

SOCIOLOGY

Summer Independent Learning Workbook

Year 12 → Year 13



3.3.1 Crime and Deviance - Specification Points

Students are expected to be familiar with sociological explanations of the following content:

- crime, deviance, social order and social control
- the social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class, including recent patterns and trends in crime
- globalisation and crime in contemporary society; the media and crime; green crime; human rights and state crimes
- crime control, surveillance, prevention and punishment, and the role of the criminal justice system and other agencies

Complete all work in this booklet and bring to your first lesson in September. along with your Crime & Deviance workbook

THEORIES OF CRIME

The theories of crime are covered in the Crime and Deviance booklets you have been using recently. You can also use the NCD Sociology SharePoint for more resources.

Tasks

Complete 1 - 5 C&D for your SIL. For each theory you need to:

- Read and annotate each C&D in the booklet.
- Complete the detailed A3 knowledge table for theories & crime, outlining each key thinker for each perspective, key concepts & evaluation.
- Use resources available on SharePoint such as Video Tutorials, Tell Me More, P-Review Questions and Visual Organisers
- Complete the Frayer Diagram activity
- Answer Theories of Crime exam questions in this booklet

Functionalist Theories of Crime

Key ideas: Society functions as a whole; crime can be functional, arising when social norms break down.

Includes: Durkheim, Merton, Hirschi, and links to Control Theory and Structural Strain.

Spec links: Crime, deviance, social order and control; Functionalist explanations.

Subcultural Theories of Crime

Key ideas: Subcultures form when groups experience strain or blocked opportunities. These groups develop alternative norms that may promote deviance.

Includes: Albert Cohen, Cloward & Ohlin, Miller, Matza, Brake.

Spec links: Functionalist and Realist explanations; working-class deviance; crime, deviance, social order.

Marxist Theories of Crime

Key ideas: Crime is a result of capitalism — its values, inequalities, and power structures. The law serves the interests of the ruling class, criminalises the poor, and often ignores crimes of the powerful.

Includes: Chambliss, Reiman, Gordon, Bongor, Snider, Hall et al., Taylor et al.

Spec links: Marxist and neo-Marxist explanations of crime; criminogenic capitalism; law creation and enforcement; inequality and power.

Interactionist Theories of Crime

Key ideas: Crime is not the act itself, but how society reacts to it. Interactionists explore how labelling, moral panics, and deviant identities are socially constructed.

Includes: Becker, Lemert, Cicourel, Braithwaite, Box, Stan Cohen, Jock Young.

Spec links: Labelling theory; social construction of crime; deviance amplification; crime, deviance, and social control.

