

МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ И НАУКИ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ

Нижегородский государственный университет им. Н.И. Лобачевского

**СОЦИОЛОГИЯ И СОЦИОЛОГИ**  
**Sociology and Sociologists**

Практикум

**Тексты и задания по английскому языку**  
**для студентов, обучающихся по направлению подготовки**  
**39.03.01 «Социология»**

Рекомендовано методической комиссией филологического факультета  
для студентов ННГУ им. Н.И. Лобачевского,  
обучающихся по направлению подготовки  
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Данный практикум предназначен для студентов факультета социальных наук, изучающих английский язык. Цель данных учебно-методических материалов – совершенствование навыков работы с текстом, развитие письменной и устной речи в рамках указанной темы, расширение терминологического словарного запаса и подготовка обучающихся к работе с научными текстами по специальности.

Ответственный за выпуск:

председатель методической комиссии филологического факультета ННГУ  
к.ф.н., доцент И.В. Кузьмин

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## UNIT 1 What Is Sociology?

### **Exercise 1. Answer the questions:**

- Did you know much about sociology when you were at school?
- Why are you interested in sociology?

### **Exercise 2. Read the quotations below:**

**A.** *Sociology? Eh... “socio” and “logos” ...At school we used to study “обществознание”. I see no difference.*

**B.** *I don't think sociology is a science. How can one claim to understand what other people think or why they behave in this or that way?*

**C.** *Yes, I think I know what sociologists do. They do opinion polls, you know, asking people in the street to answer various questions. They also work for politicians and parties to help them win the election.*



**Who might have said it? Explain your answer. How far do you agree with the quotations?**

**With your partner, work out a definition of sociology.**

**Exercise 3. Skim Text 1 and compare your definition with that in the text. Say what each paragraph focuses on.**

#### **Text 1**

Sociology may be defined as the systematic study of the development, structure, interaction, and collective behavior of organized groups of human beings. *It is concerned with the way in which individuals interact as members of groups and institutions, both individually and collectively, and how these interactions are connected to the larger culture and social structure of a society.*

The insights that sociological research provides give us a way of looking at ourselves as social beings that illuminates every aspect of our lives. The study of sociology is important for many different reasons.

- Through sociology, we are able to take a fresh look at the social environment and to reexamine our place in society along with groups and cultures with **which** we seldom or never have contact or about **which** we previously knew little or nothing.

- By understanding the origin of viewpoints and attitudes that are quite

different from our own, we may understand the social forces that influence our own behavior and the behavior of *those* around us.

- The study of sociology may help to alleviate prejudices and stereotypes and make us more flexible in adapting to novel situations.
- By analyzing the nature of society, particularly the institutions and groups within societies and the effect of these organized processes and patterns on group living, the field of sociology provides us with new ways of looking at and reacting to the ever-changing face of social reality.

The insights of sociologists have been of great value to educators, community planners, medical workers, government officials, and businesses. Sociological information on past social trends and *their* causes can help policy makers plan for and shape the future. For example, in order to provide adequate services for people, the government must be able to predict what conditions will exist in future years and identify needs that must be met. Social planners, using the findings of sociologists, are able to forecast future needs for schools, medical facilities, correctional institutions and retirement centers.

**Exercise 4. Read the text carefully and explain**

- why the study of sociology is important;
- who (and how) may benefit from sociological information.

**Exercise 5. Match the pronouns in *italics* in the text with the words they refer to.**

<i>It</i>	way	sociology	behavior
<i>which</i> (x2)	groups	cultures	groups and cultures
<i>those</i>	people	social forces	viewpoints and attitudes
<i>their</i>	sociologists'	policy makers'	of social trends

**Exercise 6. Translate the underlined sentences into Russian.**

**Exercise 7. Skim the text below and choose the best summary:**

- A. To develop sociological imagination one should drink a lot of coffee.
- B. Coffee-drinking is an important social ritual, based on past social and economic development.
- C. Any day-to-day situation involving interaction can be analyzed from sociological viewpoint.
- D. Studying sociology enhances one's imagination and creativity.

## Text 2

### DEVELOPING A SOCIOLOGICAL OUTLOOK

**1** Learning to think sociologically means cultivating powers of the imagination. Studying sociology cannot be just a routine process of acquiring knowledge. A sociologist is someone who is able to break free from the immediacy of personal circumstances. Sociological work depends upon the so-called **sociological imagination**.

**2** It necessitates, above all, being able to think ourselves away from the familiar routines of our daily lives in order to look at them anew. Consider the simple act of drinking a cup of coffee. What could we find to say, from a sociological point of view, about such an apparently uninteresting piece of behavior? The answer is – an enormous amount.

**3** We could point out first of all that coffee has *symbolic value* as part of day-to-day social rituals. Often the ritual associated with coffee-drinking is much more important than the act of consuming the drink itself. For example, two people who arrange ‘to have coffee’ together are probably more interested in meeting and chatting than in what they drink. Drinking and eating are in all societies occasions for social interaction and the enactment of rituals – and these offer a rich subject-matter for sociological study.

**4** Second, coffee is a *drug*, containing caffeine, which has a stimulating effect on the brain. Coffee-addicts are not regarded by most people in Western culture as ‘drug-users’. Why this should be is an interesting sociological question. Like alcohol, coffee is a ‘socially acceptable’ drug whereas, for instance, marijuana is not. Yet there are cultures which tolerate the consumption of marijuana, but disfavor both coffee and alcohol.

**5** Third, an individual sipping a cup of coffee is caught up in an extremely complicated set of *social and economic relationships* stretching worldwide. The production, transport and distribution of coffee requires continuous transactions between many people thousands of miles away from the coffee-drinker. Studying such global transactions forms an important task of sociology, since many aspects of our lives are now affected by world-wide trading exchanges and communications.

**6** Finally, the act of sipping a cup of coffee presumes a whole process of *past social and economic development*. Along with many other now familiar items of Western diets – like tea, bananas, potatoes and white sugar – coffee only became widely consumed from the 19th century onwards. Although coffee originated in the Middle East its mass consumption dates from the period of Western colonial expansion. Virtually all the coffee we drink today comes from areas that were colonized by the Europeans.

