

When studying A-level Sociology, it is important that you not only attend all of your lessons and complete all of your homework, but that you are also doing independent study. We would recommend that you are spending at least 5 hours a week on your independent study. In order for this study to be of maximum benefit, it is important that you do a range of different activities; you should be doing some from each of the boxes below. In addition, if you would like to stretch yourself beyond the A-level curriculum then have a look in the super-curricular box for ideas.

Content

One important part of independent study is making sure you have learnt all of the content. Below are some suggestions of things you can do to support learning of the content in A-level Sociology:

- ✓ Create Quizlets
- ✓ Test yourself using Quizlet
- ✓ Create mind maps and/or knowledge organisers
- ✓ Create summary sheets
- ✓ Create flashcards
- ✓ Get someone else to test you (using your flashcards, class notes or the text book)
- ✓ Read through class notes
- ✓ Make/remake class notes
- ✓ Highlight/colour-code your notes
- ✓ Use a revision wall to display your learning
- ✓ Use resources on the Class Team or Catalogue
Link: [KS5](#)
- ✓ Read course textbooks and summarise what you have read
- ✓ Complete questions in the textbook

Skills

Another important part of independent study is developing the skills to be able to succeed in the exams. Below are some suggestions to help you develop those skills:

- ✓ Write exam answers under timed conditions
- ✓ Plan or write out answers to individual exam questions using your notes/textbook (not timed).
Use this link to support your practice: [Past Papers & Mark Schemes](#)
- ✓ Read through model answers or look at worked-through examples online
- ✓ Buy one of the revision workbooks and complete the exam practice questions

Feedback

The final important part of independent study is getting and using feedback. Feedback allows you to understand what it is you need to do differently next time in order to improve. Below are some ideas about how you can use feedback:

- ✓ Mark your own work using a mark scheme
- ✓ Study mark schemes and/or examiners' reports
- ✓ Work with other students in groups/pairs to peer-assess work
- ✓ Compare model answers against your own work
- ✓ Create your own exam questions
- ✓ Hand in extra exam work for marking
- ✓ One to one discussions with your teachers

Super-curricular Sociology

If you were considering studying Sociology at university, or are just really interested in the subject, then you could complete some super-curricular activities. These are things which go beyond what is covered in the curriculum and include things such as reading relevant books, watching related documentaries, listening to sociology podcasts and reading relevant journal articles.

For up-to-date suggestions, look at the Sociology Padlet: [CSF super-curricular: Sociology A-level \(padlet.com\)](#)