

Learning objectives

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

- Describe Parsons' model of the social system.

A. Using the information on page 204, complete the grid below to show Parsons' model of the social system.

The social system				
	Instrumental needs of the social system		Expressive needs of the social system	
System needs (AGIL)	Adaptation	Goal attainment	Integration	Latency
Subsystems		The political system		
Institutions (examples)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political parties • Parliament • Government departments • Elections 		
Status roles (examples)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministers • MPs • Civil servants • Local councillors 		
Norms governing status-roles (examples)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPs should represent constituents. • MPs should attend Parliament and take part in debates. 		