
Worksheet 3: Identifying analysis in paragraphs

For each of the following paragraphs, identify the analysis by underlining the focus of the analysis.

- 1 One reason for boys' underachievement compared with girls is due to the decline of traditional jobs. This has created an identity crisis for men in which boys now feel they lack prospects in the job market. This can lead to underachievement as boys feel undermined and therefore lack the motivation to achieve resulting in less ambition at school and failure to achieve qualifications.

- 2 Functionalists believe the family is functional for society. The family helps to make social order possible by integrating individuals into the social system and so meeting the system's needs. The family does this through primary socialisation in which individuals internalise the systems norms and values.

- 3 A change in norms has contributed to the increase in divorce. This means that society no longer sees a woman's role as a housewife and mother. Women are now a lot more financially independent meaning they do not rely on being married for financial support. Because of this change women may seek a divorce more readily.

- 4 An interpretivist will choose only a qualitative method such as diaries, letters, unstructured interviews or participant observation as they seek to understand social actor's meanings and reject the view that sociology can model itself on the natural sciences. They will therefore not choose a quantitative method even if a qualitative one took more time and money as it would not give them the data they need to study from their perspective.

- 5 A very important practical issue is time and money. This is because different methods simply require different sets of resources. A large-scale survey that targets thousands of participants will cost a lot more capital and take much more time and preparation which some researchers are not able to commit to, therefore instead of doing country wide surveys they'll carry out observations or even decrease their sample size and create smaller surveys which will save them a lot of time and money.