**Social Process**

1. **Acculturation**

Acculturation involves changes in beliefs, practices, and traditions that occur when the cultural system of one group **interacts with and influences** that of another group.   
Acculturation refers to the process by which individuals or groups adopt the cultural traits or patterns of another culture. It involves acquiring knowledge, customs, beliefs, and behaviors from a different cultural group. Acculturation occurs when different cultural groups come into contact with each other, leading to changes in one or both cultures. This process can be voluntary or involuntary and may involve elements of assimilation, integration, or even resistance to cultural change. Acculturation is often studied in the fields of anthropology, sociology, and psychology to understand how cultural diversity shapes societies and individuals. Ember and Ember are of opinion that "It is the process of extensive cultural borrowing and context of super ordinate and subordinate relations between societies".

For example, when immigrants move to a new country, they may begin to speak the language, eat the food, and participate in the customs of that country while still maintaining elements of their original culture, such as celebrating traditional holidays or speaking their native language at home.

1. **Assimilation**

Assimilation is a fundamental social process; it is that process by which individuals belonging to different cultures are united into one. Successful accommodation sets the stage for an additional consequences of human interactions, namely assimilation. This implies the complete merging and fusion of two or more bodies into a single common body, a process analogous to digestion, in which we say that food is assimilated. Assimilation in social relationships means that the cultural differences between divergent groupings of people disappear. Thus, they come to feel; think and act similarly as they absorb new common traditions, attitudes and consequently take on a new cultural identity. We see the process operating among ethnic groups which enter a society with their own society’s culture.

Assimilation is a slow and gradual process. It takes quite some time before individuals or groups once dissimilar becomes similar. Acculturation is the first step to assimilation. Acculturation is the name given to the stage when the cultural group which is in contact with another borrows from it certain cultural elements and incorporates them into its own culture.

“Assimilation”, says E.S. Bogardus, “is a process whereby attitudes of many persons are united, and thus, develop into a united group”. As Ogburn and Nimkoff define, “Assimilation is the process whereby individuals or groups once dissimilar become similar, that it become identified in the interests and outlook”.

Young and Mack are of opinion that "assimilation is the fusion or blending of two previously distinct groups into one".

* **Positive factors for assimilation process are:**

1. Equal Economic Opportunity and Mutual Respect
2. Quality Education
3. Cultural Exchange and Amalgamation
4. Democratic Atmosphere and the Trust of Equality
5. Religious and Cultural Tolerance
6. **Cooperation**

Cooperation is one of fundamental processes of social life. It is a form of social process in which two or more individuals or groups work together jointly to achieve common goals. Cooperation is the form of social interaction in which all participants benefit by attaining their goals. Cooperation permeates all aspects of social organization from the maintenance of personal friendships to the successful operation of international programmes.

The struggle for exists forces the human beings not only to form groups but also to cooperate with each other .The term ‘cooperation’ has been derived from two Latin words – ‘Co’ meaning ‘together and Operary meaning ‘to work’. Hence, cooperation means working together for the achievement of a common goal or goals. When two or more persons work together to gain common goal, it is called cooperation.

 In the words of **Merrill and Eldredge,** “Cooperation is a form of social interaction wherein two or more persons work together to gain a common end.”

Boys cooperate in games, men in business, workers in production, and public officials in community controls and so on, in an endless variety of beneficial activities that make possible an integrated social life.

For example, in a community project to clean up a park, cooperation would involve volunteers working together to collect litter, prune bushes, and paint benches. Each person contributes their time and effort towards the shared goal of improving the park for everyone's benefit.

* **Following are the important characteristics of cooperation:**

1. Cooperation is an associative process of social interaction which takes place between two or more individuals or groups.
2. Cooperation is a conscious process in which individuals or groups have to work consciously.
3. Cooperation is a personal process in which individuals and groups personally meet and work together for a common objective.
4. Cooperation is a continuous process. There is continuity in the collective efforts in cooperation.
5. Cooperation is a universal process which is found in all groups, societies and nations.
6. Cooperation is based upon two elements such as common end and organized effort.
7. Common ends can be better achieved by cooperation and it is necessary for the progress of individual as well as society.
8. **Competition**

Competition is one of the dissociative forms of social processes. It is actually the most fundamental form of social struggle. It occurs whenever there is an insufficient supply of anything that human beings desire, in sufficient in the sense that all cannot have as much of it as they wish. Ogburn and Nimkoff say that competition occurs when demand turns out to supply. People do not compete for sunshine, air and gifts of nature because they are abundant in supply.

