

Induction Assignment for Sociology

In Sociology, data on society is collected in different ways. For your induction assignment, you are going to conduct your own sociological survey and collect data on an aspect of society that particularly interests you (for example, why do people leave school for college? Why do people go travelling? Why do people drink underage?).

You are going to collect your data using two methods that sociologists use: a questionnaire and an interview, then present your findings and evaluate using questionnaires and interviews as methods of data collection.

You must complete all the five tasks.

Task 1: Questionnaire

You must design a **questionnaire**, with between 5-8 questions on your given area. You will need to break your topic up into smaller questions.

For example:

1. What is your age?
2. Are you male or female?
3. Did you go travelling because... (pick one)
 - You didn't want a job
 - You had family abroad
 - You wanted an adventure
4. Where did you go travelling?
5. Would you go travelling again? Yes/No

You will need to carry out your questionnaire on a range of different people (try to ask people outside of your family).

Aim to ask 5 people the same questionnaire.

Task 2: Presenting your questionnaire findings

You will need to present your findings from the questionnaire in either in a graph or a pie chart and explain what you have found.

Task 3: Interviews

You must design a set of interview questions (between 3-4) on the same area as your questionnaire (You can use the same questions or pick new ones, this is up to you).

For example:

1. Please give me 2 reasons why you decided to go travelling?
2. Did you travel alone? Why?
3. Would you go travelling again?

This time **ask different people** from those who completed your questionnaire. **Aim to carry out your interview on 3 people.**

Task 4: Presenting your interview findings

You will need to draw conclusions from your interviews and explain what you have found.

Task 5: Evaluating questionnaires and interviews

Answer the following essay question:

What are the positives and negatives of using questionnaires and interviews when collecting data?

You will need to explain both the **positives** and **negatives** of using both questionnaires and interviews. You must also explain any difficulties you had and why, and come to an overall **conclusion** of which method worked best for you.

Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You have produced a high quality questionnaire and interview that has addressed a variety of questions.• You have evaluated both the positives and negatives of both these types of research methods.• You have come to a balanced conclusion and reached a judgment on which method worked best for you.
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You have produced a good questionnaire and interview that has looked at different questions.• You had pointed out both the positives and negatives of both research methods.• You have come to a conclusion on which method worked best for you.
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You have a poorly constructed questionnaire and interview with limited questions.• You have only looked at the positives or negatives of both types of research methods.• You have not reached a conclusion.

You can use this website to help you understand the different research methods used in sociology.

<http://www.sociology.org.uk/revgrm1.pdf>