**Exercise 8. Read the text to complete the statements using the information and the words from the text.**

1. It is strongly recommended to a sociologist to \_\_\_\_
2. By sociological imagination \_\_\_\_ is meant.
3. A sociologist can say \_\_\_\_ about such a seemingly simple act as drinking a cup of coffee.
4. Coffee has \_\_\_\_ as part of day-to-day social rituals.
5. Often the act of consuming coffee itself is \_\_\_\_ than the ritual associated with it.
6. Another interesting sociological question is why \_\_\_\_ in Western culture.
7. In some cultures, the consumption of marijuana \_\_\_\_, but the use of both coffee and alcohol \_\_\_\_.
8. One of the important tasks of sociology is to \_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_ influence many aspects of our lives.

**Exercise 9. Read the sentences below and explain what the words in *italics* refer to. Consult with the text if necessary.**

1. *They* are often occasions for the enactment of rituals.
2. *It* has a stimulating effect on the brain.
3. In Western culture, *they* are not considered to be ‘drug-users’.
4. In Western culture, *they* are ‘socially acceptable’ drugs.
5. By doing *this*, an individual gets involved in a complicated set of social and economic relationships.
6. The production, transport and distribution of goods and services requires *these*.
7. *Its* mass consumption dates from the period of Western colonial expansion.
8. *They* became widely consumed from the 19th century onwards.

**Exercise 10. Read the text again and find the words that mean the same.**

1. a usual or regular method of procedure (*n.*, *par. 2*) – ...
2. as far as one knows; seemingly (*adv.*, *par. 2*) – ...
3. to indicate or specify (*phrasal verb*, *par. 3*) – ...
4. to talk in an easy familiar way (*v.*, *par. 3*) – ...
5. to drink (a liquid) by taking small mouthfuls (*v.*, *par. 5*) – ...
6. to come into being (*v.*, *par. 6*) – ...
7. practically (*adv.*, *par. 6*) – ...

**Exercise 11. Find these words and phrases in the texts. Translate them into Russian.**

Pattern, to adapt to a novel situation, particularly, insight, to shape the future, medical facilities, correctional institution, retirement center, cultivate, distribution, trading exchanges, to presume.

**Exercise 12. Find the English equivalents to the following words and phrases in the texts.**

Давать определение, структура, взаимодействие, социальная среда, пересматривать, установки, социальные факторы, предубеждение, тенденция, повседневный, социально-экономический, массовое потребление, фактически.

**Exercise 13. Make up sentences with some of the words from Exercises 11 and 12.**

**Exercise 14. Match the synonyms in the lists below:**

to predict future needs	to be involved in
sociological research	to take a fresh look at
to look at sth anew	earlier
a novel situation	to forecast future needs
familiar	to influence
to disapprove (of)	to disfavor
to be regarded	to be considered
to affect	sociological study
to be caught up in	to reduce
to alleviate	easily recognized, well-known
previously	a new situation

**Exercise 15. Match the words from columns A and B to make up phrases.**

**Table 1**

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
the enactment of	sociologists
causes of	acquiring knowledge
the findings of	the imagination
organized groups of	past social trends
the process of	viewpoints and attitudes
powers of	rituals
the origin of	human beings



**Table 2**

**Here some of the verbs can be used more than once.**

**A**

to illuminate  
to reexamine  
to understand (x4)  
to alleviate  
to identify (x2)  
to offer

**B**

prejudices and stereotypes  
the nature of society  
the social forces  
needs  
a subject-matter for sociological study  
every aspect of our lives  
our place in society

**Exercise 16. Insert prepositions where necessary.**

1. Three traditional ideas of social change – those of decline, cyclical change, and progress – have influenced \_\_\_ modern sociological theories.
2. In any society there are arrangements \_\_\_ sexual reproduction and the care and education \_\_\_ the young.
3. T. Parsons's work has been criticized \_\_\_ several reasons.
4. Human beings have formed political units, such as nations, \_\_\_ which the use of violence is strictly regulated.
5. A distinction is made \_\_\_ processes \_\_\_ the social structure, which serve to maintain the structure (social dynamics), and processes that modify the structure (social change).
6. In hunting and gathering societies people were strongly interdependent \_\_\_ their small bands.
7. Specific social activities are organized \_\_\_ specific places. Particular places, \_\_\_ instance, are designated \_\_\_ such activities as working, worshipping, eating, or sleeping.

**Exercise 17. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word(s) given.**

**EXAMPLE:**

A sociologist is expected to break free from the immediacy of personal circumstances.

*It \_\_\_\_\_ able \_\_\_\_\_.*

*It is expected that a sociologist is able to break free from the immediacy of personal circumstances.*

1. We should learn to think ourselves away from the familiar routines of our daily lives.

\_\_\_\_\_ *supposed* \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Through sociology, we are able to take a fresh look at the social environment and to reexamine our place in society.

\_\_\_\_\_ *provides* \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The study of sociology may make us more flexible in adapting to novel situations.

\_\_\_\_\_ *enables us* \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The production of goods and services requires continuous transactions between many people.

\_\_\_\_\_ *have to* \_\_\_\_\_ *to* \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Coffee-addicts are not regarded by most people in Western culture as drug-users.

\_\_\_\_\_ *do not regard* \_\_\_\_\_.

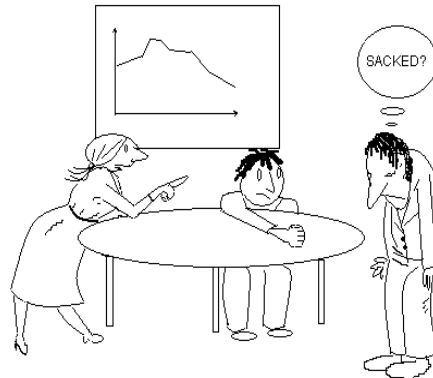
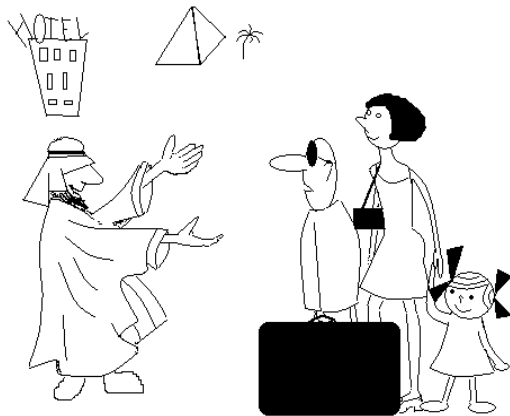
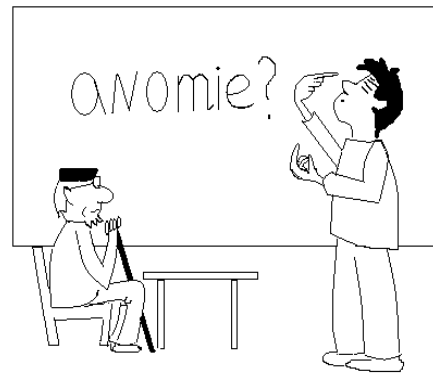
**Exercise 18** Look at the pictures below and work with your partner to do the tasks.