But people compete for power, name, fame, glory, status, money, luxuries and other things which are not easily available. Since scarcity is in a sense an inevitable condition of social life, competition of some sort or the other is found in all societies. In any society, for example, there are normally more people who want jobs than there are jobs available; hence there is competition for them. Among those who are already employed, there is likewise competition for better jobs. There is thus competition not only for bread but for luxuries, power, social status, mates, fame and all other things not available for one’s asking.

According to E.S. Bogardus says. “Competition is a contest to obtain something which does not exist in sufficient quantity to meet the demand.”

* **Types of Competition**

1. **Economic competition**

This involves individuals or organizations competing for resources such as money, jobs, or market share. Examples include businesses vying for customers in the marketplace or individuals competing for promotions within a company.

1. **Academic competition**

In educational settings, students often compete for grades, scholarships, or academic recognition. This can involve striving to outperform peers in exams, projects, or competitions.

1. **Sports competition**

Athletic competitions involve individuals or teams competing against each other in organized sporting events. This can range from informal games among friends to professional competitions at the highest levels of sports.

1. **Social competition**

This type of competition involves individuals competing for social status, popularity, or recognition within their social groups. Examples include competing for attention or approval within a peer group or striving to be seen as the most successful or accomplished individual in a social setting.

1. **Political competition**

Political competition takes place in the political field. This type of competition is very much pronounced in the modern world. Political parties are always engaged in competition to capture power. Even on the international level there is keen competition between nations.

1. **Cultural Competition**

Cultural competition takes place between two or more cultural groups. It occurs when one cultural group tries to establish supremacy over the other. This kind of competition depends upon cultural differences. Competition between the Aryans and the Dravidians, the Indians and the British can be cited as examples.

1. **Conflict**

Conflict is one of the dissociative or disintegrative social processes. It is a universal and fundamental social process in human relations. Conflict arises only when the attention of the competitors is diverted from the object of competition to themselves. As a process, it is the antithesis of cooperation. It is a process of seeking to obtain rewards by eliminating or weakening the competitors. It is a deliberate attempt to oppose, resist or coerce the will of another or others. Conflict is a competition in its occasional, personal and hostile forms. Conflict is also goal oriented. But unlike cooperation and competition, it seeks to capture its goal by making ineffective the others who also seek them.

According to J.H. Fitcher, “Conflict is the social process in which individuals or groups seek their ends by directly challenging the antagonist by violence or threat of violence”.

As K. Davis defines, “Conflict is a codified form of struggle”. According to A.W. Green, “Conflict is the deliberate attempt to oppose, resist or coerce the will of another or others”.

* **Types of Conflict**

1. **Personal conflicts:**

Conflicts that arise between individuals due to differences in personality, values, or interests. Conflict between two students or friends is an example of personal conflict.

1. **Religious conflict**

Conflicts arising from differences in religious beliefs, practices, or interpretations. These conflicts may involve disputes over religious authority, sacred sites, or religious freedom.

1. **Group conflict**

Group conflicts involve conflicts between larger social groups, such as communities, organizations, or nations. These conflicts may arise due to competition for resources, conflicting interests, or differences in ideologies or identities. Group conflicts can have significant social, economic, and political implications, often leading to tensions, protests, or even violent confrontations.

1. **Cultural conflict**

Cultural conflicts stem from differences in cultural norms, values, or practices within or between societies. These conflicts may arise due to clashes between different cultural identities, traditions, or worldviews, and they can manifest in various forms, including religious conflicts, ethnic tensions, or debates over cultural practices.

1. **International conflicts:**

Conflicts between nations or states, often related to territorial disputes, political alliances, or economic interests. These conflicts may escalate into wars or diplomatic crises.

1. **Globalization**

Simply, globalization is the process of becoming a single world community. According to sociologists, Globalization is an ongoing process that involves interconnected changes in the economic, cultural, social, and political spheres of society. As a process, it involves the ever-increasing integration of these aspects between nations, regions, communities, and even seemingly isolated places. In terms of economy, globalization refers to the expansion of the capitalist economy to include all places around the world into one globally integrated economics system.

