

EDU009 - Cultural explanations of class differences

Objective: Evaluate language and parental-knowledge explanations without deficit assumptions.

Enquiry question: When does a cultural explanation become a deficit assumption?

Key knowledge organiser

Concept	Meaning	Exam use
culture	Use accurately and avoid everyday meanings.	Define, apply and evaluate in relation to the question.
cultural deprivation	Use accurately and avoid everyday meanings.	Define, apply and evaluate in relation to the question.
restricted code	Use accurately and avoid everyday meanings.	Define, apply and evaluate in relation to the question.
elaborated code	Use accurately and avoid everyday meanings.	Define, apply and evaluate in relation to the question.
parental knowledge	Use accurately and avoid everyday meanings.	Define, apply and evaluate in relation to the question.
school habitus	Use accurately and avoid everyday meanings.	Define, apply and evaluate in relation to the question.
deficit thinking	Use accurately and avoid everyday meanings.	Define, apply and evaluate in relation to the question.
cultural difference	Use accurately and avoid everyday meanings.	Define, apply and evaluate in relation to the question.

Perspective contrasts

- functionalism and shared school values
- interactionism and meanings in classrooms
- feminist/anti-racist caution against blaming families
- Bourdieu as bridge to cultural capital

Common misconception

A pattern does not automatically establish a cause. A sociological answer must show mechanisms and limitations.