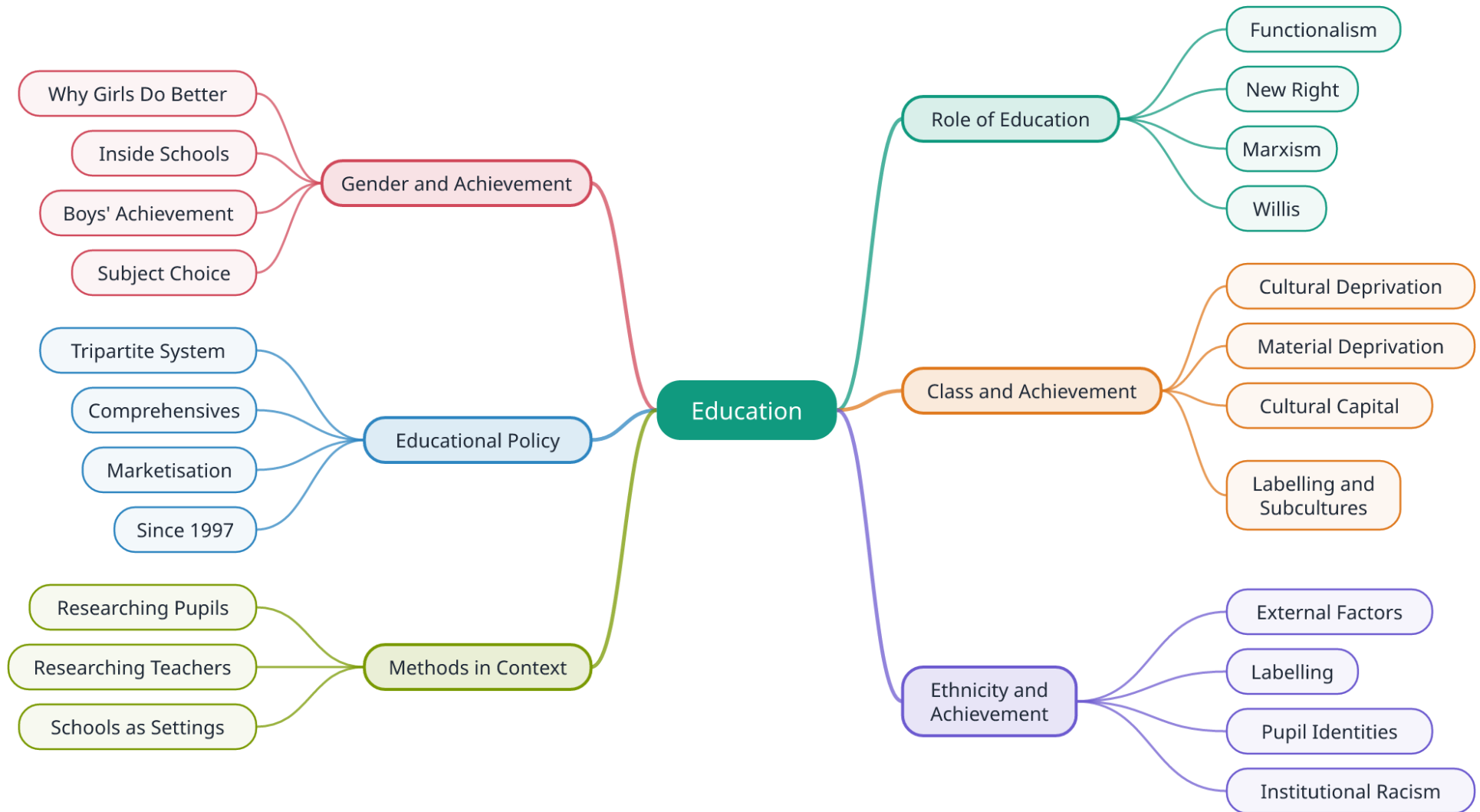


Education Mind Map (A Level Sociology)

A level · Sociology · mindmap.ai/mind-maps/education-a-level-sociology



Education mind map · mindmap.ai/mind-maps/education-a-level-sociology

Education mind map explained

Role of Education

What education does for society, according to the main perspectives.

