

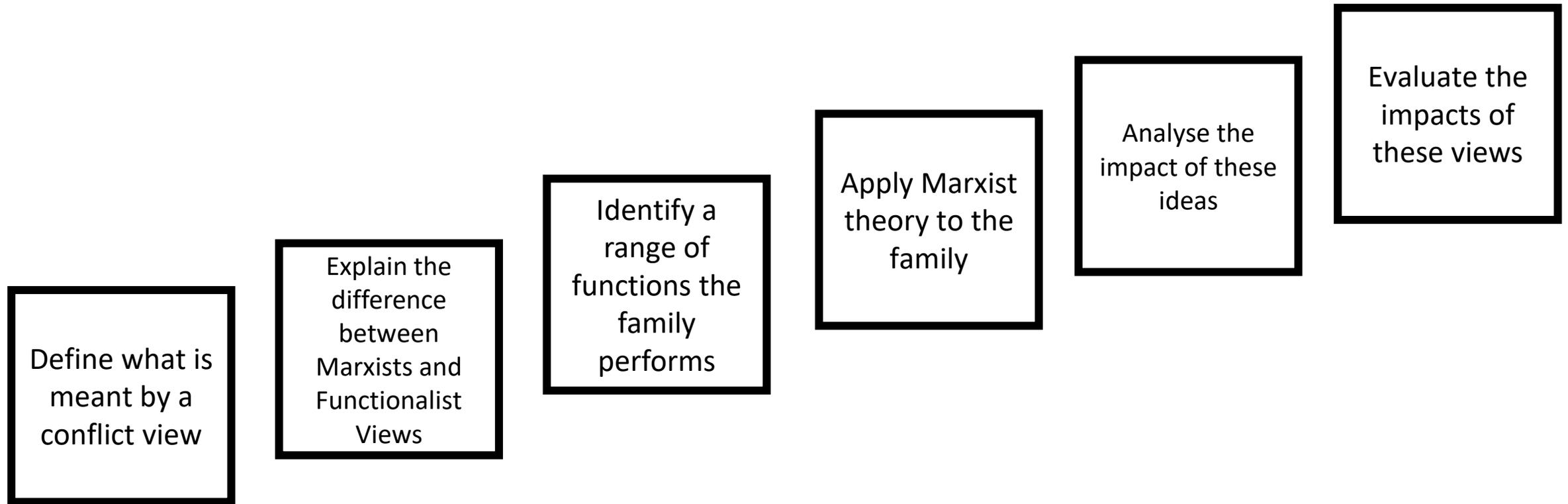
Families and Household

Paper 2 – A level
Sociology

Key Issues

- What is the purpose of the family? What benefits does it provide for society and its members? (Functionalism/Marxism/Feminism/Postmodernism)
- Is the family equal? Are the power relationships between partners equal? Is there a march of progress towards equality?
- Is childhood socially constructed? Does it vary from society to society? Is childhood disappearing?
- What changes have there been to the family structure over the past 50 years? Is there such a thing as a typical family?
- How can governments influence family structures? Why would government prefer the nuclear family over others? Can the government influence gender equality?
- How has globalisation influenced the family? What demographic changes have led to changes in our society? What are the benefits and costs of greater migration and ageing populations?

The Big Question: Evaluate the contribution of Marxists to our understanding of the family



E



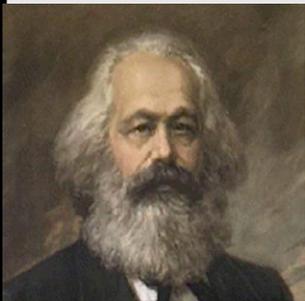
A*

What is a conflict theory? How do Marxism and Functionalism differ?

Define what is
meant by a
conflict view

Explain the
difference
between
Marxists and
Functionalist
Views

A conflict theory is...



How do Marxists and Functionalists differ?

Differences between Marxism and Functionalism

Explain the difference between Marxists and Functionalist Views

Marxist View	Concept	Functionalist View
	Socialisation	
	Reproduction of Next Generation	
	Stabilisation of Adult Personality	
	Economic Support	
	Sexual Regulation and Gender Socialisation	

What does the family do for Capitalist Society?

Identify a range of functions the family performs



What do Marxists think about the family?

Apply Marxist theory to the family

Analyse the impact of these ideas

The family absorbs the anger of the worker

Pester Power

Socialisation into capitalist norms and values

Reserve army of labour

Inheritance of Wealth

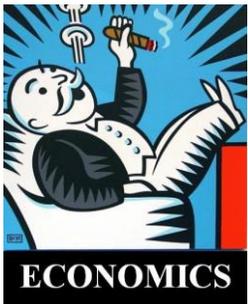
Reproducing workers

What might others suggest? What do they not explain?

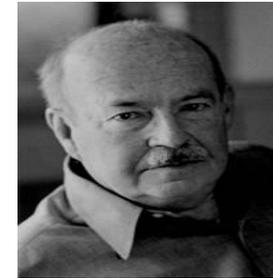
Evaluate the impacts of these views



Marxists only consider the nuclear family – who are they ignoring?



Marxists view the family as a unit of consumption – what other ways can we measure a family?



What might other theories suggest about the family?