**(1) Answer the questions:**

- What are the people in each picture doing?
- Where are they?
- What type of relationships do they have?
- What are the people wearing? Why?

**(2) Look through these words and phrases and match them with the situations. Some of them may refer to more than one.**

- |                                    |                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| scapegoat                          | globalization                   |
| (take on new) social roles         | consumers of goods and services |
| involve (broader) kinship networks | career prospects                |
| managerial style                   | symbolic value                  |
| team work                          | gestures                        |
| a popular leisure activity         | quality time                    |
| (changes in) the social status     | gender                          |



**(3) Analyze each situation from a sociological point of view. Make use of the following linking devices and structures from the text:**

First of all, we can point out that ...

Second, ... Third, ... Finally, ...

...offer(s) a rich subject-matter for sociological study

Why this should be is an interesting sociological question

Studying ... forms an important task of sociology

...as part of...

In all societies...

...occasion(s) for social interaction and the enactment of rituals...

...is (are) caught up in a set of social and economic relationships

...require(s) transactions between people thousands of miles away from...

...many aspects of our lives are now affected by...

...presumes a whole process of past social (economic) development...

## UNIT 2 Sociology as a Science

### **Exercise 1. Discuss the questions and statements with your partner:**

- Almost anyone, even a layperson, can design and do a sociological study. You just need common sense.
- What enables us to refer to sociology as a science?
- What are the characteristics of any science and the scientific method?
- All sociological studies are bound to be influenced by the researcher's background. S/he is unlikely to remain neutral.

### **Exercise 2. Read the text to compare your ideas with those in the text.**

#### **Text 1**

Like the other social sciences, sociology is less rigorous than the natural sciences. There are two basic reasons for *this*. First, the scientific method has only recently been applied to the study of social behavior. Second, dealing with human subjects presents many problems that are absent in the natural sciences. Individuals change behavior in ways that may significantly affect their relationships with one another and with the scientists who wish to study *them*. Nevertheless, sociology as it is pursued today is based on observed, verifiable evidence. The sociologists' methods of gathering data, making observations, and stating generalizations relating to the data are based on scientific procedures.

Sociology uses the scientific method in *its* attempt to find answers to important questions. In this method of inquiry the following conditions must be adhered to:

1. **Verifiable Evidence.** Scientific inquiry requires concrete and factual observations that can be checked for accuracy. Since verifiable evidence is essential to scientific investigation, the studies of metaphysical problems, such as the existence of God or an afterlife are eliminated.

2. **Rejection of Absolutes.** Science admits no absolute truths. Scientists must always be prepared to examine new evidence; therefore, scientific truth must remain tentative.

3. **Ethical Neutrality.** Science may answer questions of fact but cannot prove that one value is better than another. Science seeks knowledge, but society's values ultimately determine how this knowledge is to be used. The scientist acting as an individual is not neutral but nevertheless, must not let personal values influence the design and conduct of professional research.

4. **Objectivity.** The sociologist must have a detached and impersonal view of the matter under consideration. All observations must be recorded in unbiased terms, and stereotypes must be avoided.

5. **Standardized and Stringent Study Methods.** The sociologist must use accurate and correct descriptions of the data under investigation. Furthermore, there must be an organized plan for collecting data, and upon the collection of data, all procedures and findings should accurately be recorded.

6. **Professionalism.** It is imperative that scientific observations be made by well-trained observers, for the untrained observer may misinterpret what has been seen. In evaluating reported observations, the sociologist will want to know the degree of special knowledge or training the observer has received.

Do common sense and intuition have a place in sociology? Yes, for *they* often contribute to the development of hypotheses. In and of themselves, however, common sense and intuition are not sufficient as techniques for sociological research.

**Exercise 3. Discuss the questions and statements from Ex. 1 once again.**

**Exercise 4. Match the pronouns in *italics* with the words they refer to.**

<i>this</i>	natural sciences	sociology	the fact that sociology is less rigorous than natural sciences
<i>them</i>	relationships	individuals	scientists
<i>Its</i>	sociology	attempt	the scientific method
<i>they</i>	sociologists	hypotheses	common sense and intuition

**Exercise 5. Translate the underlined sentences into Russian.**

**Exercise 6. Match the beginning of the sentence from A and its ending in B.**

A	B
1. The sciences are customarily divided...	... <i>on</i> social behavior as a product of intrapsychic processes.
2. The natural sciences are concerned...	... <i>to</i> sociology.
3. The social sciences are concerned...	... <i>with</i> physical phenomena.
4. Psychology and social psychology are often confused...	... <i>on</i> social behavior as a product of the interaction between individuals and groups.
5. Social psychologists may have a sociological orientation and focus...	... <i>with</i> the broad spectrum of human behavior.
6. Social psychologists may have a psychological orientation and focus...	... <i>with</i> sociology.
7. Geography and history are also related...	... <i>into</i> two major branches: the natural sciences and the social sciences.

**Exercise 7. What other social sciences are there?**

**Do the crossword to find the key word. Use your dictionary to look up new words and check the spelling. Some names of the social sciences consist of two words. Here, there is no blank space between them. Good luck!**

1. The study of the remains of extinct civilizations.
2. The study of an individual's relationship with a group (*2 words*).
3. The study of the features of the earth and their effect on the growth, decline, and movement of world populations.
4. The study of the ways of life among communities throughout the world (*2 words*).
5. The study of the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services in a society.
6. The study of human evolution (*2 words*).
7. The recording and explanation of past human activities.
8. The study of government, political philosophy, and administrative decision-making (*2 words*).
9. The study of individual behavior and mental processes.

