


SIXTH FORM SUMMER TRANSITION TASK

	<u>SOCIOLOGY</u>	
	Qualification Level	A-Level
	Exam Board/ Syllabus	AQA
	Contact(s)	Mrs Cameron-Wyatt and Miss Luddington

The Task:

Investigate the Functionalist theory in Sociology and write a **1,500 word essay** on the **key principles of Functionalism in explaining society**.

Your essay should start with an introduction. You should then write the main body of your essay and follow a PEE structure. **Point**- make a point (x1 sentence) about the Functionalist perspective. **Explain**- the ideas and concepts of the key functionalist. **Evaluate**- can you provide strengths or limitations of the Functionalist perspective. Your essay should finish with a conclusion. Your essay should be written in the third person.

Include the following in your essay:

- **Introduction**
 - What are you going to be discussing in your essay.
 - Do not write in the first person but instead the third person
 - The introduction will only be short but directive
- **What are the key principles of Functionalism?**
 - What are the key ideas associated with Functionalism?
 - What do Functionalists believe about society and the relationships between people or institutions?
- **Who are the key thinkers and which key concepts do they refer to?**
 - Who are the main Functionalists?
 - What are the ideas of each Functionalist?
 - What keywords are associated with each Functionalist and what do they mean?
- **A detailed explanation of each key thinker's idea of the role both Education and the Family play in society**
- **Evaluation**
 - What are the strengths of this theory in explaining society?
 - What are the limitations of this theory for explaining society?
- **Conclusion**
 - How useful is Functionalism for explaining society?
 - Is it a relevant theory for explaining today's society?

Key information to include and get you started:

- Durkheim
- Parsons
- Organic analogy

- Social solidarity

Useful websites:

- <http://www.britsoc.co.uk>
- <http://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/sociologyreviewextras>
- <http://www.podology.org.uk>
- www.revisesociology.wordpress.com
- <http://www.s-cool.co.uk>
- <http://sociology.org.uk>
- <http://www.sociologyonline.co.uk>
- <http://www.socresonline.org.uk/>
- <http://www.socioweb.com/>
- www.sociologytwynham.com
- <http://www.tutor2u.net> > sociology