

STRATIFICATION & SOCIAL STATUS

3-4-week inquiry unit

Dive into this sensitive Sociology topic **with confidence** with this complete unit.

- ✓ 10 varied student activities plus 70-slide lecture kit with guided notes
- ✓ Unit overview and pacing guide
- ✓ Step-by-step daily lesson plans with accommodation ideas, lesson takeaways, and detailed answer keys
- ✓ Standards-aligned student "I can" checklist, unit review, and unit note-taking sheets
- ✓ Lecture quizzes, unit-long note taking & journal, research project, and unit test
- ✓ Suggestions for multiple ways to implement activities & notes on teaching sensitive topics

PRINT & DIGITAL OPTIONS INCLUDED

STRATIFICATION & SOCIAL STATUS

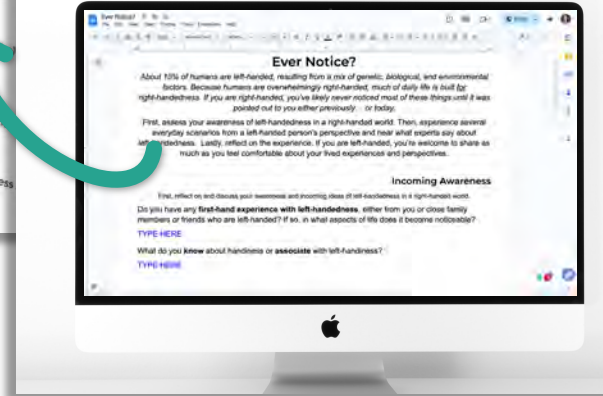
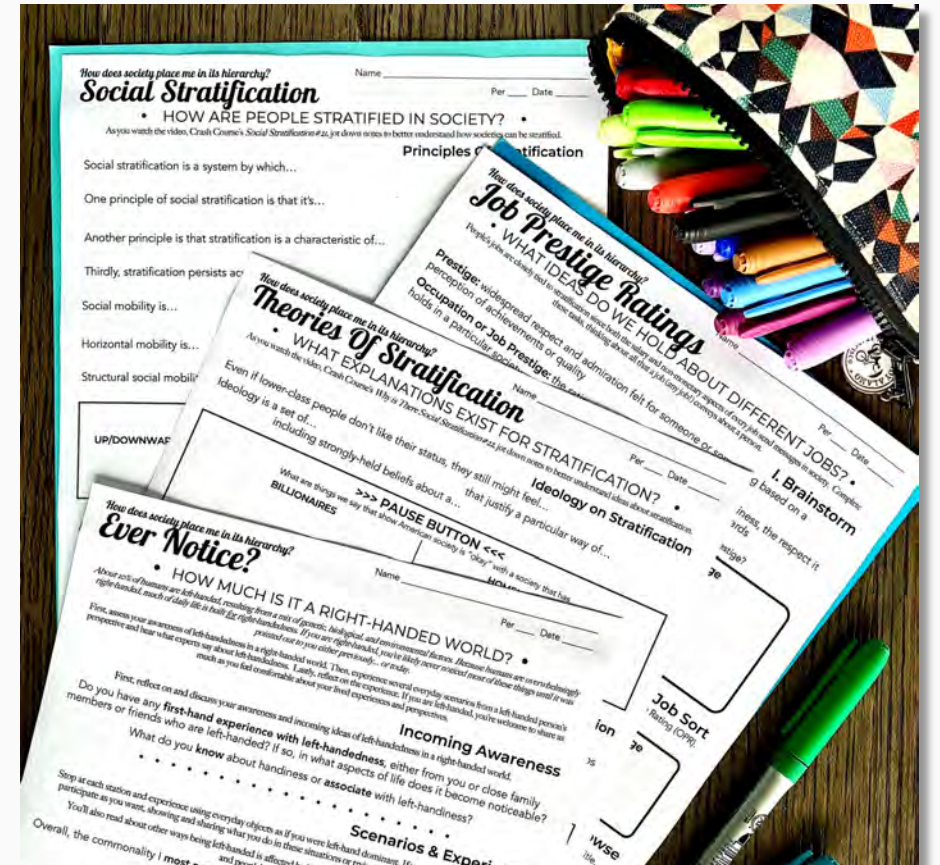
3-4 WEEK INQUIRY UNIT



