Candidate 4 evidence

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8.) social mobility is the stratification & classification of individuals into a hiarachy dependent on their socio-economic status & their wealth.

Absolute mobility refers to the total mobility of society as a whole whereas relative mobility refers to the mobility of certain classes in comparison to another.

Intergenerational mobility refers to mobility within a family or generation throughout the years & intragenerational mobility refers to the mobility of an individual throughout their own lifetime.

After WW2 in post war Britain there was an expansion leading to huge increases of social mobility. Due to Labour being in power & introducing the welfare state/ national health service / free education numerous new jobs were introduced boosting socially mobility. Due to this

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	Expansion there was a growth in public & service sector jobs which allowed working class individuals to become middle class. Social mobility in todays society is possible but very limited due to austerity / cost of living crisis / inflation & covid 19 pademic affects.	
	The functionalist theory would state that mobility is very possible & achievable in society. It would see inequalities as a positive thing as it promotes competition allowing the best to achieve the top jobs. It believes that education levels the playing field for individuals to have equal opportunity. Functionalists would state that we are socialised into a [redacted] value consensus that creates the illusion we live in a meritocratic world with possibility. It believes that through the meritocracy individuals:	

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acquire traits such as 'hard working' 'determined' which motivates us to work hard & become socially mobile. The education system use the hidden curriculum to reinforce to children that hard work pays off & prepares them for the world of work, sifting & sorting them into their required role in society. It believes inequality to be good as certain jobs are only attainable by the best & those who follow the meritocracy leading to mobility.

Weber believed mobility to be possible but also identified social closure. Social closure is when the elites close ranks to self protect their jobs & status. Weber identified 'market position' he believed individuals skills & talents could be exchanged for monetary value in the market resulting in increased social mobility.

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Weber also believed in life chances & expectancy. Factors such as diet / housing / education / geographical area / stress levels all impact mobility. For example those from affluent areas have higher life expectancy than those from deprived areas. They have good education / good diet / less stress / more luxuries that attribute to this. He identified that belonging to a party gives you more power & status resulting in increased mobility. For example religious groups / MP's / social influencers all have power to be more socially mobile.
He identified that social / cultural / economic ~~capital~~ capital impact mobility also. For example 1 in 10 internships were advertised to the public showing that social capital & having connections can impact mobility. This shows social closure as the elites protect their jobs for their own children allowing only a small minority of working class to get through.

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The Goldthorpe study (1972) was a research study consisting of 10,000 men from England Wales who were stratified into 3 classes dependent on their socio-economic status / wealth.
Those being working class / intermediate / service sector.
Dependent on their jobs & mobility they were put into a class.
Findings showed that absolute mobility had occured after WW2 due to the expansion but the relative mobility rates were lower in certain classes due to social closure.
Findings showed that the sons of miners from 1900-1970 had far more chance of being socially mobile in the 1970s.
Findings showed the 1 24 rule. This identified that boys from the intermediate class had two times the chance of reaching service sector jobs compared to working class boys & that service sector boys had ~~four~~ four times the chance of reaching service sector jobs

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In comparison to working class boys, this shows working class boys classes were slim.
Goldthorpe can be criticised as his study isn't seen as inclusive as it leaves out Scotland & Ireland, not representing all of Britain & doesn't include women.
Its also flawed as individuals stratified into working class sectors could make more money than some sector jobs as blue collared jobs are very important, ~~some~~ self employed & business owners could also be included. Eg. Plumber/electrician could make more than lawyers if they have own business.
A strength is that it supports Webers theory & identifies social closure.
It was also one of the first issued studies to investigate mobility. →

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	Goldthorpe can be linked to Weber as it identifies social closure in its study & how the elite close off their value to self protect.	
	It can be linked to weber as it supports his ideologies with research evidence.	
	Also that social / cultural / economic capital can impact mobility.	
	Goldthorpe can also be linked to weber as market position can impact socially mobility & self employed or blue collared business owners trade their skills for monetary value to help climb the social ladder.	