BELIEFS IN SOCIETY



Part 1:

- a) Key Concepts in Beliefs
- b) Ideology, Science and Religion
- c) Functionalist view of religion
- d) Marxist View of Religion
- e) Neo Marxist View of religion.

WHAT DOES INDEPENDENT STUDY LOOK LIKE IN SOCIOLOGY?

LESSON - 30 MINS AFTER THE

REVIEW YOUR NOTES



- Highlight key terms and thinkers.
- Identify the main points of the lesson.
- Identify any evaluation

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING



- Identify the terms you can't define.
- Identify concepts you don't know.

CHECK YOUR TEXTBOOK



what you don't get to see Use your textbook and the website to look at if that clarifies it.

ADD TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



 Don't have to complete covered in the lesson it all, just elements that day.

POST IT NOTE REMINDERS



eacher in the next lesson. Make a note of the parts remind you to ask your vou are not sure on to

AFTER THE LEARNING PHASE - 60 MINS

REVIEW YOUR NOTES



see if you have any gaps Compare to the spec to in your notes.

FILL IN ANY GAPS YOU HAVE.



the website to fill in any Use your textbook and gaps that you have in your notes.

ADD TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



knowledge organiser is completed. Make sure that your

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING



consolidation activity in the understanding of the topic Complete the quiz & ISB's to check your

ASK FOR HELP



sure on or don't understand. See your teacher for help with anything you are not

SUMMARISE THE PHASE



 Summarise the topic on to a trigger sheet. E.g. Flash Card, Cornell sheet, Spiderweb

At the End of the **SNIW - 80 WINS**

REVIEW YOUR NOTES



see if you have any gaps Compare to the spec to in your notes.

FILL IN ANY GAPS YOU HAVE.



 Fill in any gaps you have in your ISB.

 Fill in any gaps in your notes.

APPLY TO AN EXAM QUESTION

Keep going back to

to see what you can

remember

activities and KO's

topics, redo



as much detail as you can. questions in your ISB. Put in Plan out the exam style

reasoning conversations Complete chain of

PRIORITISE THE PHASES



 Use your prioritisation matrix according to your level of to organise the topics confidence in each learning phase.

ASK FOR HELP



 See your teacher for help with anything you are not sure on or don't understand.

OTHER TIPS



SENECA

Complete an hour

of Seneca each

week focusing on

struggle with most. the topics you

Make links and cross reference between topics. Sociology is not linear 01 **(**)



Be aware of what is happening in the world

How to use this booklet:

Each section of this booklet contains:

Topic overview sheet

- What you need to know
- Key Terms
- Key Thinkers
- Links to Resources

Knowledge Organiser

Completed to help ensure notes are full.

Notes Prioritisation and Check

 Key questions to use to check your notes are complete and to prioritise your knowledge.

Quick Question Quiz

10 questions to check your understanding

Consolidation Activity

To bring together your learning and ensure your understanding.

Exam Style Question Tasks

- 10 marker without Item
 - Planner and first paragraph.
- 10 marker with item
 - Planner sheet and first paragraph
- 20 Mark Questions
 - Plan and Chain of Reasoning / Filter sheet
 - Introduction and first paragraph.

When completing the booklet you will need 3 different colours.

Completed without any notes
Completed with notes
Asked for help from Teacher

This will help you to see where there are gaps in your knowledge and areas that you need to focus on for your study.

Topic	Date Checked	Note Taking Prioritisation	Quick Questions	Consolidation Task	4 and 6 Markers	10 Marker with Item	30 Marker	Targets	Feedback
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	Section Complete
	Check this task
c v	Task Incomplete – Please finish
8	Task not started – Please complete

	ISB is up to date and complete well.
	ISB is mostly complete which a few tasks to check
[•]	ISB is generally complete with some tasks incomplete
(:)	A number of tasks are incomplete or not started
(3.0)	Far too much is incomplete or not started.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- lacksquare The features of a Religion
- ☐ Different types of religions
- Definitions of religion
 - Substantive
 - Constructionist
 - □ Functional

KEY TERMS FOR THIS TOPIC

- Substantive definitions
- Constructionist definitions
- Sacred
- Profane
- Totemism
- Theistic
- New Age Movements
- Animism
- Fundamentalism
- Secularisation

KEY SOCIOLOGISTS

- · Durkheim
- Aldridge
- Weber
- Berger

RESOURCES



- Webb, Westergaard, Trobe and Townend: 5
- Browne: 8 9Collins: 432 436Hodder: 116 117



WEBSITES



Hectic Teacher's A Level Site



Future Learn



Revise Sociology



Tutor2U



VIDEO CLIPS



Crash Course



Adam Walton



Audiopedia

Religiosity refers to the extent to which someone sees themselves as religious.

Fundamentalism appeal to tradition - they seek return to the basics or fundamentals of their faith.

Secularisation means the decrease in power that religion has in society.

Idealogy means a set of ideas, values and beliefs that provide a means of interpreting the world.

Types of Religion

A belief in a higher power that could be a single God (monotheistic) or many gods (polytheistic). This supernatural being is the source of the beliefs around which the religion revolves.

