all share the same innate drives – for self-preservation, reproduction.
6	They suggest that women have an innate maternal instinct

Explaining the Nurture approach

1	Question the notion that behaviour is inherited..
2	Our behaviour is not biologically fixed - we make choices.
3	We may possess the same drives but we satisfy these drives differently- some women have children-others choose not to have any at all.
4	Our behaviour is learned and this learning usually takes place in our early years.
5	Sociologists call this process of learning how to fit in, the socialisation process

Evaluating the Nature approach

1	In support	Maternal instincts, intelligence, maturation process in children, maternal instinct, reproduction and aggression/crime. Sport eg black athlete and genetic claims
2	Evidence against	Changing role of men and women- women do not always want to be mothers/ not all women make good mothers. Aggression can be learned from family/peers. Eugenics can be used to support unethical practice

Evaluating the Nurture approach

1	In support	Changing nature of the role of men and women- gender roles and a maternal instinct are not fixed, athletes thrive because of their coaching and nutrition, some children are more successful than their parents due to improvements in education, aggression can be learned via media.
2	Evidence against	In many cases people may have a genetic predisposition to behave the way they do – the environment only acts as a trigger. There is compelling evidence to support the nature approach- maturation, self-preservation, are innate.

Defining Nature and Nurture

1	Nature	
2	Nurture	

Explaining the Nature approach

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Explaining the Nurture approach

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Evaluating the Nature approach

1	In support	
2	Evidence against	

Evaluating the Nurture approach

1	In support	
2	Evidence against	

Key features of Functionalist Theory

1	Consensus theory	believes that the institutions of society work together to maintain social cohesion and stability.
2	Structural theory	Believes society shapes the individual.

DURKHEIM

1	Institutions shape our behaviour.
2	Social solidarity and cohesion are achieved and maintained through a socialisation process
3	Anomie: = Normlessness- threat to social cohesion Change undermines norms without creating new ones
4	Society is a system of external social facts that shape behaviour to meet the needs of society.
5	Social facts are things such as institutions, norms and values which exist external to the individual and constrain them.
6	Traditional society was based on "mechanical solidarity"- little division of labour- members of society were alike- strong collective conscience
7	Modern society- division of labour- weakens bonds and the collective conscience

PARSONS

1	Organic analogy: society is similar to the human body
2	System-Society and humans are systems of interconnected and inter-dependent parts
3	System needs-the human body has needs that must be met and so does society. Institutions adapt to meet these needs.
4	Functions-Just as the organs of the body function for the good of the whole so do social institutions, which have evolved functions which benefit society as a whole.
5	Two means of maintaining value consensus and social order are formal social control eg police and informal social control eg media
6	Individuals are integrated via socialisation and social control
7	4 basic needs of society= Goal attainment: Political function Adaptation: Economic function Integration: Social harmony Latency: unstated consequences of actions eg are 2 types of latency: Pattern Maintenance: Maintaining value consensus through socialisation and Tension Management. Opportunities to release tension in a safe way.

Evaluation

1	Internal criticism: MERTON	<p>a) Indispensability—not all social institutions are functionally indispensable and that there are functional alternatives.</p> <p>b) Functional Unity –Not all social institutions are a tightly linked as</p> <p>c) Universal Functionalism – Not all the institutions of society perform a positive function for society, instead</p>
2	Marxist criticism	conformity is achieved via coercion or ideological control of the masses.
3	Action Theory criticism: WRONG	Deterministic view of individuals- ignores the role of free will

Application to topics

1	Family	The nuclear family is the best fit for society- it performs vital functions eg socialisation.
2	Education	Based on meritocracy- students are rewarded for their ability and effort – equal opportunity exists for all.
3	Religion	This aids social cohesion and helps to reinforce the collective conscience, maintaining social order eg via collective worship
4	Crime	Crime is inevitable and can be functional for society.

