**Essay plan: Values and ethics**

Item: Some argue that it is possible and desirable for sociologists to study society in a completely value-free, objective way. Others suggest that sociologists cannot avoid the influence of values completely, and it is therefore impossible for them to conduct value-free research. A third position is that sociology should not be value-free even if it were possible, and research should involve a value commitment to improve the lives of the disadvantaged.

Applying material from the item and your knowledge, evaluate the view that value-freedom is an ideal to strive for in sociology, but is impossible to achieve [20 marks]

Paragraphs in 20 and 30 mark essays:

The Sociology sandwich is exactly the same as the burger idea we use for 10 marker, but it needs you to include more analysis/evaluation (using other studies, theories or methodology) to counter the point you are making. Each paragraph should have the elements of this ‘sandwich’ before you move onto your next point.



**Key areas of the question that you need to address:**

|  |
| --- |
| What does the question want? |
| **Introduction:** needs to address the debate and define key concepts in the question |
| How could you use the **item** |
| What key concepts will need to be included? |
| Evidence **for the argument** in the question (including named studies) |
| **Counter arguments** to these (including named studies) |
| Conclusion- weigh up the debate: based on the evidence you have presented, does the mass media cause crime? |
| What will be in each of your 3/4 paragraphs?1.2.3. |