Theistic

Spiritual rather then religious belief system, focused on self development and fulfilment rather than a devotion to a higher power. Often based on Eastern Religions like Buddhism. An example would be Reiki or Yoga.

agA waM

A belief in spirits and ghosts that can positively or negatively impact the human or natural world.
Animistic religions tend to be more prevalent in pre-industrial and non-industrial societies, for example paganism and ancient religions such as the Aztecs.

msiminA

A form of animism in which a community creates a symbol that represents them as a group. The symbol gains sacred significance and is believed to protect the people it represents. For example Australian Aboriginals.

Totemism

5 features of religion

Sacred and profane objects; places and times.

Ritual acts based on sacred and profane objects, places and times.

Moral code With supernatural origins.

Prayer and other forms of communication with supernatural being.

Definitions of Religion

Substantive Definition

Outline: Aim to identify the core characteristics Shared by major religions. They are exclusive in nature because belief systems can only be classed as a religion if they have these particular features. For example one characteristic is the belief in a god.

Evaluation: Ethnocentric as it focuses on western religions. Doesn't have room for belief systems which perform similar functions as religion but do not have a supernatural god.

Functional Definitions

Outline: Looks at what a religion does for the society in which it exists. It may bring comfort to its believers or reinforce societal values and inequalities.

Evaluation: Too inclusive as any belief system could be considered a religion it performs similar functions. For example supporting a football team may perform these functions but doesn't make it a religion.

Constructionist Definition

Outline: Mainly interested in how definitions of religion are constructed, challenged and fought over. Interpretivist believe therefore that the definition of religion depends on who has the power. Aldridge for example shows how the followers of scientology see it as a religion despite many others disagreeing.

Evaluation: Impossible to generalise about the nature of religion as people may have widely differing views of what counts as religion.



NOTE TAKING TASK

To ensure that your notes are complete and cover all the necessary content, you need to make sure that you are answering each of the questions below.

Types of Religion	Definitions of Religion	Key Terms to Learn
What are the 5 features of religion in accordance with the substantive and exclusivist definitions?	What are the strengths and limitations of each definition above?	ReligiosityFundamentalismSecualirsation
What is a Theistic Belief system? Give examples.	What is the Functional/ Inclusivist definition of religion?	IdeologyTheology
	What is the Constructionist definition of religion?	
What are New age Movements ? Give examples		
What is meant by Animism?	What is the Substantive/ Exclusive definition of Religion?	
What is Totemism? Give examples		



PRIORITISATION

Once you have taken your notes, colour code the question according to your level of confidence.

Don't get it	Need some help	Fairly confident	I got this!



KNOWLEDGE CHECK QUESTIONS.

Complete the following questions firstly without your notes and then check using your notes.

What is meant by Totemism?	
What does Berger mean by Sacred Canopy?	
Which sociologist is associated with the Constructionist definition of religion?	
What are the 5 features of religion?	
What are the two types of theistic religions?	
What is meant by the term Animism?	
Give one criticism of the substantive definition of religion.	
Give one criticism of the functional definition of religion.	
What is a new age movement?	
Which sociologist is associated with the idea of totemism?	



CONSOLIDATION:

Collins – Activity page 430 - 432

Answer all the questions in full and complete sentences and at least three sentences for each answer.

Outline and explain two ways of defining religion. [10]	

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- ☐ The difference between an open and closed system of belief.
- ☐ The elements of self sustaining belief system.
- Explanations of religion as an ideology according to:
 - ☐ Marxists, Feminists, Postmodernists, Mannheim.
- ☐ The CUDOS norms & Core principals of science
- ☐ Sociological views of scientific knowledge.
- ☐ The impact of science on religion

KEY TERMS FOR THIS TOPIC

- Ideology
- Denial of legitimacy
- Subsidiary Explanation
- Circularity
- Science
- Religion
- Azande
- Utopia
- Free Floating Intelligentsia
- Verification
- Falsification
- Paradigm
- CUDOS
- Open System
- Closed System

KEY SOCIOLOGISTS

- Polanyi
- Herberg
- · Evans-Pritchard
- Mannheim
- Horton
- Popper
- Kuhn
- Woolgar
- Knorr-Cetina
- Lyotard
- Oakley
- Michalowski & Kramer

RESOURCES



- Webb, Westergaard, Trobe and Townend:
 59 64
- Browne: 4 15Collins: 436 443Hodder: 118 122



WEBSITES



Hectic Teacher's A Level Site



Sociology Saviour



Revise Sociology -

Science

Tutor2U - Ideology

You Tube

VIDEO CLIPS



Revision Hub -



Revision Hub - 2



Revision Hub -



Adam Walton

Belief Systems

Religion as closed belief system

Religion is often seen as a closed system of belief because they often suggest that they know the TRUTH about the world and do not tolerate those that criticise that truth. They can be very conservative in their beliefs and not wish to change.

Science as a closed belief

Kuhn – Science is a closed belief system as it runs of paradigms which shape the way that the discipline is defined and understood as well as how research is carried out. As this is accepted by the majority it is very hard to change.

Polanyi – Self Sustaining Beliefs

In order to protect themselves from challenge closed systems such as religion have 3 main tendencies:

1	Denial of legitimacy – complete rejection of the claim s of rivals to convince followers that they alone hold the truth.
	Subsidiary Explanations – Get out clauses

argument. Circularity – Each idea within the system is explained in terms of another idea within

the system.

to explain away criticisms or to deflect the

Religion as an open belief system

Religion can be seen as an open system of belief when it is open to change. *Herberg* suggests that some religions are open to change and have diluted their beliefs systems in order to maintain relevance in modern society. He refers to this process as internal secularisation and uses the acceptance of female Bishops into the Church of England as an example.

