**A Level Sociology: Lower 6th Induction task September 2022**

Instructions to complete:

You should type your answers onto the document (using Word or Google Docs) or write on the document and upload clear photos. The document should then be submitted into the assignment folder on your class’ Team by the start of lessons on Friday 9 September (or be ready to come in with it to upload in the lesson). Please note you may not be able to upload it until timetables come out and you have been allocated to a Team. If you get stuck please email Hannah Roberts (Head of Department)– hhr@godalming.ac.uk

You should use the item to help you answer the questions, but you will also need to use your own knowledge and do a bit of research. Resources to help you include:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnCJU6PaCio> ‘What is Sociology? Crash Course’

<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology> - have a look at the ‘classic texts’

<https://www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/sociology>

Read the item and answer the questions

**Item A – A brief introduction to Sociology**

Sociology is the exploration of how human interaction is shaped by the institutions around us. As a subject, the aim of sociology is to go beyond a common-sense understanding of the social world. Sociologists often want to go beyond what is seen as logical or taken for granted. This is achieved through the use of research methods which allow for sociologists to systematically research the world around them and to be able to draw conclusions from the results. There are a wide range of research methods that allow for more control and objectivity, while others allow for more freedom and subjectivity. For example, Rosenthal and Jacobson (1968) carried out field study about the effects of labelling on students, which enabled sociologists to see how harmful a label can be to a pupil’s progress.

Social research methods allow for sociologists to mimic some of the research styles of the natural sciences. Therefore, they would like to be taken as seriously as the natural scientists. Many sociologists argue that governments and politicians should use sociological research as information to inform new laws and policies. However, despite the desire of some sociologists to be seen as equal to natural scientists there are others within the sociological community who do not want this. They argue that the aim of sociology is to disrupt social order and to help liberate oppressed groups in society. They see sociology as encouraging individuals to be more critical of institutions and social forces, to become more aware of oppression and to fight for their rights.

1. In the first paragraph, what does the writer mean by common sense? (2 marks)
2. What is the aim of sociology, as a subject? (2 marks)

c) How do sociologists seek to guaranteed this aim is met? (2 marks)

d) Can you find an example of a sociological research method and study? (2 marks)

e) Can you describe two types of sociologist or types of sociological thought? (2 marks)

f) How is common sense different from sociological thought? (2 marks)

g) Can you think of an example of an oppressed group? Why would you consider them oppressed? (2 marks)

h) Do you think that sociology can successfully influence government policy and laws? (4 marks)

**2. Define the following key words:**

1. Consensus (2 marks)

1. Structure (2 marks)
2. Capitalism (2 marks)
3. Ethnicity (2 marks)

1. Social class (2 marks)
2. Feminism (2 marks)

Total marks: 30