SOCIOLOGICAL TOPICS *covered*

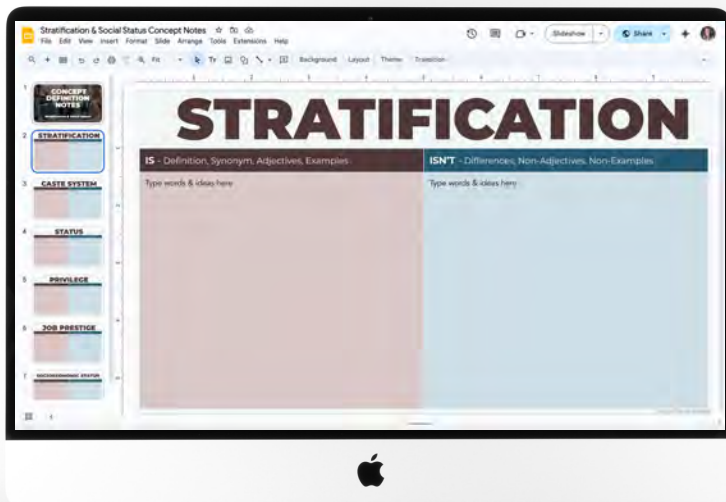
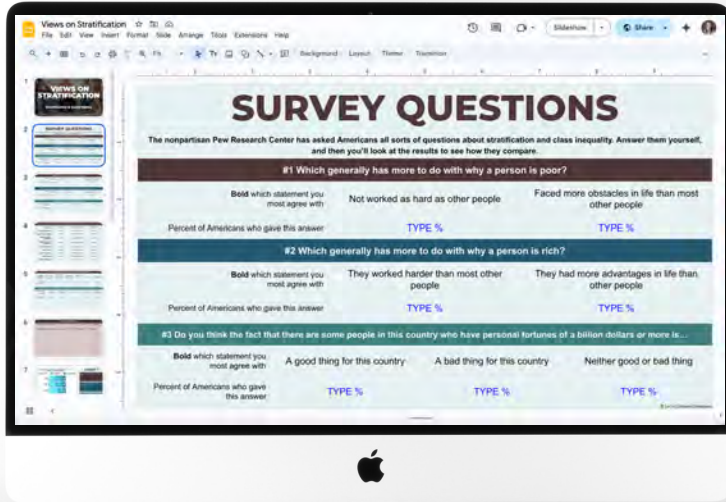
- ✓ **Stratification:** open/closed systems in past & present, hereditary & economic stratification
- ✓ **Status & Class:** upper/middle/lower class, job prestige, ascribed/achieved status, status inconsistency, socioeconomic status
- ✓ **Theories on Stratification:** Davis-Moore Theory on structural functionalism, Marx's Conflict Theory, Weber's 3-Dimensional Theory on symbolic interactionalism

“ I recently received Sociology as a third prep and didn't have the amount of time needed to plan a **variety of high-interest lesson plans**. This resource did the trick! – Gretchen D. ”



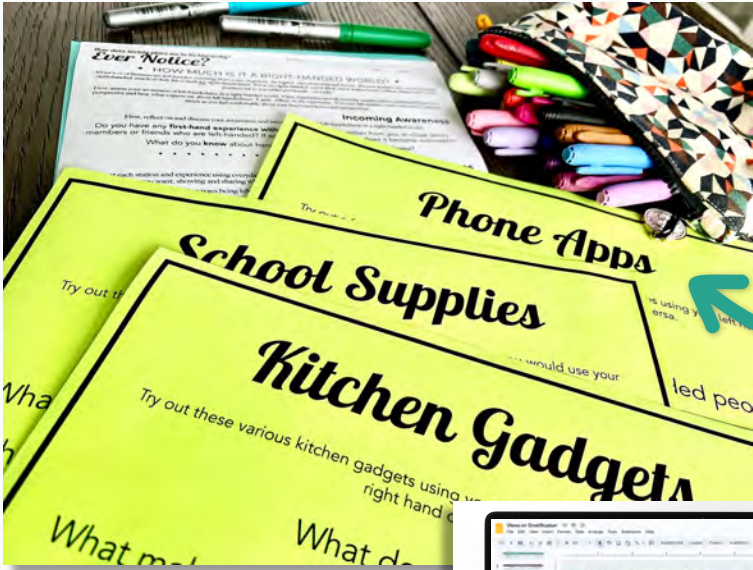
VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES *included*

