

# Candidate 2 evidence

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## Section 1

- one feature of symbolic interactionism is the I and self belief, this is the theory that we as individuals have certain parts of our personality and person which we either show or expose to society. The 'I' is the part of our selves which we hide from others and that our true personality, whereas the self is the part of our selves that we shown to society and it's the fake part of our selves.  
Secondly another feature of symbolic interactionism is that it's an action theory which takes a micro approach and looks at the individuals.  
Thirdly, the looking glass self is the theory that we as a society have the fear that society views us differently to which we see our selves. This can be the fear that we are judged because of our personality and looks and that we have two different sides to our selves. We fear that society sees us in a certain way than how we actually act in society.

- One difference between Marxism and Weberism is the approach the theory they are. Marxism is an structural theory whereas Weberism is an action theory. Therefore they both take conflicting approaches.

- consensus theory is a theory such as functionalism and a conflict theory is feminism, the main differences of these two categories is that conflict theories aim to make their beliefs known by positions or interviews which are more passionate and provocative in the language and actions used. For instance the interviews by feminist tend to be more loud and justified such as an interview conducted in America which took a group of feminist and non feminist to discuss their beliefs with each other, which turned into a loud and erratic discussion whereas consensus theories such as functionalism take a more passive approach.

- One stage of the research process is the theory stage, this is when the researcher must choose two conflicting theories and apply them to their study. Then the researcher must decide which theory links to their findings the best.

Another stage of the research process is the writing up stage, this is when the researcher has finalised the results and findings of the study and now they must type up the results and add in additional information to bulk out the report.

Another stage of the research process is the experiment, this is where the researcher will carry out the experiment they have planned which may be an interview or questionnaire. The researcher must then hold onto the results/findings and store them safely.

- one feature of a focus group is the sample size, focus groups are usually made up of 5-10 participants who are asked questions for around 60 minutes. Another feature is the researcher has made up set questions to ask the focus group. This means there isn't on the spot questions.

Another feature is that focus groups generate qualitative data which is data generated by interviews and such rather than numbers and facts.

Another feature is that it is face to face with the researcher and if there are any issues they can be fixed.

- one strength of participant observation is that it's face to face with the researcher and therefore any issues with the questions can be discussed face to face with the researcher. One weakness of participant observation is that because the participant knows they're being watched they may act

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differently or abnormally to what they would normally, this would mean the results are less reliable. One strength of the participation observation is that the answers are raw as it is as real as they can be as they are spoken or acted by the participant and not through a system of some sort. Another weakness is that the participant may be nervous or scared as they are being observed by a researcher, this would make the results unreliable as they are acting out of the ordinary.

## Section 2

7. Socialisation has two key processes, the first part of socialisation is the primary area. This is the area in which individuals aged 0-5 are exposed to certain things in their close family and friends. This can be an impressionable stage of life as young children will see what their close adults are doing and often begin to mimic what they are doing. This stage doesn't fully create an identity but helps to the lead up of an older adolescent who is figuring out their identity. The second stage known as secondary socialisation is formed through the children being exposed to the outside world. As children are sent to nursery and primary school, they are exposed to other aspects of identity. This stage is where the mimicking and copying are a key factor to finding out who you are. If a child is exposed to mum being at home and looking after them whilst dad is working, this will leave a permanent indent on what a child believes is their role. Toys are also a key factor to forming their sense of identity as television adverts are made in such a way that boys are presented with cars and building equipment whereas girls are presented with babies to look after and barbies to dress up. This leaves the idea that girls are supposed to care for children and care about what they look like whereas boys are to build things and race cars. This helps mould an individual's identity as they associate certain things with a gender.

8. Marxist claim that there are two classes in society, the bourgeoisie which are the owners and the proletariat who are the workers. They claim that the bourgeoisie exploit the proletariat which in turn creates a high culture. Capitalism is the belief that the bourgeoisie are exploiting the proletariat as they are paid less and lead to believe that material wealth is the sign of hard work, therefore the proletariat believe that high culture is having a high status and the newest gadgets whereas they are living in popular culture as they sought after the designer things but the bourgeoisie who are part of high culture don't tend to splurge on lots of high designers. This means the rich remain rich and the poorer are poorer as they waste money on designer labels which they hoped would increase their status.

9a) One finding of Cohen's study on moral panics and folk devils was that there wasn't actually more violence than normal on the bank holiday weekend on the pier, the media dramatized the whole situation and labelled these youths as dangerous just because they didn't fit into society's norms.

Secondly another finding was punk rockers and mods didn't actually have conflict between them more than any other groups of people would. Their subcultures were different however that didn't mean that they were in a fight with each other. The media portrayed these two different subcultures in a way which put pressure onto the two different cultures.

9b) One strength of this study is that Cohen used qualitative data to back up and create evidence on his findings. This means that because the evidence was qualitative, there were opinions and media reports which he found to create this study. Therefore, his results and findings are valid.