**Crossword 1**

The crossword puzzle grid consists of 10 rows and 15 columns. The starting points for the clues are as follows:

- 1: Row 1, Column 1
- 2: Row 2, Column 2
- 3: Row 3, Column 2
- 4: Row 4, Column 1
- 5: Row 5, Column 1
- 6: Row 6, Column 2
- 7: Row 7, Column 2
- 8: Row 8, Column 1
- 9: Row 9, Column 2

Clue 4 (horizontal) is filled with the letters: a n t h r o p o l o g y

Clue 6 (horizontal) is filled with the letters: a n t h r o p o l o g y

Clue 2 (vertical) starts with the letter: n

Clue 9 (vertical) starts with the letter: s

**See the answers below.**

### Key to Exercise 7

1. archeology 2. social psychology 3. geography 4. cultural anthropology 5. economics 6. physical anthropology 7. history 8. political science 9. psychology. **Key word:** linguistics

**Exercise 8. Give examples of some concepts sociology and other social sciences share. Work with 2 or 3 students. You have 3 minutes to write ONE term employed by social scientists for every letter of the English alphabet. Your team gets 1 point for a term that has NOT been mentioned by any other team.**

A _____	H _____	O _____	V _____
B _____	I _____	P _____	W _____
C _____	J _____	Q _____	X _____
D _____	K _____	R _____	Y _____
E _____	L _____	S _____	Z _____
F _____	M _____	T _____	
G _____	N _____	U _____	

**Exercise 9. Answer these questions.**

- Have you ever been an interviewer or interviewee in a sociological study?
- When/ Where was it conducted?
- What exactly were you expected to do?

**Exercise 10. Skim the text and put the paragraphs into the correct order.**  
**Text 2**

### THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD OF INVESTIGATION

Sociological investigations, like all scientific investigations, should proceed through the following steps on the way to a conclusion:

\_\_\_ **Conclusion.** After the above steps have carefully been followed, the sociologist determines whether the original hypothesis was confirmed or disconfirmed, or if the results were found to be inconclusive.

\_\_\_ **Research Design.** In planning the research design, the sociologist outlines what is to be studied, collected, processed, and analyzed, then chooses a research method by which to collect the data.

\_\_\_ **Collection of Data.** All necessary data are collected in accordance with the above-stated research design.

\_\_\_ **1 Formulation of a Hypothesis.** After a problem is identified, a theoretical statement relating all known facts is made. Scientific hypotheses are statements that can be tested and either confirmed or disconfirmed with empirical evidence.

\_\_\_ **Analysis of Data.** Scientific analysis requires that the data collected be classified and tabulated, and all necessary comparisons be made.

**Exercise 11. Put one word into each gap in the text. Some letters are given.**

**Text 3**

**SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH TECHNIQUES**

All sociological research makes (1)*u . . .* of the scientific method, but the specific techniques of data (2)*c . . . . .* and analysis (3)*d . . . . .* from one sociological study to another. There are four general techniques: the case study, the experiment, the observational study, and the survey. Time factors are (4)*ex . . . . . ly* important; sociological studies may be cross-sectional, longitudinal, retrospective, or prospective. Statistics are used to (5)*a . . . . .* data collected. Special issues are involved in sociological research: those inherent in the techniques employed and those arising from ethical considerations and constantly (6)*ch . . . . .* social conditions.

**Exercise 12. Read Texts 2 and 3 once again and complete the sentences.**

1. On the way to a conclusion any scientific investigation proceeds the following steps: ...
2. A scientific hypothesis is a statement that...
3. Research design involves...
4. A hypothesis can be either confirmed or disconfirmed, or the research results...
5. The four general techniques employed in sociological studies are...
6. Problems involved in sociological research are connected with...

**Exercise 13. Match the terms with their explanations.**

1. survey	A. involves repeated investigation of the same object (a group, organization, community etc.) for a long time
2. case study	B. a backward-looking review of the characteristics of a group, organization, community etc.
3. retrospective study	C. a study that follows groups, communities, organizations etc. over time to compare them
4. longitudinal study	D. analyzing a particular case (a person, group, process, community etc.) to make generalizations
5. cross-sectional study	E. research method in which data are gathered via interviews or questionnaires
6. prospective study	F. involves comparison of different age groups (cohorts) at a given time



**Exercise 14. Translate the underlined sentences in Texts 2 and 3 into Russian.**

**Exercise 15. Translate the words below.**

Технология, интуиция, профессионализм, стереотип, анализировать, метод, результат, эксперимент, этичный, гипотеза, цивилизация, нейтральный.

**Exercise 16. Look through the sentences and say if the nouns in *italics* are singular or plural. What is their singular/ plural form? Check the pronunciation of each form.**

1. Scientific *hypotheses* are statements that can be tested and either confirmed or disconfirmed with empirical evidence.

2. Scientific *analysis* requires that the data collected be classified and tabulated, and all necessary comparisons be made.

3. All necessary *data* are collected in accordance with the research design.

4. Social change in the broadest sense is any change in social relations. In this sense, social change is an ever-present *phenomenon* in any society.

5. The *focus* of sociological studies is often on behaviors and interactions of larger groups of human beings.

**Exercise 17. Complete the chart and translate the derivatives.**

	<i>Verb</i>	<i>Noun – the doer of the action</i>	<i>Noun</i>	<i>Adjective</i>
<b>1</b>		originator	origin	
<b>2</b>	XXXX		sociology	
<b>3</b>	theorize			
<b>4</b>	XXXX	XXXX		evident
<b>5</b>	generalize	XXXX		
<b>6</b>	XXXX		science	
<b>7</b>	observe			observational
<b>8</b>		XXXX	rejection	
<b>9</b>	evaluate	XXXX		XXXX

**Exercise 18. Find the odd word out and explain your choice. Sometimes more than one answer is correct.**

1. linguistics – longitudinal – imagination – sociological
2. imagination – intuition – professional training – common sense
3. observation – procedure – survey – interview

4. investigate – contribute – examine – consider
5. existence of God – afterlife – reincarnation – religion

**Exercise 19. Match synonyms in the lists of the words below:**

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| findings             | accurate, stringent, exact |
| to examine, to study | unconvincing               |
| rigorous             | to investigate             |
| evidence             | to refuse                  |
| to reject            | results                    |
| inconclusive         | to acknowledge             |
| to admit             | to follow                  |
| to pursue            | proof                      |

**Exercise 20. Complete the chart with the opposites.**

confirm	
absolute truth	
	impersonal
biased	
	inconclusive
well-trained (observer)	
	collective (behavior)

**Exercise 21. Which word in *italics* does not go with the word in bold type?**

1. **scientific** *study/ research/ questionnaire/ investigation/ inquiry*
2. *use/ apply/ outline/ employ* **a technique**
3. *identify/ decide/ face/ solve* **a problem**
4. *affect/ influence/ avoid/ improve* **the relationships**
5. *confirm/ test/ formulate/ classify* **a hypothesis**
6. **evaluate** *observations/ respondents/ data*
7. *design/ do/ conduct/ make* **research**

**Exercise 22. Open the brackets using Participle I, Participle II or Gerund.**

1. The methods of (*to gather*) data, (*to make*) observations, and (*to state*) generalizations are based on scientific procedures.
2. The scientist (*to act*) as an individual is unlikely to remain neutral.
3. Sociologists use statistics to analyze data (*to collect*).
4. The report relies on data (*to obtain*) through a national cross-sectional mail survey of social workers.