Science as an open belief system

Popper believes that science is an open system because it is open to challenge and it is built upon the idea of falsification. If a theory is proven wrong it is replaced and the knowledge within the discipline grows.

Case Study: Azande & Witchcraft

Evans -Pritchard

Studied the Azande tribe and shows how their belief system reflects the characteristics of a closed system. Their belief in witch craft causing misfortune and the proof coming from a 'Benge' potion given to chickens seems irrational to outsiders but is indoctrinated into the tribe and no one questions it.

Ideology

A **belief** system is the set of stories and realities about the world that a person believes to be true. It includes religious **beliefs**, morals and what one defines as right or wrong. **Ideologies** refer to the political, social and economic ideas that help to define a particular group of people.

Marxism

Thinker: Gramsci, Marx, Althusser

All ideologies including science and religion are a tool of the ruling class to maintain power and reproduce inequality. They justify the principals of capitalism and prevent the proletariat revolution. Marxists argue that major scientific discoveries are motivated by generating mass profits and only fuels capitalism further.

Feminism

Thinker: Oakley

Believe that ideologies such as science and religion have promoted the patriarchy for generations. For example by blocking women from positions of power or tainting them as weak or impure. Oakley argues that a good example of science acting as an ideology is Bowlby's study of maternal deprivation She suggests that his idea that children's development is damaged by working mothers has been used to justify gender inequality in the work place and reinforced the patriarchal idea of women staying at home and men as the breadwinner.

Postmodernism / Pluralism

There are multiple ideologies within society and they reflect the values and world views of the different social groups within that society. There is no dominate ideology but a sharing of power amongst them.

This is a contradiction as the pluralism itself is declaring dominance. It also ignores the unequal distribution of power within society.

Mannheim

Mannheim claims that all world views are ideologies and are the product of the theologians and intellectuals that cannot relate to the everyday, so their idea reflect their own personal interests.

He identified two types of world view:

- Jacobiogical Thought Justifies tradition and the maintenance of society thus resisting change. This is because those who control the ideology are benefiting from the status quo.
- Utopian thought Attempts to promote social change because the current state of the world doesn't benefit those who construct utopian beliefs systems.

He argues that we need to detach ourselves from these world views and create an objective world view that all can relate to. These ideas would be created by a "free Floating intelligentsia".

Core Principals of Science

Science is the pursuit of facts	It is objective	Studies the impact of cause and effect based on reliable data.
_	2	3

Paradigms shape the how the discipline is defined and understood by those who work within it and sets out how research should be conducted.

Falsification means that for something to be scientific it must be possible that it could be proven false. If a theory stands up to falsification (tested repeated but is not proven wrong) it is a good theory.

Merton: CUDOS norms

C	Communism – scientific knowledge should be shared with the community and not kept secret or private.
n	Universalism – all scientists are regarded as equal so it should be there work that is challenged not them personally.
D	Disinterestedness – scientists should be committed to truth and publish their findings honestly. There should be no fraud or subjective bias.
OS	Organised Scepticism – All knowledge within science should be challenged and scrutiny should be encouraged.

Feminism F

Sociology of Scientific Knowledge

Interpretivist argue that all knowledge is socially constructed because, rather than being an objective truth, it is the result of the resources available to the social group creating it. In the case of science the facts they create are the result of shared paradigms and theories and when new instruments are invented it allows for new observations and the creation of new facts.

facts. Woolgar - Little Green Men Woolgar argues that scientis same process of making sen

Woolgar argues that scientists are engaged in the same process of making sense of the world as the rest of us. When confronted with evidence they need to determine what it means. For example the discovery of Pulsars by Cambridge Astronomy Lab was initially annotated as LG1M1 and LGM2 meaning Little Green Men, but as this would be unacceptable to the scientific community they determined it must be an unknown type of star.

Conflict theories such as Marxism and feminism see scientific knowledge as being far from the truth. They see it as serving the interests of particular groups in society (Ruling class – Marxism and Men – Feminism). Therefore any advances in supposedly pure science are in fact driven by capitalism. For example the development of the theory of ballistics was driven by the need for new weaponry which could be manufactured and sold.

Marxism

Science is one of a number of metanarratives which try to provide a big picture view of what it "true". **Lyotard** argues that science falsely claims to find the truth about how the world works as a means of progress to a better society where as in reality science is more of a discourse or way of thinking that is used to dominate people. He believes that science has become a **technoscience**, simply serving capitalist interests by producing commodities for profit.

Postmodernism

Aldridge: Transitions from Religious to Scientific Explanations.

i appic

The stage in which the supernatural element is diminished and phenomena is explained as arising from the action of the natural, though abstract entities such as Nature. For example the changing seasons is natures cycle of life.

In this stage the previous stages are replaced by rational explanations which are based on evidence derived from observation and experimentation, logic and rational thought. Weber refers to this as the disenchantment with the world – the loss of the world.