Part of the Introduction to Sociology unit; also see Nature vs Nurture and the lessons on perspectives

Key features of Functionalist Theory	
1	Consensus theory
2	Structural theory

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PARSONS	
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Evaluation	
1	Internal criticism: MERTON
2	Marxist criticism
3	Action Theory criticism: WRONG

Application to topics	
1	Family
2	Education
3	Religion
4	Crime

Outline the New Right approach

1	When was it popular?	In the 80s and 90s. Against the backdrop of the collapse of the Soviet Union and the decline of Marxism
2	Thatcherism and Reaganism	They supported a “laissez-faire” approach to economics- leave market forces alone or the economy will be damaged. Influenced by New Right thinkers such as Hayek and Wilson
3	Economic policy under Thatcher	Promoted privatisation of services such as gas and the railways- people bought shares. Sold off council houses to promote home ownership. Closed inefficient businesses eg mining More benefits were based on means-testing - had to qualify for them. Marketisation of education- to encourage competition and accountability
4	Back to Basics – John Major	Promoted a return to family values and a crackdown on benefit scroungers. Wanted to increase personal responsibility to reduce welfare dependency . Targeted lone parent families
5	MURRAY- The Underclass	Society has an underclass of people- unsocialised and violent. They are welfare dependent and a drain on taxpayers money. Believed the rise in lone parenthood and permissive attitudes led to this.

Evaluation

1	Strengths	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Encouraged competition through marketisation and privatisation. 2) Led to the expansion of the middle classes 3) More people owned their own homes and shares in companies 4) Encouraged efficiency in industry 5) Improved accountability 6) Aimed to reduce welfare dependency (reliance on benefits)
2	Limitations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Class divide was created – working class unable to compete fairly 2) Divided the working class- the more affluent joined the middle classes 3) Mass unemployment 4) Decline in industry 5) Increased numbers claiming benefit 6) Poverty trap- no safety net

Application to topics

1	Family	Nuclear family is the best fit for society. Reject other family types, dislike women working and the effects of the rise of feminism on the family, blame the rise in lone parenthood and the decline in marriage and also policies that support alternative families, reject same-sex families, reject liberal abortion and contraceptive policy.
2	Education	Believe the education system is meritocratic- you are rewarded by your efforts and abilities. However, critical of a one-size fits all system- need more marketisation - competition, choice, accountability and private services to make the system more efficient.
3	Crime	Believe permissive attitudes and the rise of the underclass and lone parent families has led to a rise in crime. People lack adequate socialisation and so choose to commit crime. To reduce crime the costs of crime should be high and the benefits should be low eg. Tough sentencing, more stop and search and anti-theft devices should be used.

Outline the New Right approach
1 When was it popular?

2 Thatcherism and Reaganism

3 Economic policy under Thatcher

4 Back to Basics – John Major

5 MURRAY- The Underclass

Evaluation
1 Strengths

2 Limitations

Application to topics
1 Family

2 Education

3 Crime

Key features of Marxism

1	Structural/ Top-down	Society shapes the individual.
2	Conflict	Society is based upon inequality and conflict between social groups

Outline Marxism

1	Karl Marx	1818-83 Revolutionary Socialist - Author of the <i>Communist Manifesto</i> Influential Economist (wrote <i>Das Kapital</i>) Marx was critical of capitalism -he argued that it created a <i>class struggle</i> in society.
2	Capitalism	an economic and political system in which a country's trade and industry are controlled by private owners for profit, rather than by the state.
3	Structure of society	Marx believed society could be divided into 2 parts; Infrastructure: the economic base consisting of; The means of production: land, factories, machinery The relations of production-relations between owners and workers Superstructure: institutions such as the family
4	Two classes	Bourgeoisie- small wealthy and powerful group who own means of production Proletariat- a larger, poorer and less powerful group who only have their labour to sell- they are exploited by the bourgeoisie to obtain more surplus value (profit) There is a class conflict because both groups have different interests- Bourgeoisie = profit and Proletariat= higher wages-neither one can be met without creating conflict between the classes.
5	False class Consciousness	The Proletariat are obedient and unaware of their own exploitation through coercion (eg the law) or through ideology (ruling class values are passed on by institutions such as the media) They are detached from their work = alienation
6	Revolution and Communism	People will become class conscious over time. They will rise up and take political action together. They will overthrow the capitalist class. They will replace capitalism with communism- a system whereby the means of production are the property of all.