Key Concepts: Freyer Diagrams

Freyer Diagram Activity: Mastering Crime & Deviance Concepts

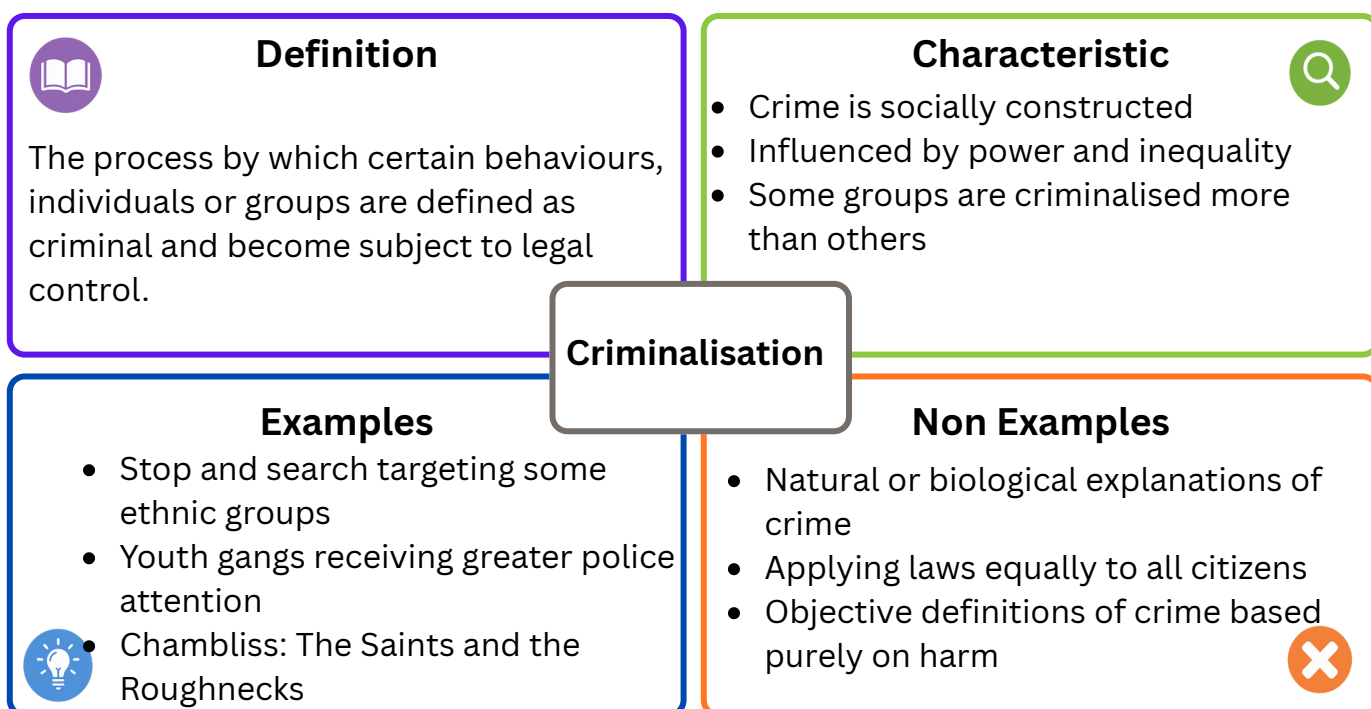
One of the biggest challenges in A Level Sociology is understanding and applying key concepts. Strong students do not simply memorise definitions – they understand how concepts work, can provide examples, and can apply them across different topics and exam questions.

The Freyer Model is a revision technique designed to deepen your understanding of important sociological concepts. By identifying definitions, characteristics, examples and non-examples, you will develop a more sophisticated understanding of the ideas that appear throughout the Crime & Deviance specification.

Instructions:

- Study the completed Freyer Diagrams provided.
- Use these examples to complete the partially completed diagrams.
- Create your own Freyer Diagrams for the remaining concepts.
- Use your completed diagrams to create revision flashcards. You may choose to use the Freyer Model format or another flashcard style that you find effective. The aim is to create a set of revision resources that help you understand, remember and apply key Crime & Deviance concepts. (this last task should be ongoing as we complete crime and deviance

Many of these concepts are highly transferable and can be applied across theories of crime, media and crime, ethnicity, class, punishment, crime control, green crime and state crime. Mastering them will improve both your sociological knowledge and your ability to apply concepts in examinations





Definition

The idea that crime and deviance are created by society rather than existing naturally.

Characteristic



- Crime changes across time and cultures
- Different groups define crime differently
- Linked to interactionism

Social Construction

Examples

- Cannabis laws vary between countries
- Homosexuality was once criminalised
- Changing attitudes to abortion



Non Examples

- Crime is biologically determined
- Crime is naturally occurring
- Universal definitions of deviance



Definition

A situation where the media and public exaggerate a perceived threat to society.

Characteristic



- Often involves folk devils
- Media exaggerates the problem
- Can lead to tougher social control

Moral Panic

Examples

- Cohen's Mods and Rockers
- "Mugging" panic (Hall et al.)
- Media concern over youth gangs



Non Examples

- Accurate reporting of crime trends
- Crime with little media attention
- Individual acts of deviance



Definition

Individuals or groups portrayed as a threat to society's values and interests.

