

Teacher guide and answers

AQA A Level Sociology 7192 • L004 • 90 minutes • v1.0

CONNECT & CHECK | SHARE | PRESENT | APPLY | RECALL & REVIEW

Purpose and curriculum position

What do we mean by family?

Distinguish family relationships from household membership. Compare sociological meanings with the ONS counting definition and explain how operational definitions affect what research can show.

Distinguish family, household and kinship; classify fictional examples using a stated rule; explain an inclusion or exclusion; evaluate one strength and one limit of a definition.

Preparation and materials

Slides 1–30 total 90 minutes; slides 31–32 support optional 15-minute extended practice. The separate 15-mark mini-test is consolidation outside the lesson. Supply the HTML workbook or Word/PDF fallback, organiser and six-mark sheet. Retrieve L003 perspectives and the flipped readings on residence, relationships and research rules. No disclosure about learners' families is required.

Test local saving in the intended browser before teaching. Export a backup at the end. A standalone HTML file has no central teacher dashboard or synchronised classroom control. A teacher or facilitator should lead the lesson and review extended writing.

Emotional safety and access

Use the four fictional cases. Do not infer genders, incomes, family roles or beliefs from photographs. No learner needs to disclose their family circumstances. Offer private writing, read-aloud prompts, verbal rehearsal and a scribe where appropriate. Describe the photograph aloud.

Delivery and adaptation

Minutes	Slides	Focus
0–9	1–4	Retrieve perspectives; diagnostic and purpose
9–23	5–10	Definitions, kinship and the ONS rule
23–34	11–14	Households, family forms and hinge check
34–41	15–18	Care, belonging and limits of definitions
41–60	19–23	Image enquiry; four cases; care across addresses
60–71	24–26	Retrieval; challenge; stronger reasoning
71–84	27–28	Six-mark writing and feedback
84–90	29–30	Exit and flipped preparation

Access

Pre-teach family, household, kinship and operational definition. Keep the organiser available during supported practice; close it for retrieval. Allow concise notes or verbal rehearsal without reducing the demand to explain.

Scaffold

Using [definition], this case [does / does not] fit because... This rule makes [feature] visible, but may miss... Model case B using both rules, rehearse case C, then remove the frame for case D and the independent assessment.

Core

Expect justified classifications and an explained boundary. At D4, separate shared facilities from qualifying relationships if learners confuse the two. At case C, show why one unpartnered grandparent does not create a second ONS family. Use flexible reporting time in A2 to revisit this.

Stretch

Compare a residential count with a study of care networks. Ask how changing a definition affects comparability over time and whether a reliable category is valid for the particular question. Offer two couples sharing facilities as a multi-family household extension.

Answers: Recall and Discover

R1

Structural: how do resources or norms shape care? Social action: what does caring mean to those involved? Both need a clearly defined object of study.

R2

Residence locates people; relationships can cross addresses; a counting rule must say who is included.

R3

By the end, expect a distinction between household membership and the family definition being used.

D1

Family: a relationship group under a stated definition. Household: one person living alone, or people sharing an address and the required facilities. Kinship: socially recognised ties such as adoption or descent. Examples should show these are related but distinct.

D2

Yes. A one-person household can be linked to relatives or chosen family elsewhere. This does not make it an ONS family by itself.

D3

The co-resident couple is one ONS family. The friends can form a household but do not form an ONS family under the stated relationship rule.

D4

B. Shared facilities establish the household; a family requires a qualifying couple or parent–child arrangement. They may use family in a different lived sense.

D5

Kinship can link relatives across addresses. Co-residence is not part of every sociological definition of extended family.

D6

A clear rule supports consistent classification and comparison. It may exclude meaningful ties or fail to capture practices outside its chosen concept. Precision and validity are different questions.

Answers: Apply and Challenge

A1

Visible: people examining material. Kinship is not visible. Ask how they describe their relationship; appearance and shared activity are insufficient.

A2

A: one household, one couple-with-child family. B: one household, no ONS family; friendship or chosen care is outside that rule. C: one household, one family with an additional unpartnered grandparent; wider sociological usage can describe extended kin.

A3

A care map follows relationships and support between residences. An address map separates households. Neither answers the other question without additional information.

C1

No. Forms can organise sampling but do not show who does the work, how much, or across which addresses. Ask about practices and meanings as well.

C2

Shared residence and facilities can establish one household. Whether it contains an ONS family depends on the relationship rule; a broader sociological meaning requires further information.

Retrieval answers

Q1 A: The household rule concerns residence and facilities, not kinship.; Q2 C: A couple can be an ONS family with or without children.; Q3 B: It turns a concept into a stated research rule.; Q4 A: Wider sociological meanings can include relationships across addresses.; Q5 C: The unpartnered grandparent is another resident in this case; extended kin do not automatically create a second ONS family.; Q6 B: Compare the rules, units and populations before interpreting differences.

Answers: Prove and preparation

P1

See teacher-only guidance.

P2

A stronger answer makes explicit whether it uses the ONS rule or a wider meaning and explains the consequence.

P3

Look for a changed or justified position and accurate use of definitions; do not reward a moral judgement about family forms.

F1

Common refers to frequency in a defined population. Correct is a judgement; frequency alone cannot establish it.

F2

These are different units and totals. A percentage needs its denominator to have a clear meaning.

F3

Accept a question about definition, date, place, denominator, evidence or a hidden judgement.

Content checks and sources

Family is not synonymous with household. An ONS classification is a statistical rule, not a verdict on whether a relationship is meaningful. Extended kin can live apart. One-family household can include other residents. Appearance does not establish kinship.

Use ONS family for the category taught here. The Labour Force Survey also has a distinct family-unit variable that can include a single person; do not substitute that term. Children in the family classification must meet the specified relationship rules: a child living with a partner or their own child forms a separate family. Dependent children are under 16, or 16–18 in full-time education, subject to the partner/child exclusions. This introductory case set avoids the borderline cases. The statistics primarily describe private households and do not capture every meaningful relationship or communal living arrangement. Case C follows ONS's one-unpartnered-grandparent example; case D fixes usual residence to avoid double counting.

This lesson prepares the family-diversity sequence and introduces operational definitions through Families and Households. It does not complete the full research-methods component. All case studies, questions and models are original. Specification and assessment-format sources checked 27 September 2026.

AQA Families and Households

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/a-level/sociology-7192/specification/subject-content/topics-in-sociology>

ONS Families and households: quality and methods guide

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/families/methodologies/familiesandhouseholdsqmi>

ONS Families and households: 2025

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/families/bulletins/familiesandhouseholds/2025>

AQA Paper 2 specimen mark format

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/sociology/AQA-71922-SMS.PDF>