In simpler terms, globalization means that the world is becoming more connected. People from different countries can communicate easily, trade goods and services, and share ideas more freely than ever before. This interconnectedness has both positive and negative effects, influencing various aspects of social life, including culture, economics, politics, and the environment.

Globalization in social processes refers to the increasing interconnectedness and interdependence of people, cultures, economies, and societies worldwide. It involves the exchange of goods, services, information, ideas, and culture across national borders, facilitated by advances in technology, communication, and transportation.

* **Fields of globalization**

Globalization affects various fields in our world. Here are some simplified explanations with examples:

* **Economics**

Globalization in economics means that businesses and markets are connected internationally. For instance, a company in the United States might sell products manufactured in China, and consumers in India can buy goods from European companies online.

* **Culture**

Globalization in culture refers to the spread of ideas, beliefs, and cultural practices across borders. For example, the popularity of American movies and music worldwide or the adoption of Western fashion trends in different parts of the world showcases cultural globalization.

* **Technology**

Globalization in technology involves the worldwide exchange and development of technological advancements. For instance, social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter are used globally, allowing people from different countries to connect and share information instantly.

* **Communication**

Globalization in communication means that people can communicate across long distances quickly and easily. For example, email, video conferencing, and messaging apps enable individuals and businesses to communicate globally in real-time.

* **Politics**

Globalization in politics refers to the increasing interdependence of nations in political matters. For example, international organizations like the United Nations work to address global issues such as climate change and human rights, showing how countries collaborate on shared challenges.

Overall, globalization impacts various aspects of our lives, from the products we buy to the ideas we share, and it's a fundamental force shaping the modern world.

1. **Socialization**

Socialization is a learning process .Socialization refers to all learning regardless of setting or age of the individual. Socialization is the process by which we learn the ways of a particular group. In every group one has to learn the rules, expectations, and truths of that group, whether the group is your family, the army, or the state (nation).Socialization is the process whereby people acquire personality and learn the way of life of their society. Essentially, one has to learn Culture.

Socialization refers to learning culture encompasses all the truths, values, rules, and goals that people share with one another. Process of molding and shaping the personality of human infants is called ‘socialization’ .In another word socialization is a social or psychological process whereby an individual becomes a functioning member of the society. It is also referred to as the process of transmission of culture.

Simply, Socialization is a learning process through which a biological being gets the shape of a social being. It is a complex process of interaction through which the individual learns the habits, beliefs, skills and standards of judgment.

* **Definitions**

“Socialization is the process of working together, of developing group responsibility, or being guided by the welfare needs of others.” **- Bogardus**

“Socialization is the process by which the individual learns to confirm to the norms of the group.” **– Ogburn**

“Socialization is the process by which child acquires a cultural content along with self-hood and personality.” **– Green**

* **Function of Socialization**

1. Socialization converts man, the biological being into man, the social being.
2. It contributes to the development of personality.
3. Helps to become disciplined.
4. Helps to enact different roles.
5. Provides the knowledge of skills.
6. Helps to develop the right aspiration in life.
7. Contributes to the stability of the social order.
8. Helps to reduce social distance.
9. Provides scope for building the bright future.
10. Helps in transmission of culture.

* **Agents or Agencies of Socialization**

Agents of socialization are individuals, groups, institutions, and experiences that influence and shape an individual's social development and understanding of society. They play a crucial role in transmitting cultural norms, values, beliefs, and behaviors to individuals as they grow and interact within their social environment. Some common agents of socialization include:

1. **Family**

Family is often considered the primary agent of socialization. It is where children first learn social norms, values, and behaviors through interactions with parents, siblings, and other relatives.

1. **Peers**

Peers are individuals of similar age and social status who have a significant influence on each other's attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. Peer groups provide opportunities for socialization outside the family and can shape individuals' identities and social roles.

1. **School**

Schools serve as formal institutions of socialization where children and adolescents learn academic skills, social norms, and values. Teachers, classmates, and school activities contribute to the socialization process by reinforcing societal expectations and teaching interpersonal skills.

1. **Mass media**

Mass media, including television, movies, the internet, and social media, plays a significant role in shaping attitudes, opinions, and behaviors. It exposes individuals to cultural norms, values, and ideologies and can influence their perceptions of society and themselves.