- ✓ **Simulate** everyday experiences as a left-handed person to mimic ascribed status & privilege
- ✓ **Explore** the unexpected case of the caste system appearing in the US tech sector
- ✓ **Reflect** on own and others' wide array of statuses that create each person's unique status & lived experience
- ✓ **Analyze** survey data on perceptions about stratification and social classes in US society
- ✓ **Apply** the three sociological perspectives to the attitudes people share from all social classes
- ✓ **Debate & conduct** an inquiry on the pay and status inconsistency of two important jobs



“This unit was a **great way to end our sociology class.** We talked about stratification and students utilized the various resources in this unit to identify social issues in the United States. - **Nathan W.**”

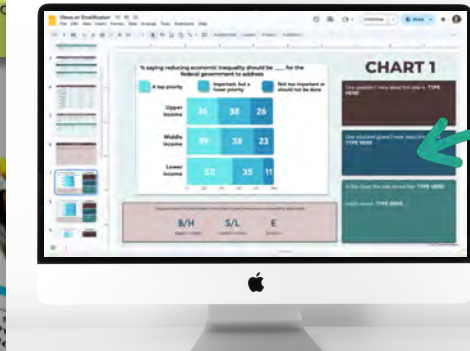
JUST SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES *included*



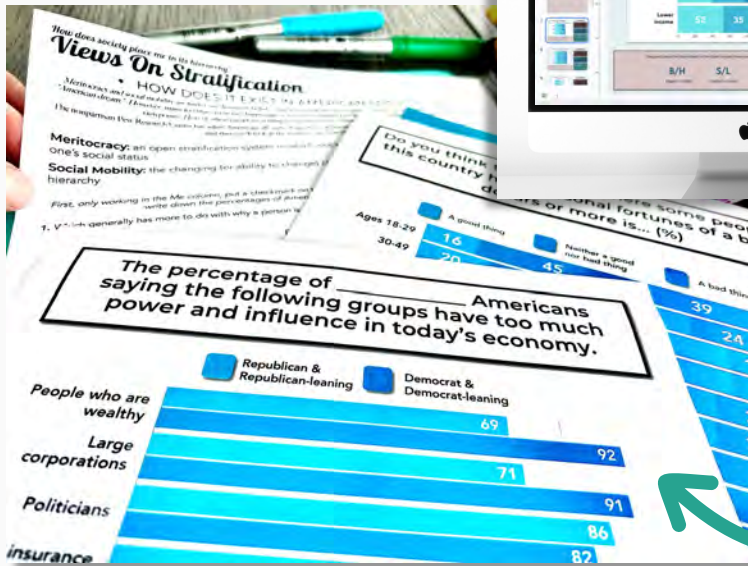
Left-Handed Simulation Unit Opener



Case Study on the Caste System in Silicon Valley

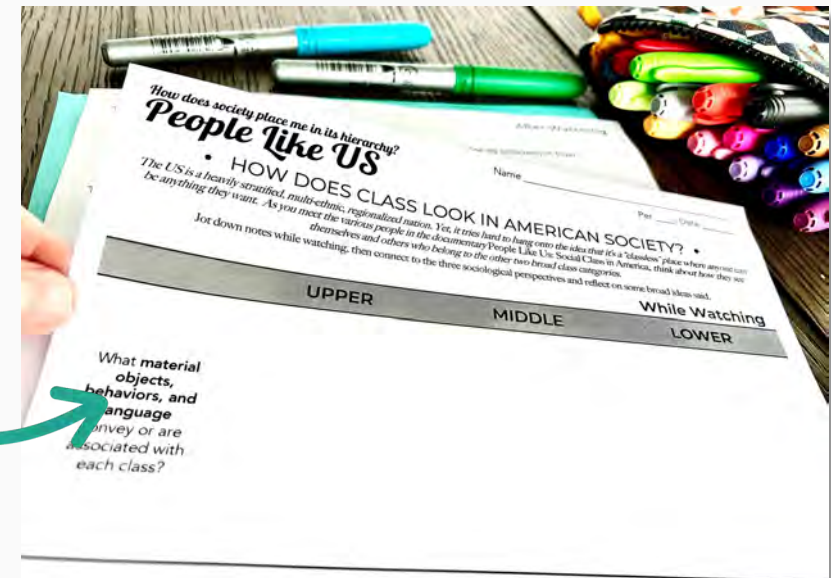


Digital option included for all activities



Gallery Walk on Stratification Data

Engaging Documentary on Class in America



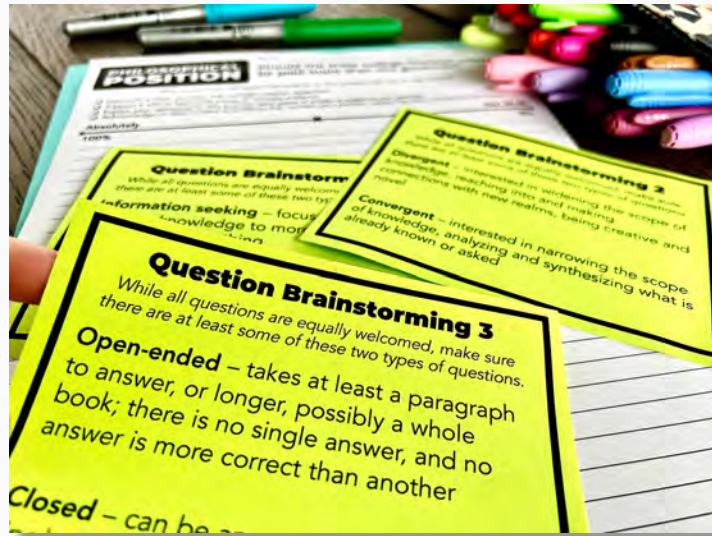
CULMINATING INQUIRY

also included!



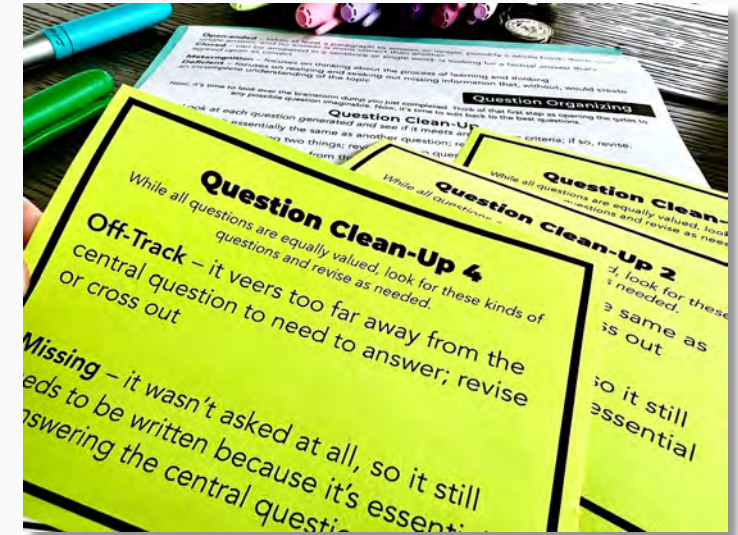
Should the state college football coach be paid more than the governor?

Complete a full inquiry arc on this chewy question of **status, power, & prestige**