Evaluation of Marxism

1	Strengths 1)It explains the importance of wider social forces eg the economic base 2)It offers a solution to inequality- communism 3)It supports the role of unions in workplaces 4)It has been influential in shaping societies such as the Soviet Union and China
2	Limitations 1) It over-exaggerates the importance of economic relationships 2) Interactionists would say that the individual is ignored 3) Capitalism has proven to be popular 4) It is an unscientific theory (Popper) 5) Feminists – women are ignored

Application to topics

1	Family	ENGELS: The family is a prop for capitalism- Women reproduce and raise the next generation of obedient workers. The family is also a unit of consumption-supporting ruling class interests in profit.
2	Education	ALTHUSSER: Education supports capitalism- It legitimates inequalities- suggests the system is meritocratic (rewards based on ability) when this is a myth It reproduces the next generation of obedient workers
3	Crime	CHAMBLISS: Laws are created and enforced to punish and control the Proletariat- crimes of the powerful go unpunished
4	Beliefs	It is the “opiate of the masses”- to dull the pain of capitalism eg exploitation and inequality

Part of the Introduction to Sociology unit; also see Nature vs Nurture and the lessons on perspectives

Key features of Marxism

1	Structural/ Top-down	
2	Conflict	

Outline Marxism

1	Karl Marx	
2	Capitalism	
3	Structure of society	
4	Two classes	
5	False class Consciousness	
6	Revolution and Communism	

Evaluation of Marxism

1	Strengths
2	Limitations

Application to topics

1	Family	
2	Education	
3	Crime	
4	Beliefs	

Part of the Introduction to Sociology unit; also see Nature vs Nurture and the lessons on perspectives

Key features of Feminism		
1	Structural/ Top-down	They see that society shapes the individual
2	Conflict	They believe that the source of conflict is between men and women in a patriarchal society
3	Patriarchy	Male domination and oppression of women – this exists within all institutions according to Feminists

Waves of Feminism	
1	19th century Suffragettes- campaigned for the right to vote- tactics included vandalism, hunger strikes, marches-all women over 21 given the vote in 1928
2	Women's liberation movement- 1960s and reached a height in the 1970s/1980s.They were concerned about equal pay, equal education and opportunities, better childcare,free contraception and abortion and raising women's awareness.
3	Walker- early 1990s- no universal experience of womanhood- they celebrate their differences from men and express femininity without patriarchal control.
4	Feminist communities have taken advantage of new technologies in a global society to grow support and organise activism online

Outline Feminist approaches			Evaluation
1	Liberal Feminism	Interested in the issue of legal equality. They are concerned with Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination law. They work with policymakers to ensure reform is equal. Gender is a social construct- change in socialisation can lead to gender equality	+ Equal Pay Act and Sex Discrimination acts, Abortion Law and contraception laws are seen as evidence of success –faith in progress -the battle is far from over as there is still a gender pay gap in the UK and a glass ceiling for professional women.
2	Radical Feminism	Patriarchy is universal- all women in all societies are oppressed by men. Eg Germaine Greer, Shulamith Firestone.This occurs in both public and private spheres Women have values and identities imposed upon them by men. They advocate separatism – no heterosexual relationship could ever be equal-, political lesbianism and consciousness-raising	+Women began to question equality in the private sphere -Less optimistic about gender equality -Ignores the value some women gain from being a wife and mother
3	Marxist Feminism	argue that working-class women are exploited by both patriarchy and capitalism. Their subordination arises from their status as unpaid workers or a reserve army of labour Eg Ansley and Barrett Women also absorb the frustration felt by their husbands as exploited workers. They provide the next generation of workers.	+ There is evidence to show that women have been a reserve army of labour in the past and present- during wartime but also more women work in part-time positions. There is also a gender pay gap in the UK. -Many women have take some of the top positions in society today due to improvements in education. Male unemployment has become a more pressing concern.
4	Difference and Post-structuralist feminism	Reject the view that women are an homogenous group (all the same) as class, ethnicity and sexuality can affect women's experiences differently in society. Women are not a single body sharing the same essence- critical of white middle class women in mainstream feminist movements who claim to speak for all women. Eg Butler	+ Embraces the different experiences people now have in a postmodern and global society -It makes it difficult for women to come together as one community to fight patriarchy.