5. An extensive 10-page questionnaire (*to design*) for this study was sent to 2000 potential participants.

6. In (*to evaluate*) reported observations, the sociologist will want to know the degree of special knowledge or training the observer has received.

7. The techniques (*to employ*) included case-study and content analysis.

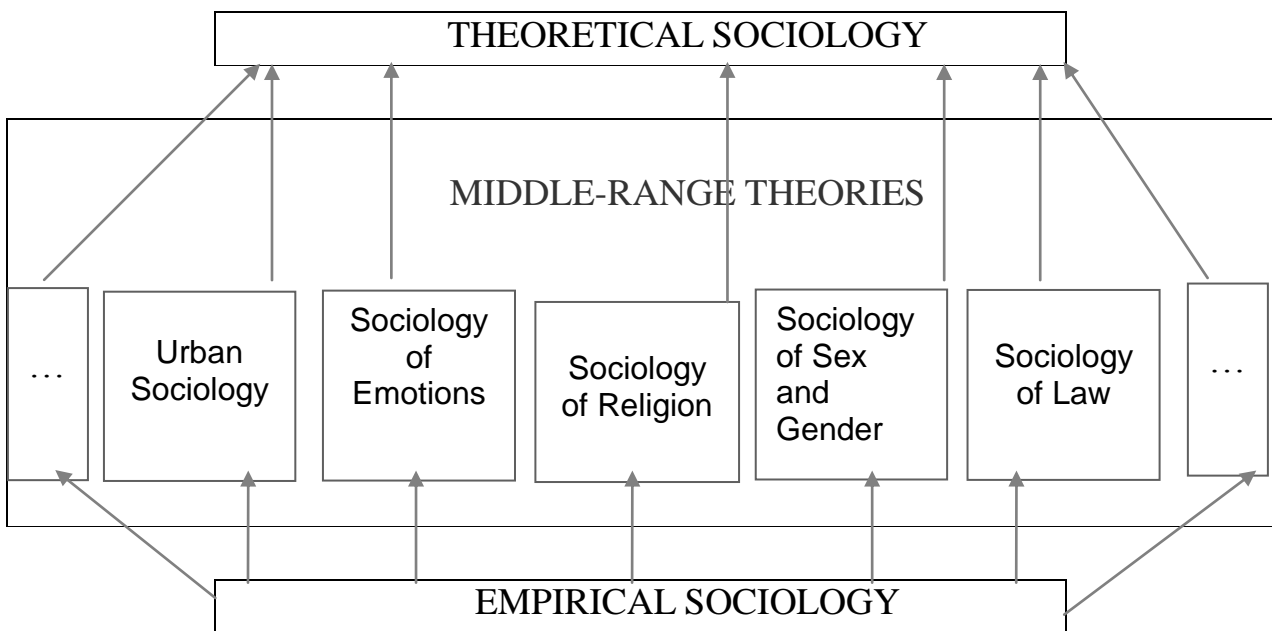
8. In Marx's theory, social life is defined as spiritual or ideological, (*to determine*) by the economic structure of society.

**Exercise 23. The scheme below shows the structure of the discipline of sociology. Study it carefully.**

**With your partner, answer the questions:**

- Is the scheme applicable to the structure of other disciplines?
- What do middle-range theories seek to explain?
- How are they connected with theoretical sociology and empirical studies?
- What specialized fields in sociology, apart from those in the scheme, do you know?

**Figure 1. The structure of the discipline of sociology**



**Exercise 24. Discuss what specialized fields and areas of sociology are likely to be concerned with the following:**

day-to-day social rituals	life style	delinquency
consumption patterns	kinship	poverty
xenophobia	deviation	occupations
agents of socialization	power	age structure
stratification	ageing	cults
teen pregnancy		

**Exercise 25. Make up questions using the prompts below. With your partner, ask and answer the questions.**

1. What areas/ interested in?
2. Why /find /attractive?
3. What specialized field/ would/ choose?
4. ...the course paper/ you did in your first year/ concerned with?
5. ...the course paper/ you/ working on/ deal with?
6. Do/ find your theme/ fascinating/ boring?
7. ...like/ work on the same theme/ your third year?

**Exercise 26. Half a crossword.**



You have a crossword that is only half filled in.

Your partner has the same grid, but with different words.

Help each other to complete it by giving a clue for the words you have.

You are allowed to explain, give a definition or an example sentence, use synonyms or opposites, but you CAN'T show the grid to your partner.

Before you start make sure you know what the words in your part mean.