In just a few classes, students

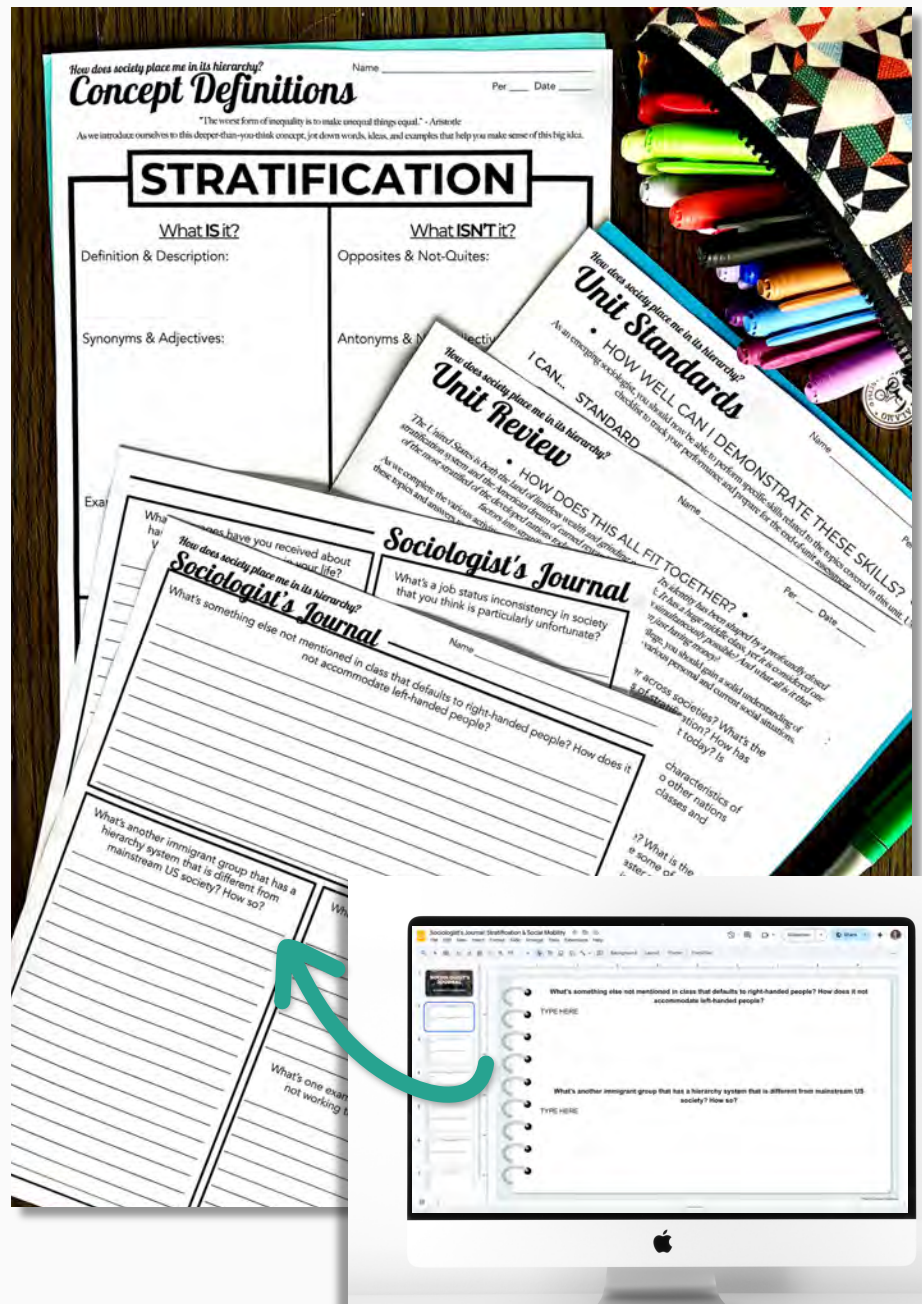
- ✓ generate and research all their own questions
- ✓ share findings with the class
- ✓ form & articulate their final positions



SUPPORTS & ASSESSMENTS

included

- ✓ **Detailed lesson plans notes** for instruction, handling sensitive topics and activities, & optional extensions throughout unit
- ✓ **Student-friendly list of standards** written as an "I can..." checklist, editable to customize to your state's standards
- ✓ **Lesson takeaways statements** to provide a real-world "why" on each lesson plan and on each student activity
- ✓ **Multiple assessments** including lecture quizzes, end-of-activity closing tasks, culminating inquiry project, unit short answer and essay-style test
- ✓ **Print-and-teach PDF** paper materials and **editable digital files** (Google Slides, Docs, Forms)



TAKE A PEEK *inside*

each LESSON

STRATIFICATION & SOCIAL STATUS OVERVIEW

Notes for Success

Current Events

Journal Prompts

Enduring Understanding & Outcomes

Driving Question: How does society place me in its hierarchy? Greatness is acknowledging the unequal statuses people carry.

By the end of this unit...