Impact of Science on Religion

It can be argued that the growth of science has led to a decline in Religion, however this is not necessarily the case. Millions of people still identify themselves with one of the major religions in the world such as Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and Buddhism. All manner of religious and supernatural beliefs and superstitions still continue to have a huge impact on human behaviour. For example the mass suicide at the People's Temple in 1978 and the Heaven's Gate Cult who believed that they would be taken to Heaven on a spaceship that was hidden behind the Hale Bop Comet in 1997.

Many people still hold abstract and unseen forces responsible for life events such as luck, magic, ghosts, Tarot, ESP and horoscopes.



NOTE TAKING TASK

To ensure that your notes are complete and cover all the necessary content, you need to make sure that you are answering each of the questions below.

Belief Systems	Ideology	Science and religion
What is meant by a belief system?	What is an ideology?	What are the 5 core principal of science?
How can religion be defined as an open and closed belief system?	What is the Marxist view of ideologies?	What are Merton's CUDOS norms of science?
How can science be defined as an open and closed system?	What is the pluralist view of ideologies?	Describe the sociology of scientific knowledge. (Interpretivism, Conflict theory and Postmodernism)
What does Polanyi mean by self sustaining beliefs?	What is the feminist view of Ideologies?	What are Aldridge's 3 stages of transition from religious to scientific explanations.
How does Evans – Pritchard exemplify these ideas using the Azande and their belief in witchcraft?	What does Mannheim mean by a world view and what are the two types of world view?	What is the impact of science on Religion?



PRIORITISATION

Once you have taken your notes, colour code the question according to your level of confidence.

Don't get it is need some neight any confident it got mis:	Don't get it	Need some help	Fairly confident	I got this!
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KNOWLEDGE CHECK QUESTIONS.

Complete the following questions firstly without your notes and then check using your notes.

What is meant by a free- floating intelligentsia?	
What are the three stages of transition to scientific explanation according to Aldridge?	
What are the three elements of a self sustaining belief system?	
What are the CUDOS norms?	
What is meant by falsification?	
What is meant by internal secularisation?	
What is one impact of science on Religion?	
What is the difference between an open and closed system?	
Which sociologist is associated with self sustaining belief systems?	
Which sociologist is associated The Little Green Men theory?	

	s it claims. [ich science is not c [10]	

Look for hooks in

Write the

paraaraph.

Deconstruct the

auestion

Item

Both science and religion are belief systems that involve sets of knowledge-claims: that is, statements that claim to offer explanations of why things are as they are. For example, science uses concepts such as germs to explain why people fall ill from infectious diseases, while some religions use ideas such as the will of God to explain human illness and suffering.

Applying material from the item, analyse two differences between science and religion as belief systems. [10]

Think of possible

Command Words	Topic	Focus
	T	
	1	
		1

Relative Importance Essay

ITEM:

The term ideology usually refers to a belief system that serves the interests of a particular social group or class. For example, Marxists argue that The Ruling Class use ideologies that would trade inequality is inevitable and or desirable. By doing so, they seek to persuade subordinate classes to accept the dominance of The Ruling Class over Society. Institutions such as religion, the media and education play an important role in creating ideology. From a functionalist perspective civil religion and political beliefs such as nationalism may be seen as ideologies that combine to society together.

Applying material from the Item and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of the nature and role of ideology. [20]

Command Words	Topic	Focus	Evaluation Stem

Context					
Background	Definition	Trend			

Content		
1		
2		
3		
4		

Answer		



Which explanation is the best one?

- 1) Identify the four explanations that you re going to discuss.
- 2) At each level decide which one you are going to drop and then explain why.3) The one that is left at the end if your best explanation.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- ☐ Outline and evaluate different definitions of religion including the difference between substantive, Functional and Constructionist definition's
 - ☐ Functionalist theories on religion
 - ☐ Key Functionalist thinkers and ideas
 - Evaluation of Functionalist ideas

KEY TERMS FOR THIS TOPIC

- Substantive definitions
- Constructionist definitions
- Sacred
- Profane
- Totemism
- Civil religion
- Collective conscience

KEY SOCIOLOGISTS

- Durkheim
- Aldridge
- Malinowski
- Parsons
- Bellah

RESOURCES



- Webb, Westergaard, Trobe and Townend: 5
 - Browne: 16 21 Collins: 446 - 450 Hodder: 123 - 124



WEBSITES



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Revision Hub



Adam Walton

Religion is a vital institution for maintaining social cohesion and solidarity.

Durkheim

The Sacred & The Profane	One of the main purposes of religion is to differentiate between the sacred (things that are special because they are the product of a higher power or supernatural being) and the profane (things that are ordinary, average and have no special meaning or purpose).
msimətoT	The essence of a religion can be found I studying its simplest form in the simplest type of society (clan). He studied the Arunta Aboriginal tribe. The tribe consists of bands of kin who come together periodically to worship a sacred totem. The totem is the clan's emblem in the form of an animal or plant to represent the clans origins and identity. These ritual reinforce the clans sense of belonging and solidarity.
Sollective Conscious	Sacred symbols represent the societies collective conscience. A collective conscience is the shared norms, values beliefs and knowledge that make social living possible. Durkheim believed that regular religious rituals reinforce the collective conscience and maintains social integration reminding people that they share a common moral outlook to which they owe loyalty. Religion also helps the individual to feel a part of something bigger than themselves.
Cognitive snothonu-T	Durkheim believed that religion was the origin of concepts and categories that we need for reasoning, understanding the world and communication. He argues that people need concepts such as time , space, cause, substance and number to make sense of the world and that we need to share these concepts with other in order to communicate effectively. There fore for Durkheim religion is the origins of human thought, reason and science.