**Student A: see Grid 1 (page 21)**

**Student B: see Grid 2 (page 22)**

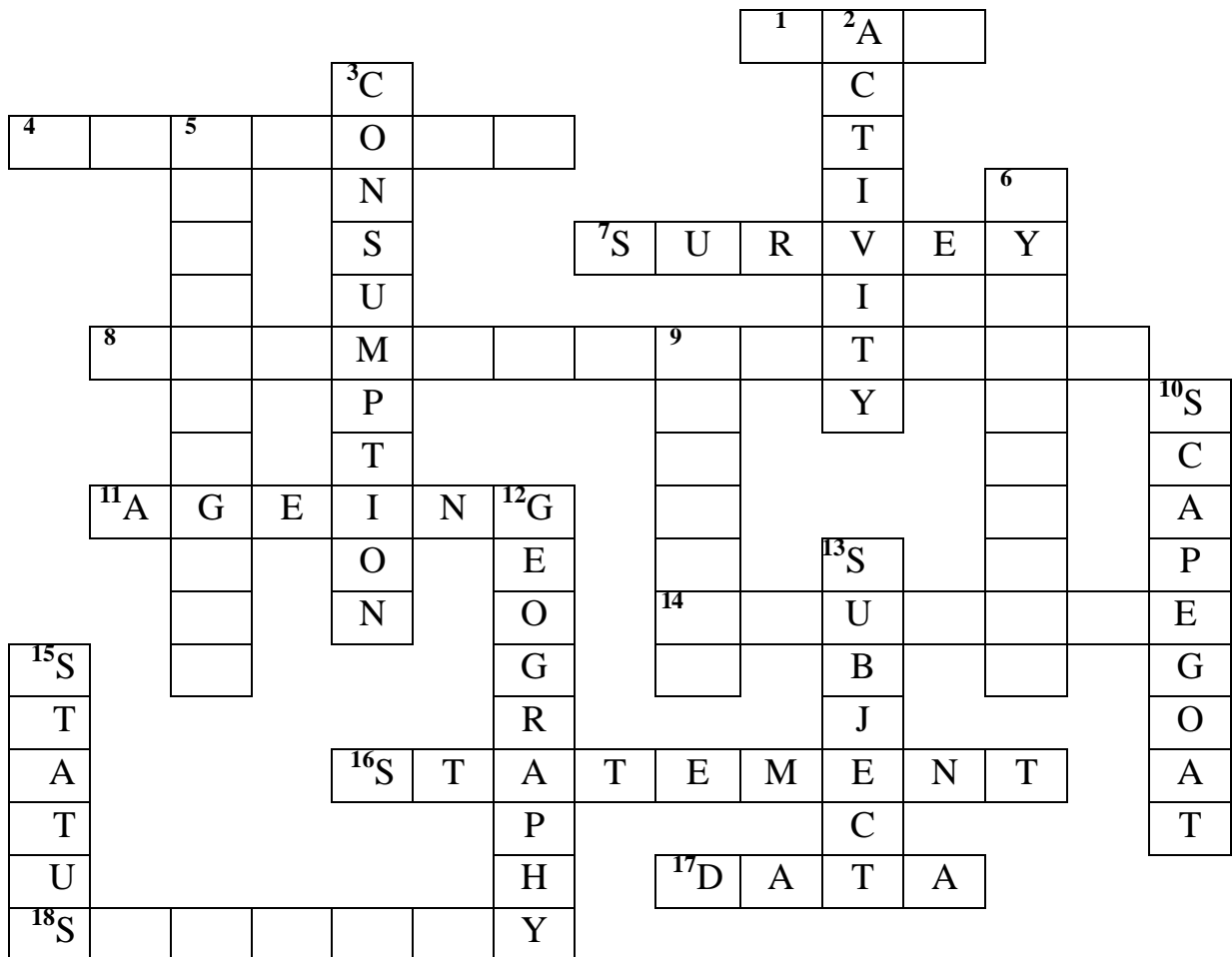
# Grid 1

(for student A, Exercise 26, Half a Crossword)

							<sup>1</sup> L <sup>2</sup> A   W								
				<sup>3</sup>											
<sup>4</sup> H	I	<sup>5</sup> S	T	O	R	Y							<sup>6</sup> H		
		O												<sup>6</sup> H	
		C							<sup>7</sup>					Y	
		I											P		
<sup>8</sup> C	O	M	M	U	N	I	<sup>9</sup> C	A	T	I	O	N			
		L							U				T		<sup>10</sup>
		O							L				H		
<sup>11</sup>	G				<sup>12</sup>						T		E		
		I					U		<sup>13</sup>			S			
		S					<sup>14</sup> R	O	U	T	I	N	E		
<sup>15</sup>		T									E		S		
				<sup>16</sup> S	T	A	T	E	M	E	N	T			
											<sup>17</sup>				
<sup>18</sup> S	O	C	I	E	T	Y									

## Grid 2

(for student B, Exercise 26, Half a Crossword)



## UNIT 3 Great Sociologists

**Exercise 1. Look at the portraits of some important figures in the development of sociology.**

**Match them with the information below.**

1. He proposed that all societies are made up of two basic classes that are in constant opposition: those who own or control the means of production, and those who don't.

2. He was the first to use the word "sociology" in his work *Cours de Philosophie Positive (Positive Philosophy)*.

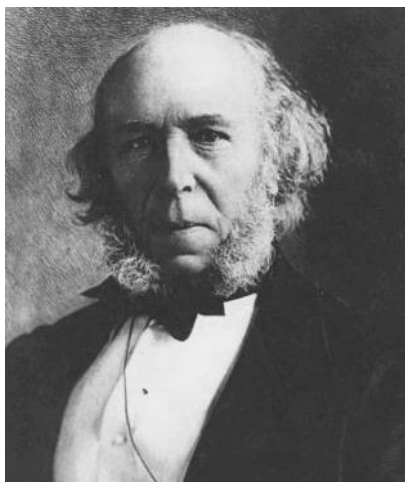
3. He developed a theory of "social evolution" where he stated that there exists a gradual evolution of society from the primitive to the industrial.

4. In spite of being the author of innumerable articles and books, among them *The Philosophy of Money*, he never systematized his ideas and failed to obtain some academic positions.

5. In his view, the social behavior of individuals is determined by their position in the class society.

6. His books *Social Mobility* and *Contemporary Sociological Theories* earned him a national reputation.

7. He believed that it was Protestant ethic that caused cultural changes in Western capitalist societies, which, in turn, enhanced rationalization.



*1*

***Herbert Spenser (1820-1903)***



*2*

***Auguste Comte (1798-1857)***



3

*Georg Simmel (1858- 1918)*



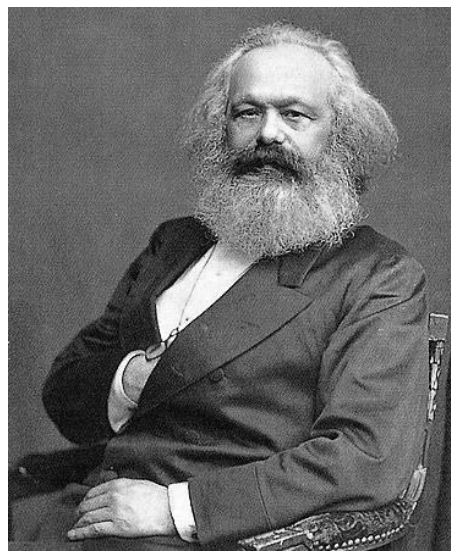
4

*Max Weber (1864-1920)*



5

*Pitirim A. Sorokin (1889-1968)*



6

*Karl Marx (1818-1883)*

**Exercise 2. Read the statements and choose the correct option.**

**Discuss your answers with your group.**

1. Durkheim is a prominent *German/ French / American* sociologist.
2. At the beginning of his career he taught *religion/ philosophy/ psychology*.
3. It was *Wundt/ Durkheim/ Comte* who offered the first course in social science in a French university.
4. Durkheim was giving courses in the area of moral education to *students/ schoolteachers/ professors*.