Students will know:

- the concept of stratification
- the various statuses, prestige, and privileges people hold and their impacts on their class
- the overlap of race, gender, and class stratification
- the three perspectives on understanding stratification

Students will demonstrate they can:

- articulate their understanding of stratification, status, and privilege in society
- reflect on their own self-faceted identity and consider those of others
- explore various stratification issues through data and lived experiences
- ask questions and develop empathy
- apply theoretical concepts to real-life situations and personal self

Topics Covered

How wealth, power, and prestige factor into stratification systems

Sociological perspectives on social stratification

Commonly held beliefs about class, privilege, and status

Class distinctions in the United States

Issues and debates on stratification and socioeconomic status

Social Studies Skills Practiced

Cite specific textual evidence for analysis

Determine the central ideas of a source

Make meaning of statistical and graphical data

Make personal and real-life connections to content

Conduct real-world research to address a question

Work collaboratively to address a question

Discuss ethical questions

Develop empathy for others' lived experiences

Unit Overviews give you a bird's eye view of everything at once!

Info At-a-Glance

STRATIFICATION & SOCIAL STATUS OVERVIEW

Standards Addressed

Classroom Activities

Unit Intro & Overview

Unit Review & Unit Standards

Unit Permission Form Template

Stratification Brainstorm

River Notice? Station Signs

Concept Definitions Notes

Lecture #1 Slide Deck (Slides 1-45)

Lecture #1 Guided Notes (Page 1)

"Stratification": Crash Course Video Notes

Case Study: Caste & Silicone Valley

Job Prestige Ratings

Our Privileges Reflection Questions

Lecture #2 (Slides 46-71)

Lecture #2 Guided Notes (Page 3)

"Theories of Stratification": Crash Course Video Notes

People Like Us Viewing Notes

Views on Stratification

Philosophical Position Question Research Slides

Sociologist's Journal

End-of-Unit Assessment

Pacing guide & standards

Lesson Takeaway

Lesson Plans come with step-by-step directions

Quick link to Google files

Parent permission letter template

VIEWS ON STRATIFICATION LESSON PLANS

Suggested Lesson

Part I: Survey Questions (30-45 minutes)

Time: 2 class periods

Materials: People Like Us & Concept Definitions sheets

Views on Stratification packet

2-3 sets of data sheets depending on class size

Once at their sense of what

Have students make, then ha

Repeat for Str

the charts and

Have students about the cha

Lastly, give th

theoretic persp

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Planning & Preparation

This activity focuses on attitudes about stratification, which naturally overlaps with attitudes about social mobility and wealth inequality in the US. Those topics are covered more in-depth in a different unit and thus are present here only in the capacity of being able to apply the three sociological perspectives to stratification.

That's why **meritocracy** and **social mobility** are defined at the top to assist in this activity but have been withheld as central concepts for this unit.

Pew Research Center is a nonpartisan organization that surveys Americans on various social, economic, and political issues. Included here are survey questions they have asked related to stratification, socioeconomic inequality, and social mobility.

For Part I, students will take the survey and compare their answers to the Americans that Pew surveyed. Students put a checkmark next to the statement(s) they agree with and then you reveal the percentages to them to write down.

For Part II, students will analyze more deeply a breakdown of those who agree with the statements in a gallery walk activity. Depending on class size, copy printouts to create closed circuits of the six charts so that no more than 2-3 students are at each chart simultaneously.

Survey Questions 1, 2, & 3

Survey Questions 4 & 7

How does society place me in its hierarchy?

HOW DOES IT EXIST IN AMERICAN SOCIETY?

Meritocracy: an open stratification system in which one's own ability and achievement create one's social status

Social Mobility: the changing (or ability to change) class position within the established social hierarchy

I. Survey Questions

First, only working in the Me column, put a checkmark on the line next to the statement you most agree with. Next, write down the percentages of Americans who agreed with each statement.

Me U.S.

Not worked as hard as most other people

Faced more obstacles in life than most other people

1. Which generally has more to do with why a person is poor?

2. Which generally has more to do with why a person is rich?

3. Do you think the fact that there are some people who are so rich is...

4. Which is truer about the economic system in this country...

5. How much does the legal system favor the rich?

6. How much economic inequality is there in this country?

Helpful planning tips with lesson options, links, & notes for handling sensitive topics

Daily Inquiry, Directions & context

Wide range of activities to explore topics!