Parsons

Values and Meanings

Religion helps people to cope with unforeseen situations and uncontrollable outcomes. He identifies two essential functions that religion performs in modern society.:

- It creates and legitimates societies central values by sacralising them which serves to promote a value consensus.
- It is a primary source of meaning by trying to answer the ultimate questions about the human condition such as why people suffer and the good die young. Which enables people to make sense of these vents and helps society maintain stability.

Bellah

Civil Religion

Civil religion is the belief system that attaches sacred qualities to society itself. For example "the American way of life".

Bellah argues that civil religion integrates society in a way that all the different churches and religions in America cannot. American Civil religion involves loyalty to the nation state and a belief in god. This is expressed through various symbols and rituals such as the pledge of allegiance the national anthem, phrases such as one nation under God.

Malinowski

Т

Psychological Functions

Religion helps people to cope with emotional stress which could undermine social solidarity. Malinowski suggests two types of situation where religion would perform this role:

- Where the outcome is important bur is uncontrollable and uncertain. For
 example in the Triobrand tribe lagoon fishing is not seen as dangerous or
 uncertain so requires no ritual, however Ocean fishing is both dangerous and
 uncertain so "canoe magic" rituals are performed before setting out.
- 2) At times of life crisis major life events such as birth, death, marriage and puberty can be a cause of major disruption and religion serves to minimise that disruption, through the use of rituals. For example funerals reinforce solidarity amongst the survivors and gives comfort to the bereaved.

Evaluation

- Ignores the negative aspects of religion such as hate crimes, oppression of certain social groups and fundamentalism.
- Hamilton and Dysfunction:
- Ignores the ways in which religion can be a source of social division, for example in Northern Ireland between the Protestants and the Catholics.



NOTE TAKING TASK

To ensure that your notes are complete and cover all the necessary content, you need to make sure that you are answering each of the questions below.

Overview and Durkheim	Thinkers views	Evaluation	
What is the purpose of religion in society according to the functionalists?	For what two occasions did Malinowski suggest religion was used for?	How does a multifaith society critique Durkheim's ideas of social solidarity?	
What What is the difference between sacred and profane objects?	What does Bellah mean by civil religion?	Why might Malinowski not be generalisable to whole societies?	
How did Durkheim suggest the Totem Pole works to worship society?	When is Bellah writing, and what is the social context of America at the time?		
How do sacred symbols represent a societies collective conscious?	What non-religious holidays does America have?	Why might conflict theorists critique Parsons' work on religion?	
What are the cognitive functions of religion according	What functions did Parsons say religion offered?	What does Hamilton mean by	
to Durkheim?		religion being dysfunctional?	



PRIORITISATION

Once you have taken your notes, colour code the question according to your level of confidence.

Don't get it	Need some help	Fairly confident	I got this!
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KNOWLEDGE CHECK QUESTIONS.

Complete the following questions firstly without your notes and then check using your notes.

$\overline{}$	
With which theory of religion focuses on the positive role it has to play?	
What are the two psychological functions of religion according to Malinowski?	
Which sociologist is of with the idea of civil religion?	
What is meant by religion reinforcing the collective conscience?	
How could postmodernists criticise the Functionalist ideas?	
Give 5 examples of how religion may be positive for the individual and/or society	
Give one criticism of Durkheim's ideas of the sacred and profane	
Give one criticism of the Functionalist theories of religion	
How might football be likened to religion?	
What is meant by cognitive functions of religion?	



CONSOLIDATION:

Answer each of the questions that follow making sure that you include the compulsory elements and 3 from the pick and mix elements.

Mandatory requirements	Pick and Mix
☐ At least 6 sentences per answer.	A sentence that starts with a Verb.
A clear answer to the question.	A sentence that is 8 words long.
☐ At least 3 elements of the pick and mix list.	3. A 4-syllable word.
plak and mixibil	A sentence that contains a rhetorical question.
	5. A sentence that contain alliterations
	6. A sentence with 3 adjectives.
	7. A sentence that contains a simile
	8. A 3-syllable word
	9. A sentence that contains a metaphor.
	10.A sentence that contains onomatopoeia
	 At least 6 sentences per answer. A clear answer to the question.

	-	

Item

Religion and definitions of it are by no means universally agreed. Some sociologists argue religion has a positive role to unity people and keep them on the straight and narrow in times of crisis. Other macro sociologists tend to investigate how religion legitimates and reproduces inequality for individuals and society.