One weakness of his study is that it came from an interactionist view which means Cohen writes from a certain political view which means he might've missed out key findings because they didn't match his political beliefs. Hence, the results and findings are not as valid because he has a certain political viewpoint.

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## Section 3

Social mobility has become an increasingly apparent issue in the UK. This is because the decline of social mobility is inevitable. As the head of the government's special unit of social mobility has recently resigned, they stated that social mobility was declining fast and they believed it couldn't be saved. Functionalists believe we live in a meritocracy which then means they believe that social mobility is frequent in the UK. However, Marxists argue that social mobility is infrequent in the UK because of the differences of class. For instance in India they use the two class system.

Functionalists claim we live in a meritocracy, this means that no matter your gender, ethnic background or class of origin, if you work hard you will achieve social mobility. They also claim effective role allocation which is the belief that the most able in society will receive the most rewards. For example the most important jobs in society may be surgeons or judges. Therefore, the rewards given to these "most important jobs" are more pay and holidays as a reward for their extra years at higher education and the rewards of having the most important jobs in society. Functionalists believe that we as a society all share the same values and goals in life which is seen through success being shown through wealth and status, functionalists say this is known as value consensus. One strength of the functionalist theory is that it has a good explanation of why inequalities exist in society. Functionalists believe that inequalities exist in society because those who do not work hard enough or make use of the opportunities given to them will not achieve social mobility, wealth and status. However, functionalists don't have a good explanation of rewards and the distinction of the "most important jobs". This means that a surgeon's job isn't more important than a hospital cleaner because without the cleaner there wouldn't be a surgery taking place at all. However, the hospital cleaners will be paid much less and have much less flexibility with holidays so in turn they do not achieve the same amount of rewards even if they work hard. So, are certain jobs more important than others. Functionalism doesn't take into account the inequalities that minorities face in society, as known often ethnic groups will face discrimination or racism in society and functionalism doesn't take into account for any individual experience that these minorities face. For instance anyone in Scotland over 21 can stand to be an MSP, however we only have one ethnic MSP.

Karl Marx created the theory of Marxism which claimed that there are two classes in society, the bourgeoisie who are the owners in society and the proletariat who are the workers in society. Marxists claim that due to capitalism, the bourgeoisie deliberately exploit the proletariat as they're workers to create more profit. This means that the proletariat are being overworked for little pay and are unknowingly being exploited for extra profit to be saved for the bourgeoisie. This creates false consciousness which is the term to describe the proletariat not being fully aware of how much they're being exploited in return for more profit for the bourgeoisie. The proletariat will often believe that the sign of success is material wealth as shown to them by the bourgeoisie, whereas the bourgeoisie are deliberately making the richer richer and the poorer poorer. Karl Marx predicted that there would be a revolution in which the proletariat would overthrow the bourgeoisie and overcome capitalism. Marxism shows the conflict between two classes, this is good because the conflicting relationship between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat is very prominent in society and therefore takes a massive effect on society as a whole. However, Karl Marx's predictions have yet to come true, therefore a weakness of Marxism is that it's based upon the revolution of the proletariat and the bourgeoisie which may never come true. The chances of the proletariat overthrowing the bourgeoisie are slim and as seen in today's world.

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society, there hasn't been a change in the structure of society as many individuals are still being underpaid and overworked in modern society.

The study to investigate social mobility in society by Glass backs up the theory of Marxism. Glass conducted a study which followed men in the UK, this study was to investigate the social mobility in the UK. Glass studied men who had unknowingly chosen a career which was much similar as their fathers. This means that while the sons were choosing what to do with their lives, they subconsciously chose the same job categories as their fathers. For instance, fathers who worked in manual jobs, their sons generally followed suit and chose an occupation the manual labour categories and fathers who worked in professional jobs, their sons followed suit. This study found that in some cases mobility was found, for instance if the sons were born into class 4, they quietly made their way up to class 3. A strength of this study by Glass is that it provided a good explanation of short range mobility as it was seen that a few individuals made their way up the mobility ladder into higher classes. However, a weakness of this study by Glass is that it doesn't account for women, as this study primarily focuses on men, there is no findings to support the movement of women in social mobility. As there was no women studied, it's not known if the social mobility of women is more or less frequent than men and therefore makes this study less plausible. Another weakness is the date of the study, the study was published in the 1950's and therefore, is far too old to be applicable to modern society. Hence the validity of the study by Glass is questionable.

In conclusion, neither of the theories provided an explanation of social mobility. In turn both studies have flaws and neither showed a true function of social mobility. Therefore, social mobility in the UK is an arising issue within society. Marxists believe that we as a society don't experience much social mobility because of the class separation, however, functionalists argue that we do experience social mobility and it's because we live in a meritocracy.