

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