

Sources of Information for Sociologists

Sociology skills

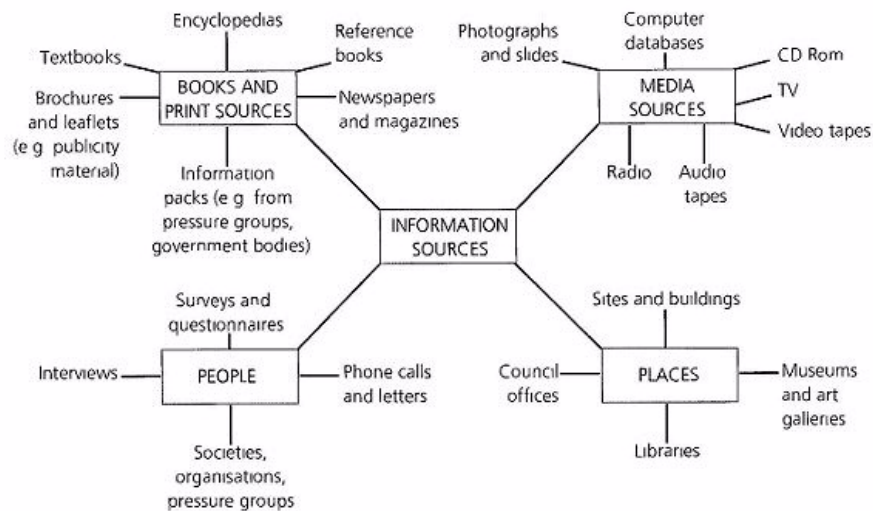
- Knowledge

Key skills

- Learning skills

Stimulus materials

Source: John Foster (1996) *Studywise 2*



Understanding the stimulus

1. Suggest seven sources of information in the media.
2. In what ways can a sociologist obtain direct information from people?
3. How do pressure groups provide sources of information?
4. What kinds of information could a sociologist obtain from the local council?
5. Which sources of information are most reliable if a sociologist wishes to study people's feelings on a topic?
6. Which sources of information are most useful if a sociologist wishes to learn about politics and official information?

Development and Revision

1. What word do we use in sociology to describe information from an official source?
2. What term is used to describe information which a sociologist is able to obtain first hand?
3. What methods and sources could a sociologist use which are not mentioned in the diagram?
4. Can official information always be trusted to be the complete truth? Give reasons why not.