

## Worksheet 2: Key concepts answers

For each key concept below, tick the box if this is a word or phrase that you would use outside of your sociology class.

Give a definition/explanation of the word or phrase. Try to use your own words.

Key concept	✓	Definition/explanation
Achieved status		<i>Status that is earned such as getting grades through hard work at school.</i>
Ascribed status		<i>Status that is fixed at birth. Being born into something, e.g. being a king.</i>
Equality of opportunity		<i>Everyone has an equal chance of success.</i>
Meritocracy/meritocratic		<i>A system that is based on merit. Everyone is given an equal opportunity to succeed. Success is based on talent and hard work.</i>
Particularistic standards		<i>Rules or standards that apply to everyone such as a school or workplace rules.</i>
Role allocation		<i>Allocating people to roles based on their aptitudes and abilities.</i>
Secondary socialisation		<i>Socialisation later in life such as in schools and at work.</i>
Social solidarity		<i>Members feel a commitment to society and a sense of belonging. A feeling that the group is more important than the individual.</i>
Social stratification		<i>Society is layered and has a hierarchical structure. The most privileged are at the top and the least privileged at the bottom.</i>
Specialised division of labour		<i>In complex societies many different people are needed to make products.</i>
Universalistic standards		<i>Rules or standards that apply to everyone such as a school or workplace rules.</i>
Value consensus		<i>Agreement about the main values of society.</i>