

L032: Has childhood improved? – Knowledge organiser

Key concepts, studies and exam links.

Concept / study	What it means	Exam use
Core idea	Improvement depends on criteria: protection, happiness, autonomy, opportunity, equality or security.	Use as AO1 and to frame explanation.
Core idea	March-of-progress arguments emphasise rights, welfare and education; conflict arguments highlight control and inequality.	Use as AO1 and to frame explanation.
Core idea	Learners make a judgement rather than listing advantages and disadvantages.	Use as AO1 and to frame explanation.
March of progress	Childhood has become more protected through schooling, welfare and legal rights.	Use to evidence or evaluate a claim.
Gittins	Adult power can continue through age patriarchy even within child-centred families.	Use to evidence or evaluate a claim.
Postman	Argued that media may blur boundaries between adult and child knowledge.	Use to evidence or evaluate a claim.
Functionalist	Protection and education can help children develop safely into adult roles.	Use to compare explanations.
Marxist/conflict	Improvement is uneven where poverty and class shape life chances.	Use to compare explanations.
Feminist	Childhood improvements may differ by gender, care expectations and safety.	Use to compare explanations.