Complete with things like stations, task cards, & optional extensions

UNIT *overview*

TAKE A PEEK *inside* **each** ACTIVITY

What is a social STRATIFICATION?
The categorizing and ranking of people in society.

What about the roles of STATUS & PRIVILEGE?
Closed related to **class levels**.
The higher your class, the more benefits, benefits, available to

How is this explained by the 3 PERSPECTIVES?
Structural functionalist – society needs people at all levels
Conflict – owners & the workers who want to overthrow them
Symbolic Interactionist – status and power are also part of class

Student-friendly concept definitions

Varied real-world examples included

King Charles III's status has been from birth, unlike the Reagans or Princess Diana



Murray Perahia, one of the world's best pianists, has a net worth of a few million.
Justin Bieber's is a few hundred million.

Guided notes also included

Status refers to...

For example...

Lecture Notes STRATIFICATION & SOCIAL STATUS Name _____ Date _____
#1 Types of Statuses & Stratification

Social stratification is...

Generally, there are 3 layers or strata:

1) _____
2) _____
3) _____

What names do we call the layers here?

Hereditary stratification is...

We have seen these more in the past or present (circle one)
Two examples include _____

What's one specific example of hereditary or economic stratification existing?

What's one example of stratification being contradictory where two opposing truths exist?

The difference between an ascribed and achieved status is...

What's one specific example of a stigma more strongly associated with the lower classes and a privilege more strongly associated with the upper classes?

NAME _____ Per _____ Date _____ TYPE OF STATUSES & STRATIFICATION

Terminology clarified with examples

And quizzes

Print PDF & editable Google file options of student materials to tailor to your classroom needs

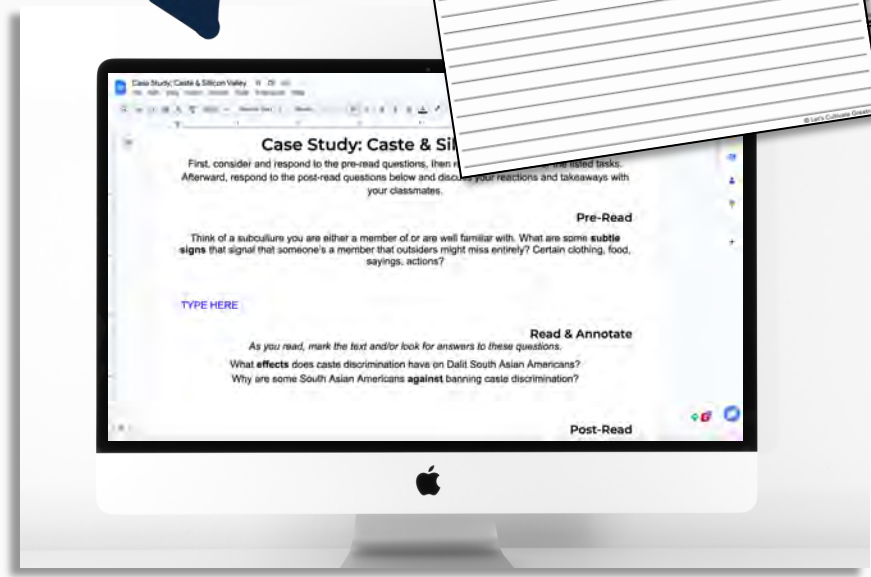
The Caste System of Silicon Valley: A Case Study of Indian Stratification Migrating to the US

Case Study: Caste & Silicon Valley
AN UNEXPECTED IMPORT

I. Pre-Read
Think of a subculture you are either a member of or are well familiar with. What are some subtle signs that signal that someone's a member that outsiders might miss entirely? Certain clothing, food, sayings, actions?

II. Read & Annotate
What effects does caste discrimination have on Dalit South Asian Americans?

III. Post-Read
Why and in what ways does caste discrimination exist in the United States? Answer using the terms: hereditary/classed stratification, economic/classed stratification, prestige, bias, stigma, ascribed status, achieved status, master status, and social mobility.



ASCRIBED STATUS
Given or assigned to us often from birth

ACHIEVED STATUS
Earned or chosen for oneself
Can change throughout life
Occupation, family, groups

each LECTURE