Applying material from the item, analyse two analyse two functions of religion. [10]

Deconstruct the question	hink of possible answers	the Item	Write the paragraph.
Command Words	Topic		Focus

Arguments Essay

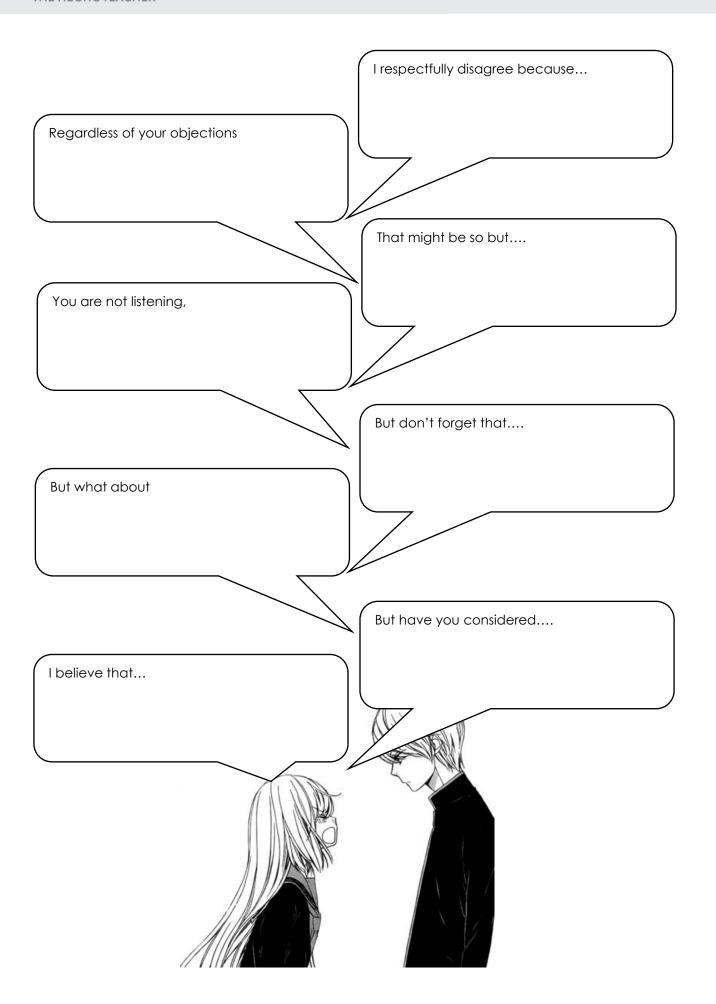
ITEM:

Many functionalist sociologists argue that religion is a 'universal' feature of social life. In their view, this is because it performs indispensable function without which society would to centigrade. It symbolises the power of society and it's shared rituals instil a sense of solidarity and loyalty to the community, and it legitimizes society's central values. Religion also performs important psychological functions, answering 'ultimate' questions and enabling individuals to cope with emotional stress and thus continue performing the roles society requires of them. However, critics argue that functionalists ignore the negative aspects of religion and that functional definitions of religion disregard the particular nature of religious belief.

Applying material from the item and your own knowledge, evaluate functionalist explanations of the nature and role of religion. [20]

Command Words	Topic	Focus	Evaluation Stem

	Context		Content		
Background	Definition	Trend		FOR	AGAINST
				It is a good approach because	It is not a good approach because
			1		
			2		
			3		
	Answer				
			4		



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- ☐ Marxists theories of religion
- ☐ Understand religion as ideology
- ☐ Understand how religion is linked to alienation
- Evaluation of Marxist ideas.

KEY TERMS FOR THIS TOPIC

- Religion as ideology
- Opium of the masses
- False consciousness
- Alienation
- Capitalism
- False Class Consciousness
- Compensation

KEY SOCIOLOGISTS

- Marx
- Engels
- Lenin
- Feurerbach

RESOURCES



- Webb, Westergaard, Trobe and Townend: 8
- Browne: 21 23Collins: 450 453Hodder: 125 126



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The main function of religion is to help maintain the ruling classes power.

Religion as an ideology

Engles argues that socialism and Christianity have similar features. For example they are both ideologies that target the poor and offer a better life. The key difference is that Christianity offers salvation in an after life where as socialism offers it in this life.

Religion as a product of alienation

Alienation means the lack of power, control and societies which the means of producing goods fulfilment experienced by workers in capitalist are privately owned and controlled

something to look forwards to. It is easier ao anyming significant to help improve The promise of an afterlife gives people to put up with misery now if you believe you have a life of 'eternal bliss' to look their current conditions. forward to after death. ၁၁ခင

Religion as the opium of the masses

religion dulls the pain or the oppression they face by offers a temporary high through promises of a better afterlife in order to distracted them form their exploitation, in a similar way to the drug By 'Opium of the masses', Marx meant that

3 ways that religion is like opium

+	۶	
Dulls the pain of exploitation rather than dealing with the cause of the exploitation just like opium dulls the pain of an injury rather than healing the injury itself.	Religion give a distorted world view, it can offer no solutions to earthly misery but can offer the promise of an afferlife. Just as Opium can create hallucinations and distort the takers perspectives.	The temporary high that the followers feeling whilst taking part in the rituals mimics the temporary high achieved by taking opium.
_	2	3

Evaluation

assisting not hindering the development Ignores the positive functions of religion Marxists see certain forms of religion as as set out by the Functionalists. Neo of class consciousness.

inadequate concept to base a theory of religion people having a true self. This would make it an Althusser rejects the idea of alienation as being unscientific and more of a romantic notion of

population. In pre-industrial society Christianity was necessarily function as an ideology to control the a major element of the ruling class ideology but Abercrombie, Hill and Turner – Religion doesn't had very little impact on the peasantry.



NOTE TAKING TASK

To ensure that your notes are complete and cover all the necessary content, you need to make sure that you are answering each of the questions below.