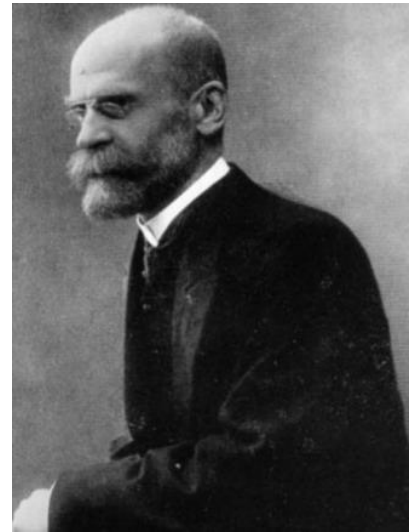


**Exercise 3. Look through the first part of the biography of Emile Durkheim to check your answers to Exercise 2.**

**Text 1**

**EMILE DURKHEIM – ONE OF THE FATHERS OF SOCIOLOGY**

Emile Durkheim was born in France in 1858. He was descended from a long line of rabbis<sup>1</sup>. But his lifelong interest in religion was academic rather than theological, and, dissatisfied with his religious training and general education, he longed for schooling in scientific methods and in the moral principles, needed to guide social life. He rejected a traditional academic career in philosophy and sought instead to acquire the scientific training to contribute to the moral guidance of society. Although he was interested in scientific sociology, there was no field of sociology at that time, so between 1882 and 1887 he taught philosophy in a number of provincial schools in the Paris area.



His appetite for science was stimulated further by a trip to Germany, where he was exposed to the scientific psychology being pioneered by Wilhelm Wundt. In the years immediately after his visit to Germany, Durkheim published a good deal, basing his work, in part, on his experiences there. These publications helped him gain a position in the department of philosophy at the University of Bordeaux in 1887. There Durkheim offered the first course in social science in a French university. This was a particularly impressive accomplishment, because only a decade earlier, a furor had erupted in a French university by the mention of Auguste Comte in a student dissertation. Durkheim's main responsibility was the teaching of courses in education to schoolteachers in the area of moral education. His goal was to communicate a moral system to the educators, who he hoped would then pass it on to young people in an effort to help reverse the moral degeneration he saw around him in French society.

**Exercise 4. Find the following words and phrases in the text and look up their meaning and pronunciation.**

**Make up your sentences based on the text.**

To be descended from (a family), to long for (schooling), one's appetite for (science), to be exposed to (psychology), to gain a position (in the department of), a (particularly impressive) accomplishment, to reverse (the moral degeneration)

---

<sup>1</sup> rabbi [ 'ræbai ] – a Jewish priest

**Exercise 5. Read the second part of the biography to answer the questions**

- What does the paragraph focus on?
- What was the title of Durkheim's Doctoral Thesis?
- When was it published?

**Text 2**

The years that followed were characterized by a series of personal successes for Durkheim. In 1893 he published his French doctoral thesis, *The Division of Labor in Society*. His major methodological statement, *The Rules of Sociological Method*, appeared in 1895, followed (in 1897) by his empirical application of those methods in the study *Suicide*. By 1896 he had become a full professor at Bordeaux, in 1902 he was summoned to the famous French university, the Sorbonne, and in 1906 he was named professor of the science of education, a title that was changed in 1913 to professor of the science of education and sociology. The other of his most famous works, *The Elementary Forms of Religious Life*, was published in 1912.

**Exercise 6. Discussing published works.**

**(1) Look through the chart below and match Emile Durkheim's works with their Russian equivalents.**

The Division of Labor in Society	Самоубийство
The Rules of Sociological Method	Элементарные формы религиозной жизни
Suicide	О разделении общественного труда
The Elementary Forms of Religious Life	Метод социологии

**(2) Answer the questions:**

- Which of the papers from the list above do you study as a part of your sociology course?
- Do you know any other Durkheim's works?
- What concepts/ notions are dealt with in these papers?
- Do the ideas remain important?

**(3) Work in small groups.**

**Prepare a brief description (120-150 words) of any paper written by Emile Durkheim.**

**Exercise 7. Read the rest of the biography and fill in the gaps with the phrases below.**

- A. Characteristically,
- B. Because that could not be done quickly or easily,
- C. He did not see the proletariat as the salvation of society,
- D. his influence within sociology certainly has been a conservative one.
- E. To Durkheim,
- F. When society undergoes suffering,
- G. a celebrating figure in French intellectual circles
- H. which he founded in 1898

### **Text 3**

Durkheim is most often thought of today as a political conservative, and **1**\_\_\_\_. But in his time, he was considered a liberal, and this was exemplified by the active public role he played in the defense of Alfred Dreyfus, the Jewish army captain.

Durkheim was deeply offended by the Dreyfus affair, particularly its anti-Semitism. But Durkheim did not attribute this anti-Semitism to racism among the French people. **2**\_\_\_\_, he saw it as a symptom of the moral sickness confronting French society as a whole. He said: **3**\_\_\_\_, it feels the need to find someone whom it can hold responsible for its sickness; and those against whom public opinion already discriminates are naturally designated for this role.

Thus, Durkheim's interest in the Dreyfus affair stemmed from his deep and lifelong interest in morality and the moral crisis confronting modern society. **4**\_\_\_\_, the answer to the Dreyfus affair and crises like it lay in ending the moral disorder in society. **5**\_\_\_\_, Durkheim suggested more specific actions such as severe repression of those who incite hatred of others and government efforts to show the public how it is being misled. He called people to "have the courage to proclaim aloud what they think, and to unite together in order to achieve victory in the struggle against public madness".

Durkheim's interest in socialism is also taken as evidence against the idea that he was a conservative, but his kind of socialism was very different from the kind that interested Marx and his followers. In fact, Durkheim labeled Marxism as a set of "disputable and out-of-date hypotheses". To Durkheim, socialism represented a movement aimed at the moral regeneration of society through scientific morality, and he was not interested in short-term political methods or the economic aspects of socialism. **6**\_\_\_\_, and he was greatly opposed to agitation or violence. Socialism for Durkheim was very different from what we usually think of as socialism; it simply represented a system in which the moral principles discovered by scientific sociology were to be applied.

