

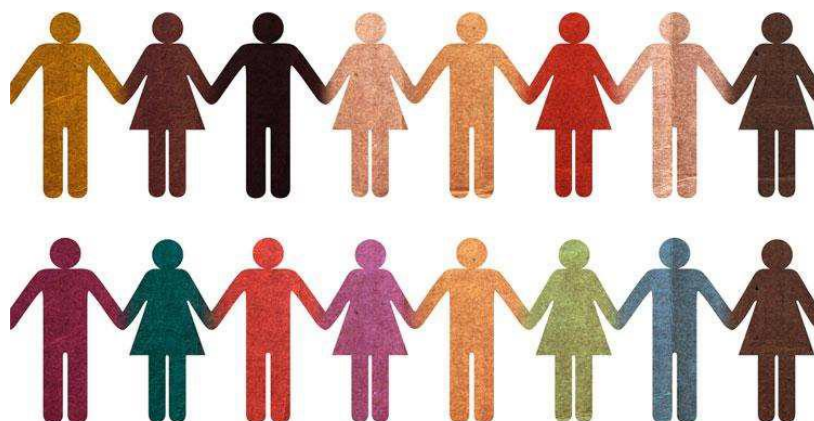
HNC @ HOME

2026



A Level Sociology *Activity 1*

Social Institutions



How do different social institutions influence identity? You can find some key terms and definitions below:

Identity: The concept of who we believe ourselves to be. It is personal (how you see yourself) and social (how others see you).

Social Institutions: Structures/organisations that shape and create society. Such as family, religion, media, education, government, law, peers, workplace.

Things to consider:

- **Education:** The subjects you choose at GCSE, the school you go to.
- **Family:** Who is in your family.
- **Media:** What types of media you consume – e.g. tv, radio, social media, films.
- **Religion:** Are you religious?
- **Government:** Your political views
- **Workplace:** The job that you do or aspire to.

Explain how different social institutions influence your identity, beliefs and values (what you see as important). You should use the above definitions and prompts to help you.

Extension: interview a member of your family and see how their identity is shaped by these institutions. Compare this with your own and write your reflections.