Religion as an Ideology	Religion as a product of alienation	Opium of the masses	Evaluation
How does Engles argue that socialism and	What is meant by alienation in Marxist theory?	What is an opium den,	How does Halevy support Marx's theory?
Christianity have similar features?	moory -	and why does Marx describe religion as opium?	Why are Leach and Hook critical of the church?
			How does secularisation suggest a weakness in Marxist theory?
How does religion legitimise social inequality? How does religion		In what three ways is religion like opium?	
			What is a problem with measuring class
			consciousness?
legitimise the power of the ruling class?			How might feminists
What phrase does Lenin use to describe religion and what did he mean by it?	for the 3 solutions?		criticize traditional Marxist theory on religion?



PRIORITISATION

Once you have taken your notes, colour code the question according to your level of confidence.

Don't get it	Need some help	Fairly confident	I got this!
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KNOWLEDGE CHECK QUESTIONS.

Complete the following questions firstly without your notes and then check using your notes.

What are the two major functions of religion according to Marxists?	
Which sociologist is associated with the idea of religion being a spiritual gin?	
What is meant by religion being the opium of the masses?	
In what ways does Engels see Christianity and Socialism as similar?	
Give 2 strengths of Marxist ideas of religion	
How does Althusser criticise Marxist ideas on religion?	
How does religion legitimise the power of the ruling class?	
How do Abercrombie , Hill and Turner criticise the Marxist theory of religion?	
In what three ways is religion like opium?	
How could you use postmodernist ideas t criticise Marxists here?	



CONSOLIDATION TASK

For each of the statements, determine how far you agree with it by colouring in the blocks (the more you colour in the more you agree) and explain why.

Statement	Level of Agreement	Why
Religion creates more conflict then it does Cohesion.		
Religion is a product of Alienation.		
Marxist theory of religion is too deterministic to be useful.		
Religion legitimises and normalises social inequality.		
Religion is like Gin or Opium as suggested by Marx and Lenin.		

Outline and exp	lain two criticisms of the Marxist theory o religion. [10]	f
_		
_		

Item

One view of religion sees it as a unifying force, binding individuals together and integrating them into the values of their Society. An opposing view see is religion as essentially based on conflict, helping to maintain an unequal Society and preventing Birds at the bottom from seeing their true class position.

Applying material from the item, analyse two differences between functionalist and Marxist views on the role of religion in Society. [10]

Deconstruct the question



Think of possible answers



Look for hooks in the Item



Write the paragraph.

Command Words	Topic	Focus
L		
	1	

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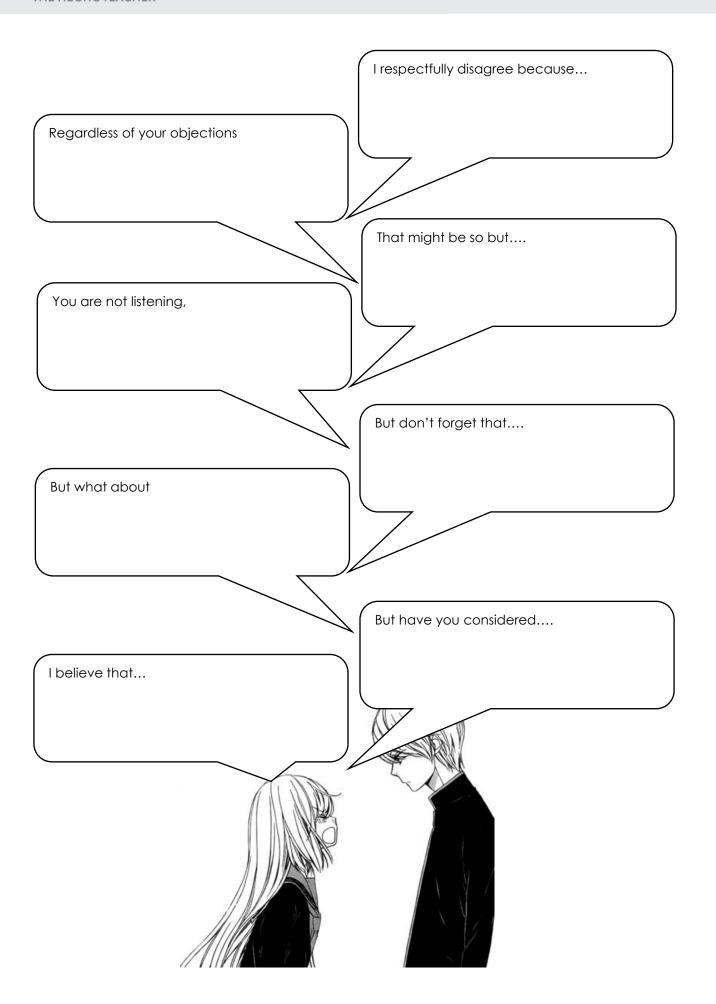
Marxist sociologists tend to take a negative view of the nature of religion and its role in society. For example, Marx regards religion as the product of the alienation that is found in all class societies. In his view, it's role is to act as an ideology that keeps the proletariat subordinated. Religion acts like a drug to dull the pain of exploitation and oppression. However, religion may also be a channel through which people protest against these conditions and make demands for change.