Characteristic



- Created through media representation
- Blamed for wider social problems
- Central to moral panics

Folk Devil

Examples

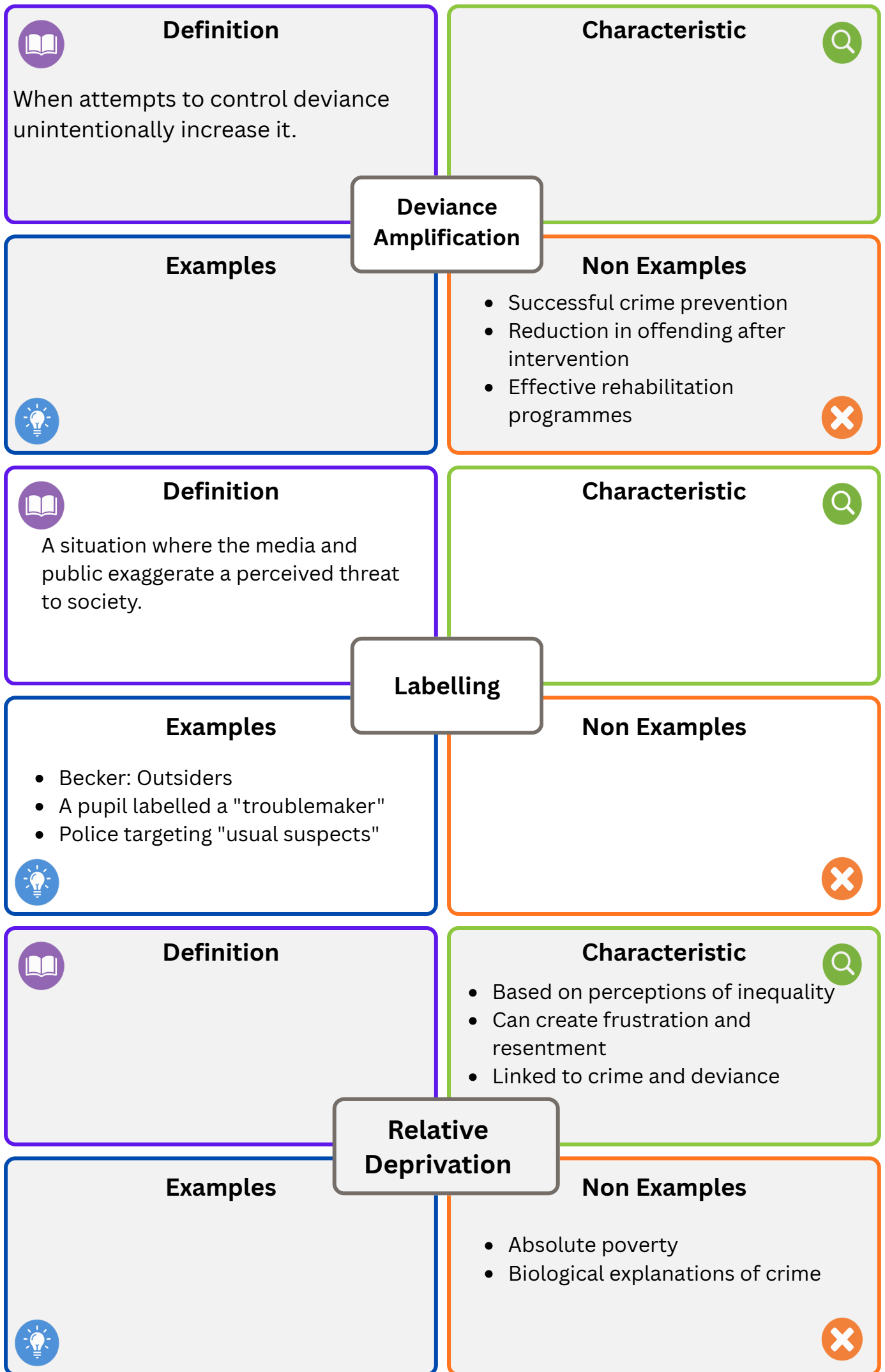
- Cohen's Mods and Rockers
- Youth gangs portrayed as dangerous
- Immigrants blamed for crime

