

Teacher guide and answers

AQA A Level Sociology 7192 • L012 • 90 minutes • v1.0

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Purpose and curriculum position

Is the family patriarchal?

Move from class inequality to gendered divisions of labour and power. Introduce patriarchy through evidence questions and Oakley's attention to housework, preparing comparison of feminist approaches.

Explain the key concepts, apply them accurately to the supplied case and answer the enquiry with a qualified, evidence-led judgement.

Preparation and materials

Slides 1–30 total 90 minutes; slides 31–32 support optional 15-minute practice. The separate 15-mark mini-test sits outside the lesson. Supply the workbook, organiser and six-mark sheet.

Retrieve L011 using R1–R3. Read the knowledge organiser and source notes; print the case if digital access is limited.

Test local saving before teaching. Export a backup at the end. This standalone HTML file has no connected teacher dashboard or synchronised classroom control. A teacher or facilitator should lead delivery and review extended writing.

Emotional safety and access

Use the supplied fictional cases. Avoid inferring personal characteristics from appearance. No learner needs to disclose family circumstances. Offer private writing, verbal rehearsal, read-aloud prompts and a scribe where appropriate. Describe the photograph aloud. Research tasks are design exercises using supplied material, not instructions to collect personal information.

Delivery and adaptation

Minutes	Slides	Focus
0–9	1–4	Retrieve prior learning and record an initial judgement
9–23	5–10	A structural question: concepts and mechanisms
23–34	11–14	Making domestic work visible: application and hinge check
34–41	15–18	Socialisation, resources and change: limits and evidence
41–60	19–23	Observe the photograph, then analyse the supplied case
60–71	24–26	Six-item retrieval; compare explanations and repair a claim
71–84	27–28	Independent six-mark response, review and improvement
84–90	29–30	Exit judgement and preparation for the next lesson

Access

Read the case aloud and offer the glossary. Begin with patriarchy and feminism. Permit verbal rehearsal or a scribe without reducing the conceptual demand.

Scaffold

Name the concept → select a precise case detail → explain the connection → state what the detail cannot establish. Rehearse aloud, then write independently.

Core

Check D4 before moving on. At A2 require a concept, an exact case detail and an explained mechanism. Distinguish description from explanation and an illustration from evidence.

Stretch

Design one appropriate evidence question for workload and one for power. Consider an alternative explanation and the evidence that could distinguish it.

Answers for Recall and Discover

R1

Wealth, debts, transfers and responsibilities may differ.

R2

A mechanism connecting a resource or constraint to an opportunity or outcome.

R3

A reasoned initial response should identify the claim and avoid unsupported generalisation. Revisit after the evidence and theory work.

D1

It is a patterned concentration of power among men in social arrangements. Individual relationships vary; the concept directs investigation rather than replacing evidence.

D2

Allocation of work, control of resources and influence over decisions. A fair split in one dimension does not establish equality in the others.

D3

It made unpaid activity visible for analysis of effort, organisation and inequality, rather than treating it as a natural or insignificant part of women's lives.

D4

Doing might mean attending an appointment; mental load includes noticing it is needed, booking it and coordinating transport. Both require effort.

D5

Repeatedly assigning care to girls and praising boys mainly for technical tasks can normalise different responsibilities. The mechanism is learned expectation, not biological proof.

D6

A stated preference may operate within limited alternatives. Income, time, expectations and accessible care affect which options are realistically available.

Answers for Apply and Challenge

A1

Adults are examining materials together. The image does not establish family ties, beliefs, gender identity or the reasons for their actions. Use participant accounts or relevant contextual evidence before applying the theory.

A2

Maya's coordination and adjustments show unequal responsibility beyond cooking. Leo's control of savings indicates decision-making or resource power. Explain these separately.

A3

A rota could redistribute planning if responsibility genuinely transfers. It does not by itself change control of savings, paid-work conditions or every expectation.

C1

Ask who notices, plans and completes specified activities over a period; ask how a recent major spending decision was reached. Use fictional responses and avoid collecting classmates' family data.

C2

The case establishes unequal allocation, not its biological cause. Investigate learned expectations, work schedules and negotiation; capacities should not be inferred from gender.

Retrieval answers

Q1 A: Patriarchy: A pattern of social organisation in which men hold disproportionate power. Q2 B: Domestic labour: Work involved in maintaining a household and meeting everyday needs. Q3 C: Mental load: Work of anticipating, planning and coordinating everyday responsibilities. Q4 A: Resource control: Capacity to determine how money or other resources are used. Q5 B: No: planning, resources and decisions also require evidence. Explain why the alternative claim is not justified by the supplied evidence. Q6 B: It illustrates a possible mechanism. Population frequency and causation require appropriate research evidence.

Answers for Prove and preparation

P1

See teacher-only guidance.

P2

Develop two distinct points. For each, identify the concept, explain how it works and use an accurate example or comparison relevant to the question.

P3

Reconsider the initial claim using accurate concepts and the limits of the supplied evidence. The case establishes unequal allocation, not its biological cause. Investigate learned expectations, work schedules and negotiation; capacities should not be inferred from gender.

F1

If discriminatory expectations and unequal opportunities constrain women, reform workplace practices, education or shared care arrangements. Explain how the reform addresses the diagnosed barrier.

F2

An approach emphasising equal rights, opportunities and reform of discriminatory practices. Accept a fitting example.

F3

Identify a relevant source, its population or context and the claim it could test. If discriminatory expectations and unequal opportunities constrain women, reform workplace practices, education or shared care arrangements. Explain how the reform addresses the diagnosed barrier.

Content checks and sources

Oakley is credited with research on housework without inventing a current prevalence estimate. Patriarchy is a structural concept, not a universal statement about individuals. Emotional work here concerns relationships; it is not automatically the same as paid emotional labour. Mental load is a contemporary descriptive term. Do not invite personal disclosure or infer gender identity from appearance.

All fictional cases, questions and models are original. Source and assessment-format checks: 27 September 2026.

AQA A Level 7192: Families and Households

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

Ann Oakley: research trajectory and housework

<https://www.annoakley.co.uk/about.html>

Crenshaw: intersecting structures of inequality

<https://chicagounbound.uchicago.edu/uclf/vol1989/iss1/8/>

AQA A Level teaching guide: gender roles and domestic labour

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/sociology/AQA-7191-7192-TG.PDF>

AQA Paper 2 specimen assessment format

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