Functionalism

Durkheim: education creates social solidarity and teaches specialist skills. Parsons: school is a bridge between family and society, based on meritocracy. Davis and Moore: it sifts and sorts people into roles.

New Right

Education should prepare people for work, and state schools are inefficient. Chubb and Moe argued for marketisation, so schools compete for pupils.

Marxism

Althusser: education is an ideological state apparatus that reproduces class inequality. Bowles and Gintis: the correspondence principle, and the myth of meritocracy.

Willis

Learning to Labour (1977): working-class "lads" formed a counter-school culture that prepared them for manual work, showing pupils can resist.

Class and Achievement

Middle-class pupils achieve more on average. Explanations look outside and inside school.

Cultural Deprivation

Bernstein: working-class pupils use a restricted speech code, while schools use the elaborated code. Douglas: differences in parents' interest in education.

Material Deprivation

Poverty affects housing, diet, and the cost of uniforms, trips and resources.

Cultural Capital

Bourdieu: middle-class families pass on cultural, economic and educational capital, which schools reward.

Labelling and Subcultures

Becker: teachers label pupils by how closely they fit the "ideal pupil", which can create a self-fulfilling prophecy. Lacey: streaming polarises pupils into pro- and anti-school subcultures.

Ethnicity and Achievement

Achievement varies between ethnic groups, and explanations are debated.

External Factors

Cultural deprivation explanations, material deprivation, and racism in wider society.

Labelling

Gillborn and Youdell: teachers expected more discipline problems from Black pupils, leading to more conflict and exclusions.

Pupil Identities

Archer: teachers' views of the "ideal pupil" can exclude some ethnic minority pupils.

Institutional Racism

Critical race theory sees racism built into the system, such as an ethnocentric curriculum and setting, creating what Gillborn calls locked-in inequality.

Gender and Achievement

Girls now outperform boys at most levels, but subject choices remain gendered.

Why Girls Do Better

The impact of feminism, changes in the family and in women's employment, and changing ambitions: Sharpe found girls' priorities shifted from marriage in the 1970s to careers in the 1990s.

Inside Schools

Equal opportunities policies, more female role models, and assessment styles such as coursework.

Boys' Achievement

Explanations include a crisis of masculinity as manual jobs declined, and laddish subcultures that see studying as feminine.

Subject Choice

Early socialisation, gendered subject images and peer pressure steer girls and boys towards different subjects.

Educational Policy

How governments have shaped education since 1944.

Tripartite System

The 1944 Education Act created grammar, secondary modern and technical schools, with selection by the 11-plus exam.

Comprehensives

From 1965, comprehensive schools for all abilities aimed to reduce inequality, though setting and streaming continued.

Marketisation

The 1988 Education Reform Act brought league tables, the National Curriculum and parental choice. Ball and Gewirtz argue it helps middle-class parents most.

Since 1997

New Labour introduced the Education Maintenance Allowance and academies. From 2010, the Coalition expanded academies, created free schools and introduced the pupil premium.

Methods in Context

Applying research methods to education, examined in Paper 1.

Researching Pupils

Pupils are young and less powerful, which raises issues of consent, vulnerability and the way they respond to adult researchers.

Researching Teachers

Teachers are busy and may act differently when observed, presenting a positive image.

Schools as Settings

Gaining access through gatekeepers such as head teachers, and the effect of school rules and routines on the research.

How to revise with this mind map

1. Learn a named sociologist for every point, with their key idea. Essays without named studies cannot reach the top bands.
2. Evaluate from other perspectives. For example, criticise the functionalist view of meritocracy with Marxist evidence on class inequality.
3. Link inside and outside school. For class, ethnicity and gender, know both external factors (home and society) and internal factors (labelling, setting, subcultures).

4. Practise methods in context. Take a research method and an education issue, and explain the specific problems of studying pupils, teachers or schools.
5. Make it yours. Build your own education map in Mindmapi from your notes, and ask the AI about any sociologist you are unsure of. The answer is saved into that branch's notes for next time.