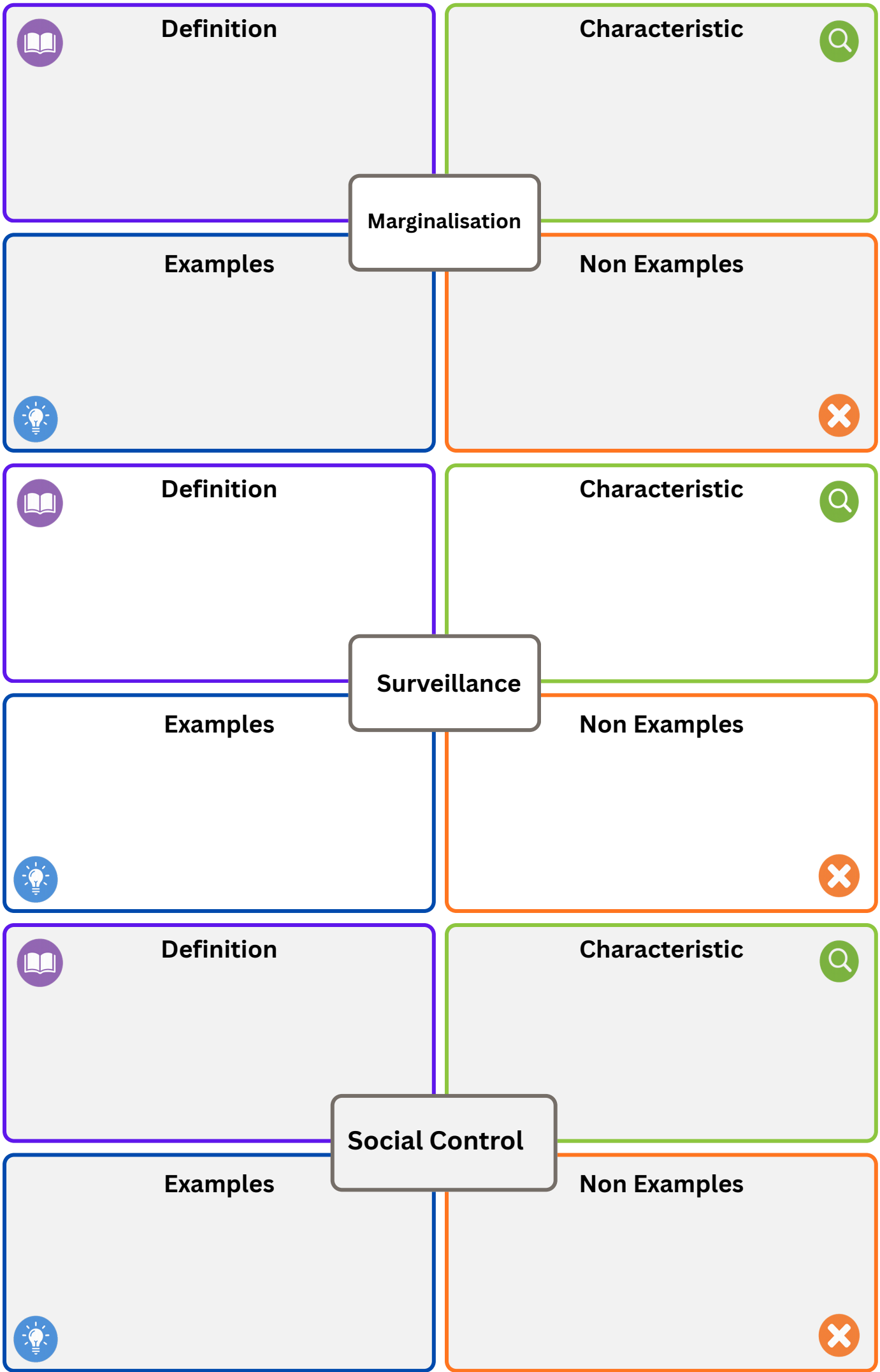


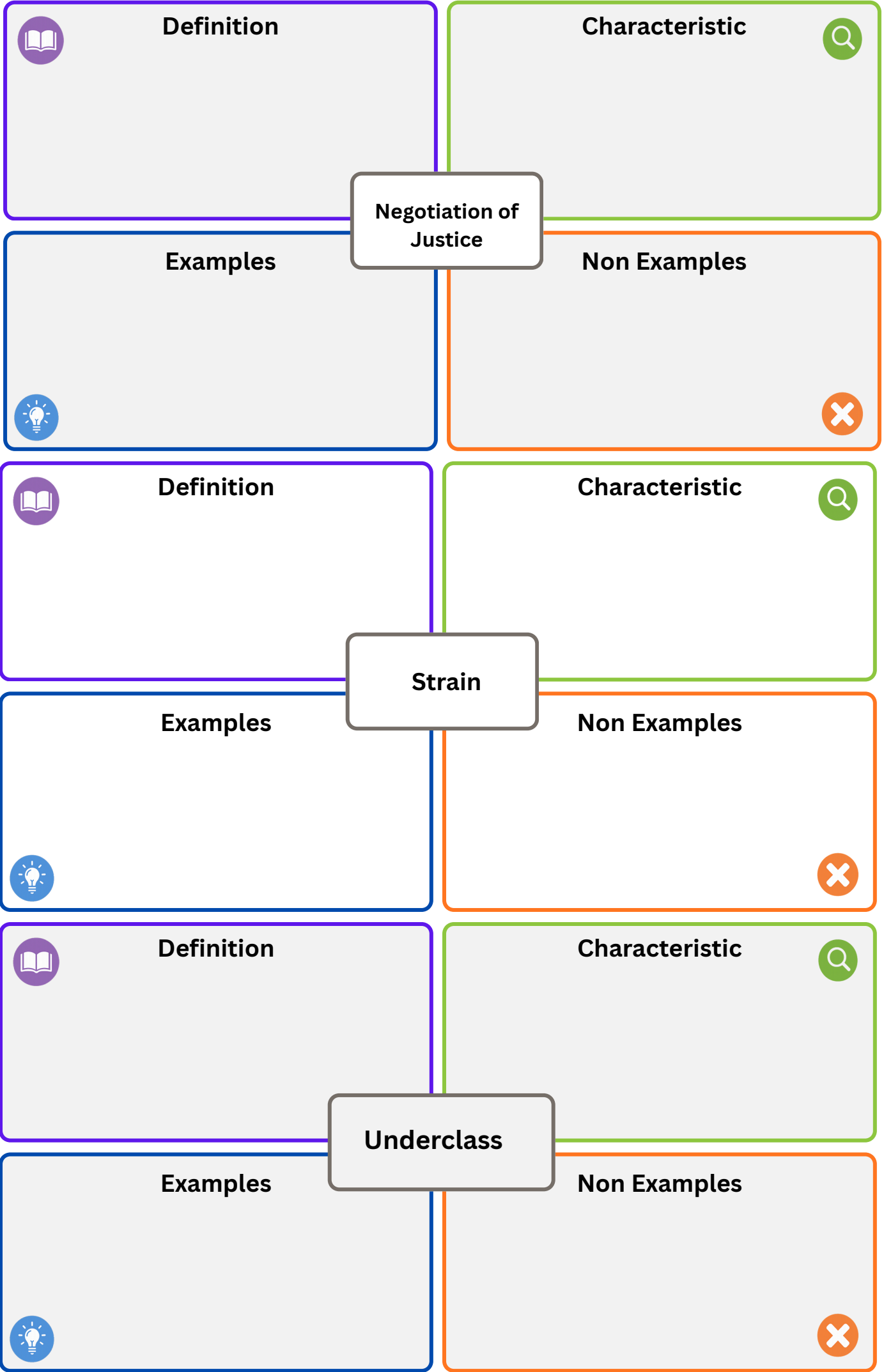
Non Examples

- Groups viewed positively by society
- Accurate and balanced reporting
- Ordinary law-abiding citizens









Theories of Crime: Exam Questions

Short Answer Questions

These questions are designed to test your knowledge and understanding of key sociological concepts, theories and criticisms. To gain full marks, you should identify two separate points and briefly explain each one.

