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sociology a brief but critical introduction offers a lively discursive and jargon free introduction to sociology accessible to the lay reader as well as to the student it incorporates discussion of recent developments in both social theory and empirical social research developments to which giddens has directly contributed

includes the section book notes

social life is in a constant process of change and sociology cannot afford to stand still sociology today is theoretically diverse covers a huge range of subjects and draws on a broad array of research methods central to this endeavour is the use of core

concepts and ideas which allow sociologists to make sense of societies though our understanding of these concepts is constantly evolving and changing this clear and jargon free book introduces a careful selection of essential concepts that have helped to shape sociology and others that continue to do so going beyond brief dictionary style definitions anthony giddens and philip w sutton provide an extended discussion of each concept which sets it into historical and theoretical context explores its main meanings in use introduces some relevant criticisms and points readers to its ongoing development in contemporary research and theorizing organized in ten thematic sections the book offers a portrait of sociology through its essential concepts ranging from capitalism identity and deviance to citizenship the environment and intersectionality it will be essential reading for all those new to sociology as well as those seeking a reliable route map for a rapidly changing world

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explores sociology s double critique this book opens with chapters on how to think sociologically an overview of the scientific humanistic and critical schools of sociology and a detailed exposition of the critical tradition

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