

EXAM-DAY · 90-MIN REVISION CARD

Culture and Socialisation

Print this · Fold it · Carry to the exam-hall gate · Revise once · Then walk in.

FORMULAS & KEY RESULTS

Culture = the whole way of life of a people — its ideas, values, norms AND material objects.

THREE dimensions of culture: COGNITIVE (knowledge/ideas) · NORMATIVE (norms/values/rules) · MATERIAL (tangible objects).

MATERIAL culture = tangible things (tools, buildings, clothes). NON-MATERIAL culture = intangible (ideas, values, norms, language).

Characteristics of culture: LEARNED · SHARED · TRANSMITTED across generations · DYNAMIC (changing).

CULTURAL LAG (W. F. Ogburn) = material culture changes faster than non-material → a gap opens.

ETHNOCENTRISM = judging others by one's OWN culture's standards. CULTURAL RELATIVISM = understanding a culture on ITS OWN terms (the opposite/corrective).

CULTURE SHOCK = disorientation on entering an unfamiliar culture.

SUBCULTURE = distinctive culture of a group WITHIN a larger shared culture (not inferior, not opposed).

SOCIALISATION = lifelong process of learning one's culture and becoming a member of society.

PRIMARY socialisation = early childhood, in the FAMILY. SECONDARY = later, in school/peer/work/media. RESOCIALISATION = shedding old patterns, learning new ones.

FOUR agencies of socialisation: FAMILY · SCHOOL · PEER GROUP · MASS MEDIA.

TOP 5 PYQ PATTERNS

1 Material vs non-material culture + cultural lag (Ogburn)

6 marks · 85% of years

Define both with one example each; state cultural lag + attribute to Ogburn; ONE worked example (cars/internet vs the laws governing them) plus ideally a fresh one.

2 Characteristics of culture (learned/shared/transmitted)

4 marks · 70% of years

Name all key features and give one line of explanation each; stress LEARNED (not biological) and SHARED (not individual).

3 Agencies of socialisation and their roles

6 marks · 65% of years

Define socialisation; then FAMILY · SCHOOL · PEER · MASS MEDIA with one distinct role each; close on their combined effect.

4 Ethnocentrism vs cultural relativism

4 marks · 60% of years

Present them as OPPOSITES — judging by one's own standards vs understanding on a culture's own terms — with one example each.

5 Primary vs secondary socialisation / what is socialisation

3 marks · 70% of years

Socialisation = lifelong learning of culture; PRIMARY = childhood/family, SECONDARY = later/school-peer-media. Add resocialisation if marks allow.

90-MIN REVISION FLOW

0-15 min

Recite from memory: the three dimensions of culture (cognitive/normative/material), the four characteristics (learned/shared/transmitted/dynamic), and who gave 'cultural lag' (W. F. Ogburn).

15-30 min

Make the material-vs-non-material table and write a 4-line note on cultural lag WITH your own fresh example (e.g. AI or social media outpacing its rules).

30-45 min

Write one-sentence-each definitions of ethnocentrism, cultural relativism, culture shock and subculture — and pair ethnocentrism vs relativism as opposites with an example each.

45-60 min

Draw the socialisation timeline (primary → secondary → resocialisation) and the agencies web (family/school/peer/mass media) with one role on each.

60-75 min

Take the 15-MCQ Quick Drill under a 20-minute timer. Target >= 12/15.

75-90 min

Review every wrong MCQ, re-read the matching notes slide, and re-draw the agencies web from memory.

Confidence, not anxiety. You've practised this all year. Trust your steps. Don't change strategy on exam morning.
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