Part of the Introduction to Sociology unit; also see Nature vs Nurture and the lessons on perspectives

Key features of Feminism

1	Structural/ Top-down	
2	Conflict	
3	Patriarchy	

Waves of Feminism

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Outline Feminist approaches
Evaluation

1	Liberal Feminism		
2	Radical Feminism		
3	Marxist Feminism		
4	Difference and Post-structuralist feminism		

Part of the Introduction to Sociology unit; also see Nature vs Nurture and the lessons on perspectives

Key features of Interactionism

1	Social action	The individual shapes society. Individuals construct their own reality. Symbolic interactionism was developed by Mead.
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Key Terms

1	Meanings	Humans interact in terms of meanings which make sense of actions, objects and events-they provide a definition of a situation which directs people how to act.
2	Role-taking	Putting yourself in the place of others and interpreting others' responses.
3	Self / self and others	When role-taking individuals look back at themselves-they develop a concept of self. This happens when we play a make-believe role. With an awareness of self a person sets their own goals and guides their own actions-by role-taking they are aware of what others expect of them. They are an individual and a member of society.
4	Looking glass self	A person's picture of self comes from their perception of how others see them.
5	Labelling	BECKER stated that a label is a definition of a person applied by others eg typical delinquent
6	Self-fulfilling prophecy	A prediction that comes true as a result of labelling or via the looking glass self. People will act in the way they believe others see them.
7	Master Status	This is a dominant status which overrides all others held by a person – this occurs as a result of labelling eg criminal overrides status of father, husband, colleague

Evaluation

1	Strength: Explores the idea of free will.
2	Strength: Helps us to understand the impact of labelling in education.
3	Strength: Has helped us in developing new ways of dealing with offenders in rehabilitation
4	Strength: Helps us to gain an insight into the meaning behind our interactions.
5	Strength: Helps us to understand the social construction of statistics eg crime.
6	Weakness: Marxists-Ignores the role of powerful groups in a capitalist society- Not just individuals being labelled-the Proletariat as a whole are being exploited.
7	Weakness: Feminists – ignores the patriarchal controls at work in society- men have the power to apply labels to women which may control or restrict their opportunities.
8	Weakness: Functionalists- statistics are social facts not social constructs.

Labelling theory examples

1	Education- teacher labels student as a low achiever- the student receives less attention and praise-the self-fulfilling prophecy will be educational failure
2	Crime- a person commits a minor crime- they are labelled criminal by the courts-they are treated differently by members of the public-the individual takes on the master status of criminal and commits more crime (self-fulfilling prophecy)

Part of the Introduction to Sociology unit; also see Nature vs Nurture and the lessons on perspectives

Key features of Interactionism

1	Social action	
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Key Terms

1	Meanings	
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2	Role-taking	
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3	Self / self and others	
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4	Looking glass self	
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5	Labelling	
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6	Self-fulfilling prophecy	
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7	Master Status	
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Evaluation

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Labelling theory examples

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Defining globalisation

1 This is the process by which societies become **increasingly interconnected**. Events in one part of the world have a **growing impact on events in other parts**. **GIDDENS**: “The coming together of political, social, cultural and economic factors

Features of a global society

1	Multinational corporations	Companies like coca-cola and McDonalds, Apple and Ford. They produce and provide goods and services in more than one country- they account for over two-thirds of global trade.
2	Global finance	Stock markets span the world. Deregulation of markets means that transactions are often global. A financial crisis in one part of the world can spread worldwide.
3	Political globalisation	More and more countries are members of worldwide and regional organisations eg EU, IMF, UN.
4	Cultural globalisation	Music, film and fashion have a global audience.
5	Cultural imperialism	The West imposes it’s culture on the rest of the world. It sweeps away local cultures.
6	Glocalisation	Mixing of cultures –global and local meet. Eg Bollywood musicals, Japanese rap.
7	Global risk society	Beck-many of the risks today are man-made-can only be tackled by global organisations eg over-fishing and global warming.
8	Detraditionalisation	Giddens- globalization challenges existing ways and traditions by presenting alternative views- this can lead to detraditionalisation. Eg Demonstrations in Egypt in 2011 after 30 yrs of dictatorship.