A simple structure is: Point (1 mark) + Explanation (1 mark)

For example:

One criticism of labelling theory is that it ignores the causes of crime (1 mark). It focuses on society's reaction to offenders rather than explaining why people commit crime in the first place (+1 mark).

Avoid simply listing two points. The explanation is essential if you want to access all 4 marks or 6 marks. Sociologists, studies and key concepts can be used where relevant, but lengthy detail is not required.

Outline two limitations of labelling theory as an explanation of crime and deviance. (4 marks)

Outline two functions of crime and deviance according to functionalist theories. (4 marks)

Outline two explanations of crime and deviance offered by subcultural theorists. (4 marks)

Outline two criticisms of functionalist explanations of crime and deviance. (4 marks)

Outline and explain three factors that sociologists believe increase the likelihood of offending. (6 marks)

Item A

Some sociologists argue that capitalist societies create inequalities which can leave some individuals feeling frustrated and powerless. Others suggest that the pursuit of profit can encourage harmful or illegal behaviour among those in positions of economic power.

Applying material from Item A, analyse two ways in which Marxist theories explain crime and deviance. (10 marks)

GREEN CRIME: Research Task

Use the videos below and the Green Crime SharePoint Page to investigate real examples of environmental harm and green crime.

For each case study, make notes on:

- What happened?
- Who was responsible?
- What environmental harm was caused?
- Who were the victims?
- Which sociological concepts / studies can be applied?

Case Study 1: Polluted Rivers

Video Link: Polluted Rivers



Case Study 2: Bhopal Disaster (1984)

Video Link: Bhopal Disaster (Watch: First 7 minutes)



Case Study 3: Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster (1986)

Video Link: Chernobyl Documentary



Case Study 4: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (1989)

Video Link: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill



Produce a set of Cornell Notes on Green Crime.

Your notes should include:

- ✓ Definition of Green Crime
- ✓ Key Sociologists
- ✓ Anthropocentric & Ecocentric Views
- ✓ Primary & Secondary Green Crimes
- ✓ Corporate & State Crime
- ✓ Case Study Evidence (From above examples)
- ✓ Evaluation of Green Criminology

How to write Cornell Notes



Research Support

Use the Green Crime SharePoint Page to help you:



SharePoint

Key Concepts: Revision Resources

Ongoing Task - this should be completed by the end of the Crime and Deviance Topic

Using the concepts listed below, create revision resources to support your understanding of Crime & Deviance.

For each concept:

- ✓ Define the concept in your own words
- ✓ Identify the key sociologist(s) associated with it
- ✓ Provide an example or study that illustrates the concept
- ✓ Explain which theory or topic it links to
- ✓ Include one way the concept could be applied in an exam answer

You may choose to:

- Complete a Frayer Diagram
- Create a revision flashcard

The aim is to create a set of revision resources that will help you remember, explain and apply key sociological concepts in the examination.

Stretch & Challenge

- For each concept, identify:
 - A related concept
 - A contrasting concept

At least one Crime & Deviance topic where it could be used

Key Concepts - Here are some suggestions of concepts you should know

Anomie; Innovation; Ritualism; Retreatism; Rebellion; Status Frustration; Focal Concerns; Illegitimate Opportunity Structure; Differential Opportunity; Primary Deviance; Secondary Deviance; Self-Fulfilling Prophecy; Master Status; Typifications; Stigma; Criminogenic Capitalism; Corporate Crime; White-Collar Crime; Selective Law Enforcement; Class Justice; Rational Choice; Broken Windows; Target Hardening; Situational Crime Prevention; Environmental Crime Prevention; Deterrence; Square of Crime; Community Crime Prevention; Democratic Policing; Formal Social Control; Informal Social Control; Panopticon; Rehabilitation; Retribution; News Values; Media Saturation; Copycat Crime; Global Criminal Networks; Cybercrime; Environmental Harm; Crimes of Obedience; State-Corporate Crime; Human Rights Abuse; Denial.