

L033: Childhood inequalities – Learner workbook

Explain how class, gender, ethnicity and other inequalities shape childhood opportunities without treating groups as homogeneous.

Core knowledge

- Childhoods are socially constructed, but they are not constructed equally for everyone.
- Resources, housing, schools, digital access, safety and family time can create unequal childhood experiences.
- Intersectionality helps learners avoid simple group generalisations.

Studies and evidence

- Brannen: Children's experiences of family life are shaped by social context and resources.
- Vincent and Ball: Middle-class families can use cultural and economic resources to shape children's opportunities.
- Intersectional approaches: Class, gender, ethnicity, disability and migration status combine rather than operate separately.

Perspective comparison

- Marxist: Class resources and institutional advantage shape life chances.
- Feminist: Gendered expectations can affect freedom, safety and domestic responsibilities.
- Personal life: Children actively interpret inequality but cannot choose all constraints.

Route task

Route	Your work
Access	Access: connect resources to childhood outcomes. Response: _____ _____ _____
Core	Core: explain two unequal pathways using evidence. Response: _____ _____ _____
Stretch	Stretch: apply intersectionality to a fictional case and qualify the judgement. Response: _____ _____ _____

Exam practice

Outline and explain two ways inequality may shape childhood experiences. [10 marks]

Plan your answer: claim – evidence – mechanism – evaluation – judgement.

WWW / EBI reflection

WWW: _____

EBI: _____