Pre-Industrial, Modernity, Postmodernity

1	Pre-Industrial	Status-ascribed Work-Self-employed Family-Extended Living –mostly in one place
2	Modernity	Growth of science and religion Status-achieved Work-employed Family-Nuclear Living –mostly in towns and cities and geographically mobile
3	Postmodernity	Status- what you own Work- a variety Family- whatever suits you Living- wherever you want- the world has shrunk.

Part of the Introduction to Sociology unit; also see Nature vs Nurture and the lessons on perspectives

Features of a Postmodern society		
1	Electronic media:	this engulfs us with a multitude of meanings and messages. Exposure to multiple realities can make our lives seem fragmented, empty and meaningless
2	Loss of faith in science and technology:	there are so any differing views that the objectivity of "experts" is now questioned. there are so any differing views that the objectivity of "experts" is now questioned.
3	Alternative lifestyles:	these weaken established beliefs eg New Age religions
4	Identities:	we have the freedom to create and express our identities- we have multiple identities used in different situations.

Outline Postmodernism:		
1	BAUDRILLARD	Postmodern society blurs the line between reality and illusion- we live in a hyperreality. Illusion becomes real and simulations become authentic
2	LYOTARD	Economic growth and expansion have gone beyond human scope. Marxism and functionalism are meta narratives. Their role is to provide an explanation to make sense of a society out of control. Such theory does not accord with peoples sense of isolation and individualism.
3	Death of the Social	People have no interest in social solidarity and politics We live isolated lives Our common experience is provided by the media This is superficial and driven by marketing and advertising .
4	Media and experience	People rely on the media for their understanding of the world and how to behave. They reflect the media images and behave accordingly.The media then makes new images and the process goes on .
5	Sign Objects	People define themselves more by what they consume than by their social relationships . Consumer goods are often functionally useless 'sign- objects' We consume an image rather than a service
6	Hyperreality and Simulacrum	It is believed that concepts exist and that they are represented by names or 'signs'.In post-modern society some signs have no real basis. Where signs exist with no basis in reality, this is called simulacrum . We base so much of our life on simulacra that we live in hyperreality .

Evaluation of Postmodernism		
1	Late modernity GIDDENS	We have moved to a later stage of modernity not postmodernity. The era is like trying to control a runaway juggernaught- full of risk but also thrilling. We reflect on our identities and our decisions, on how much we trust those who deal with risks and our relationships are based on a deep emotional closeness-confluent love.
2	Second modernity BECK	We have moved into second modernity- characterised by risk (man-made) and individualisation (people see themselves as individuals, construct their own identities, make decisions and demand a life of their own. BUT it is not a me-first society- cooperative altruism is needed (care for others and working together in our relationships) in order to meet our own needs.
3	Liquid Modernity BAUMAN	We have moved to a liquid society where work and relationships are fragile and uncertain. We engage in self blame as individualisation is at the heart of this era.There is a slow disintegration of citizenship.
4	Further evaluation	WEAKNESS How can you have a general theory arguing that general theory is obsolete? Isn't this just another metanarrative? STRENGTH It has had an impact on social theory because it looks beyond taken-for-granted assumptions about society.

Part of the Introduction to Sociology unit; also see Nature vs Nurture and the lessons on perspectives

Defining globalisation

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Features of a global society

1	Multinational corporations	
2	Global finance	
3	Political globalisation	
4	Cultural globalisation	
5	Cultural imperialism	
6	Glocalisation	
7	Global risk society	
8	Detraditionalisation	

Pre-Industrial, Modernity, Postmodernity

1	Pre-Industrial	
2	Modernity	
3	Postmodernity	

Part of the Introduction to Sociology unit; also see Nature vs Nurture and the lessons on perspectives

Features of a Postmodern society			Outline Postmodernism:		
1	Electronic media:		1	BAUDRILLARD	
2	Loss of faith in science and technology:		2	LYOTARD	
3	Alternative lifestyles:		3	Death of the Social	
4	Identities:				
Evaluation of Postmodernism					
1	Late modernity GIDDENS		4	Media and experience	
2	Second modernity BECK		5	Sign Objects	
3	Liquid Modernity BAUMAN		6	Hyperreality and Simulacrum	
4	Further evaluation				

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