1. **Religion**

Religious institutions and beliefs play a crucial role in socialization by providing moral guidance, rituals, and community support. They shape individual's values, beliefs, and behaviors and provide a sense of belonging and identity.

1. **Workplaces**

Workplaces introduce individuals to organizational norms, roles, and expectations. They provide opportunities for learning social skills, teamwork, and professionalism and can influence individuals' values, attitudes, and career aspirations.

1. **Government and laws**

Government institutions and laws establish rules, regulations, and social norms that govern behavior within society. They socialize individuals to understand and comply with legal and ethical standards and promote social order and stability.

These agents of socialization work together to shape individuals' understanding of society, their roles within it, and their interactions with others. They play a crucial role in transmitting culture and maintaining social cohesion within communities.

* **Major Types of Socialization**

Ian Robertson outlines four major types of socialization: primary, anticipatory, developmental, and re-socialization. Here's a simplified explanation of each with examples:

1. **Primary Socialization**

This is the earliest and most basic form of socialization, which occurs in childhood and is primarily influenced by family members. Children learn the foundational norms, values, and behaviors of their culture through interactions with parents, siblings, and other caregivers. For example, a child learns language, manners, and basic social skills from their family.

1. **Anticipatory Socialization**

This type of socialization involves learning and preparing for future roles, statuses, or expectations. Individuals engage in anticipatory socialization when they acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes associated with a role they aspire to or anticipate taking on in the future. For instance, a college student preparing for a career as a teacher might volunteer in classrooms or take education courses to gain relevant experience and knowledge.

1. **Developmental Socialization**

Developmental socialization refers to the ongoing process of learning and adapting to new social roles and situations throughout the lifespan. It involves acquiring the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to navigate different life stages and transitions. For example, a person learns how to be a student in school, then transitions to a worker in the workforce, and later learns how to be a parent or retiree.

1. **Re-socialization**

Re-socialization occurs when individuals undergo significant changes in social roles, values, or identities, often as a result of transitioning into new environments or life circumstances. This can involve unlearning old behaviors and adopting new ones that align with the expectations of a different social context. For example, someone who joins the military undergoes re-socialization to adapt to the strict rules, discipline, and values of military life, which may differ significantly from their previous civilian lifestyle.

These four types of socialization illustrate the different ways in which individuals learn and internalize societal norms, values, and roles, shaping their understanding of themselves and their interactions with others throughout their lives.

* **Stage of Socialization**

It's important to note that Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory primarily focuses on personality development rather than socialization stages. However, we can adapt his ideas to understand socialization processes to some extent. Here's an interpretation of socialization stages through a Freudian lens:

1. **Oral Stage**

In Freud's theory, the oral stage occurs from birth to around 18 months, during which the primary focus is on oral pleasure, such as sucking and tasting. In terms of socialization, this stage may involve the infant forming attachments with caregivers and learning to trust them. For example, a baby learns to trust their caregiver to provide food and comfort when they cry.

1. **Anal Stage**

Freud's anal stage occurs roughly between 18 months and three years old, during which children experience pleasure and conflicts related to bowel movements and toilet training. Socially, this stage may involve the child learning about boundaries and rules through toilet training. For example, a toddler learns that they need to use the toilet at appropriate times and may experience conflicts with parents over this.

1. **Phallic Stage**

This stage, according to Freud, occurs between ages three and six and is characterized by the child's focus on the genitals and the Oedipus or Electra complexes. Socially, this stage involves the child identifying with and learning gender roles from same-sex parents or caregivers. For example, a boy may model his behavior after his father and learn what it means to be a "man" in his culture.

1. **Latency Stage**

The latency stage, from around age six to puberty, is a period of relative calm where sexual desires are suppressed, and the child focuses on developing social and intellectual skills. Socially, this stage may involve the child forming friendships and learning social norms and values from peers and school environments. For example, a child learns about sharing, cooperation, and academic achievement through interactions with classmates.

1. **Genital Stage**

Freud's final stage, the genital stage, occurs from puberty into adulthood, where sexual desires re-emerge and mature. Socially, this stage involves forming intimate relationships and navigating romantic and sexual interactions within society. For example, a teenager learns about dating, love, and sexuality through experiences with peers and media influences.

While Freud's stages primarily focus on psychosexual development, they can be interpreted to include socialization processes, highlighting the importance of early attachments, learning societal norms, and developing interpersonal relationships throughout life.