

Chapter 3
Topic 3 Sociology and science
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Activity: Media
Karl Popper and falsificationism

Learning objectives

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- Illustrate Karl Popper's concept of falsificationism.
- Apply the concept of falsificationism to sociological theories.

Work in pairs.

A. Watch the following clip on Karl Popper's falsificationism and then answer the questions below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80GSz1laR_c

1. What does Popper believe about science?
 2. Why does Popper criticise Marxism?
 3. What does Popper mean by 'irrefutable pseudo-science'?
 4. What concepts does Marxism use to explain (a) why there will be a revolution? (b) Why there has not been a revolution?
- B. Popper is sometimes mistaken for a positivist. How does his view of science differ from that of positivists?