Applying material from the item and your own knowledge, evaluate Marxist views of the nature and role of religion. [20]

Command Words	Topic	Focus	Evaluation Stem

		Context	
	Trend	Definition	Background
1			
2			
3			
		Answer	

	Conten	t
	FOR	AGAINST
	It is a good approach because	It is not a good approach because
1		
2		
3		
4		



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- ☐ The dual nature of Religion
- ☐ How religion can be a force for change.
- ☐ Liberation Theology
- ☐ Evaluation of Neo Marxist Theory.

KEY TERMS FOR THIS TOPIC

- Liberation Theology
- Relative Autonomy
- Hegemony
- Dual Consciousness
- Political Protest
- · Organic Intellectual

KEY SOCIOLOGISTS

- Maduro
- Gramsci
- Casanova
- Martin Luther King
- Gandhi

RESOURCES



- Webb, Westergaard, Trobe and Townend: 16 – 18
- Collins: 453 456



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Religion is a source of social change

Duel Nature of Religion

Religion has both a positive and negative influence on society. In many ways it can act as a conservative force on society and help to maintain social inequality and the status quo but it can also act as a force of social change as it can offer the "Principal of Hope" to its followers. This principal of hope can in extreme circumstances lead to revolution.

Bloch

Agreed that the church does play its part in maintaining cultural hegemony that benefits the ruling class if could also produce its own set of ideas that could inspire social change. This most often occurs when members of the clergy and lower members of the church hierarchy believe they can make a difference in their community, rather than persisting with official messages from the church. This **individual autonomy** could in some cases override the ruling class ideology that is promoted by the religion as a whole.

Gramsci

Evaluation

- See religion as being socially significant in modern society despite the evidence of secularisation.
- Pope John Paul II rejected the Liberation theory and told priests to focus on their religious responsibilities.

Neo-Marxism agree with Marxism that religion can exploit the poor

Neo-Marxism criticises Marxism for failing to see how religion can be a cause of social change and develop class consciousness.

Religion as a force for social change

In societies where protests were against the law (usually dictatorships) the church could act as a safe outlet for frustration for the proletariat. Additionally religious leaders could act as the charismatic leaders that inspire their congregations to achieve and seek social change. Religious leaders would also be seen as untouchable in these dictatorships because they are seen as sacred by their followers, so if they came to any harm that could be the catalyst to begin the revolution.

Maduro

A radical movement that grew up in South America as a response to the poverty and the ill-treatment of ordinary people. It was a response to the failure of the Vatican to help its followers with the poverty and exploitation that they faced. The priests encouraged people to enforce change upon society even to use violence if necessary in order to over throw the dictators who were oppressing them. The movement was successful in Nicaragua however the priests involved were excommunicated by the Catholic church for their role in the Sandinista Revolution.

Liberation Theology

Case Study: Father Camillo Torres

Camilo Torres Restrepo (3 February 1929 in Bogotá, Colombia – 15 February 1966 in Santander) was a Colombian socialist, Roman Catholic priest, a predecessor of liberation theology and a member of the National Liberation Army (ELN) guerrilla organisation. During his life, he tried to reconcile revolutionary Marxism and Catholicism.



NOTE TAKING TASK: Neo-Marxist View

To ensure that your notes are complete and cover all the necessary content, you need to make sure that you are answering each of the questions below.

Dual Nature of religion	Religion as a force for social change	Evaluation
How does neo-Marxism criticize Marxist theory of religion?	How does Maduro see religion as a force of change?	How does secularization limit neo-Marxist theory of religion?
What does Bloch mean when he refers to the dual nature of religion?	What is liberation Theology?	Have any of these movements been successful in bringing
What is the principal of hope?	How are the following good examples of neo-Marxist theory of religion:	around social change?
How did Gramsci summarise the role of religion?	Civil Rights movement Iranian Revolution. Catholic movement in	Why would a traditional Marxist say all these movements had failed?
What is an organic intellectual?	Poland 1980's. Ghandi and Indian Independence.	



PRIORITISATION

Once you have taken your notes, colour code the question according to your level of confidence.

Don't get it	Need some help	Fairly confident	I got this!



KNOWLEDGE CHECK QUESTIONS.

Complete the following questions firstly without your notes and then check using your notes.

In what way do the Neo- Marxists agree with Marxism?	
What does Bloch means by the term "Principal of Hope"?	
What is the Liberation Theology?	
Who is Father Camillo Torres?	
In what ways do the Neo- Marxists criticise the Marxist view of religion?	
What is the dual nature of religion?	
Give one criticism of neo- Marxist view of religion.	
What does Gramsci mean by religion having individual autonomy?	
According to Maduro how does religion act as a force for social change?	
Give one strength of the neo-Marxist view of Religion.	



CONSOLIDATION: PEAEL Paragraphs

For each of the questions that follow you need to write a response which includes each of the PEAEL elements highlighted or underlined (you can use different colours)

Questions:

- 1. In what way does religion have a duel nature?
- 2. In what way does liberation theology prove religion can be a force of change?
- 3. How does secularisation theory limit neo-Marxist theory of religion?

STRUCTURE

Point - state a reason why you have come to your answer.

Explain – Justify your answer.

Apply – Give evidence to back up your answer.

Evaluation – show awareness of the counter argument.

Link – Restate your answer.

 olain two differences be o-Marxist views of Relig	