

EDU014 — Class achievement explanations in combination

Assessment

Objective: Evaluate how material resources, cultural capital, language, labelling and grouping interact in explanations of social-class differences in achievement.

Original AQA-style practice

Item B: A student has a crowded home, limited private study space and parents who are unsure how to challenge a set placement. Teachers also describe the student as “quiet but not ambitious”, so fewer extension opportunities are offered.

Question 1 — item analysis

Using Item B, analyse two ways in which external and internal factors may interact to produce class differences in achievement. [10 marks]

Time: 15 minutes. Plan for 3 minutes and write for 12 minutes. You must analyse two distinct ways, use the item and explain a sociological mechanism for each way.

Writing space:

Evaluate the view that social-class differences in achievement are best explained by material factors. [30 marks]

Time: 38 minutes. Build a line of argument. Use concepts, studies, evidence, counter-argument and reasoned judgement.

[illegible]