Durkheim had a profound influence on the development of sociology, but his influence was not restricted to it. Much of his impact on other fields came through the journal *L'annee sociologique*, 7\_\_\_\_. An intellectual circle arose around the journal with Durkheim at its center. Through it, he and his ideas influenced such fields as anthropology, history, linguistics, and – somewhat ironically, considering his early attacks on the field – psychology.

Durkheim died on November 15, 1917, 8\_\_\_\_, but it was not until over twenty years later, with the publication of Talcott Parsons's *The Structure of Social Action* (1937), that his work became a significant influence on sociology.

**Exercise 8. Say if these sentences are true/ false/ they don't contain information from the text.**

1. Emile Durkheim considered Alfred Dreyfus to be guilty.
2. At that time the Frenchmen suffered from the moral sickness.
3. E. Durkheim saw anti-Semitism as a symptom of the moral sickness confronting French society.
4. E. Durkheim appealed to the public's right to express their opinion freely.
5. E. Durkheim was against force methods of dealing with problems in society.
6. E. Durkheim founded the first sociological journal.
7. E. Durkheim's work became a significant influence on sociology only 20 years after his death.

**Exercise 9. Translate the last paragraph of Text 3.**

**Exercise 10. Match the words to make phrases as they are used in the text.**

active	repression
political	methods
severe	public role
scientific	sociology
to hold	to proclaim
victory	actions
to suggest	responsible for
to have the courage	in the struggle

**Exercise 11. Make up your own sentences with some phrases from Exercise 10.**

**Exercise 12. Which TWO of the words below do not go with the adjective *moral*?**

principles	system	biography	regeneration
guidance	sickness	code	media
education	degeneration	crisis	disorder

**Which FOUR of the words here do not collocate with the adjective *economic*?**

relationships	aspects	crisis	guidance
system	structure	principles	disorder
violence	degeneration	development	disadvantage

**Exercise 13. Look through the biography once again.**

**Make up sentences about Durkheim using these verbs and correct prepositions if necessary.**

To be aimed, to be interested, to be opposed, to be restricted, to found, to influence.

**Exercise 14. Rewrite the sentences in Passive Voice.**

1. Not only religious training dissatisfies him but also his general education.
2. Scientific sociology was interesting for him.
3. A series of personal successes characterized the years starting from 1893.
4. He published *The Elementary Forms of Religious Life* in 1912.
5. Alfred Dreyfus's affair offended Durkheim deeply.
6. Nowadays people think of Durkheim to be political conservative.
7. In 1902 Durkheim was summoned to the Sorbonne after the Bordeaux University government had appointed him a full professor in 1896.

**Exercise 15. Find more examples of the Passive Voice in the text.**

**Exercise 16. Retell the biography of Emile Durkheim using these phrases:**

To be descended from, to long for, to be exposed to, a (particularly impressive) accomplishment, to represent, to be aimed at, to be opposed to, to be restricted to, to found, to become a significant influence on.

### **Exercise 17. Work in groups A and B.**

**Students A:** Read the first extract from E. Durkheim's work *The Division of Labor in Society*.

**Students B:** Read the second extract from E. Durkheim's work *The Division of Labor in Society*.

**(1) With your small group, answer the questions and do the tasks:**

- What is the extract devoted to? What is its main idea?
- Make a plan consisting of 3-4 principal points to cover the content of the text.
- Extract the key vocabulary.
- Do you find this extract informative/ important/ dull/ of no value/ too hard to understand?

**(2) Find a partner from another small group and swap the information;**

**(3) Render your text into English.**

#### **Text A**

Согласно наиболее распространенной теории, причина разделения труда крепится исключительно в непрерывно растущем стремлении к счастью, присущем человеку. Известно, в самом деле, что чем больше разделяется труд, тем выше его производительность. Представляемые им в наше распоряжение ресурсы становятся изобильнее и лучшего качества. Наука развивается лучше и быстрее, произведения искусства – многочисленнее и утонченнее, промышленность производит больше и продукты ее совершеннее. Но человек испытывает потребность во всех этих вещах; он, по-видимому, должен быть тем счастливее, чем больше он их имеет, и, естественно, он старается их приобрести.

#### **Text B**

Невозможно указать никакой рациональной границы производительной силе труда. Несомненно, она зависит от состояния техники, капиталов и т.д. Но как доказывает опыт, эти препятствия всегда носят временный характер, и каждое поколение отодвигает границу, на которой остановилось предыдущее. Даже если бы она когда-нибудь дошла до максимума, которого не могла бы превзойти, то, по крайней мере, за собой она имеет необъятное поле развития. Если, стало быть, счастье, как это полагают, постоянно увеличивается вместе с ней, то нужно допустить, что оно также способно увеличиваться безгранично, что прирост, на который оно способно, пропорционален приросту производительной силы труда...

**Exercise 18. Report on the biography of another famous sociologist. Follow the instructions below.**

### **Making a Report**

- Decide on the scientist you are really interested in and would like to tell about.
- A successful report requires clear organization and presentation so write down the main events in the narrative.
  - Arrange the events in chronological order, from first to last.
  - Group your information into logical themes.
  - Start with the purpose of the report: *The aim of this report is to... This report is intended to give a brief summary of the...*
  - Refer to other people's opinions/ the source of information: *As stated in... According to ... He is believed to...*
  - 4. Speak about his ideas and contribution to the development of sociology: *He argued (suggested/ supposed etc.) that... It was NNN who introduced the concept/ notion of... He coined the term... He put forward the idea... He formulated... It was due to... that ...*
- Show your knowledge of the vocabulary relevant to the theme.
- Use passive structures when appropriate.
- Make sure that your report covered all the points that you had decided to cover.
- Prepare handouts with words or phrases your fellow students might not know.
- Write key dates and proper names on the board.
- When you present your report, don't read it, speak on it.

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### Images:

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# СОЦИОЛОГИЯ И СОЦИОЛОГИ

## Sociology and Sociologists

Авторы:

Наталья Викторовна **Каминская**  
Александра Сергеевна **Глухотаренко**  
Ольга Владимировна **Телегина**

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Федеральное государственное автономное образовательное учреждение  
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