

# The 99%

Hayley Lotspeich

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## SUGGESTED CITATION

*When using resources from TRAILS, please include a clear and legible citation*

Lotspeich, Hayley. (2011) 2023. "The 99%". *TRAILS: Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology*, November. Washington DC: American Sociological Association.  
<https://trails.asanet.org/article/view/the-99>.

## Abstract

This assignment is designed to have students identify the role of sociological perspective in understanding the Occupy Wall Street movement as well as the similarities and differences of those participating in the movement. Students will employ sociological imagination to understand the meaning of the movement on a global scale. Students will receive brief notes and discuss the origins of the Occupy Wall Street movement and how it went global. Students will also analyze the letters and testimonies of participants in the movement via website access. Students will use their learning to make conclusions about sociological perspective and how it shapes one's self concept as well as the sociological imagination to determine what external factors brought the participants to this frustration with their government.

## Details

**Subject Areas:** High School Sociology

**Resource Types:** Class Activity

**Class Levels:** High School

**Class Sizes:** Any

## Usage Notes

This assignment can be completed in a 45 minute class period. Students will need access to a computer with internet capability to access all of the resources necessary. This assignment fits into a unit on Economic Stratification.

## Learning Goals and Assessments

### LEARNING GOALS

Students will be able to identify the way sociological perspective creates differences among participants in the Occupy Wall Street movement.

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Students will employ their sociological imagination to determine the many external factors that led up to this social movement.

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Students will analyze the global perspective, assessing how the complaints of the 99% in the US are different than those in an underdeveloped nation.

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### ASSESSMENTS

Students will take notes on a brief video clips to define sociological terms and learn about the history of the Occupy Wall Street movement. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e06UGCBNA-Y> and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYP4fjExhsQ>)

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Students will list ways that sociological perspective will give different reasons for individuals who join the movement. Students will employ their sociological imagination to determine how external factors may have created these situations.

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Students will compare and contrast the sociological perspectives of the Occupy Wall Street protestors with the people who are the 99% of the world in poverty in countries such as Africa.

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## Resource Files

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