WHAT ARE THE BRANCHES OF SOCIAL STUDIES?

1. **Anthropology** – The science of the origins and development of human beings and their cultures. The word anthropology is derived from two Greek words: *anthropos* meaning “man” or “human” and *logos*, meaning “thought” or “reason.”

2. **Archaeology** – Archaeology is the study of things that people made, used, and left behind. The goal of archaeology is to understand what people of the past were like and how they lived.

3. **Economics** – Economics is the study of the economy, or the part of a society that creates wealth. Wealth is not just money. Wealth comes from the production of goods and services.

4. **Geography** – Geography is a science that deals with the Earth’s surface, its physical features, such as mountains, deserts, rivers, and oceans. Geography also studies the ways that people affected by the natural world.

5. **Government** – Government is the organization that defends the country from outside enemies, helps to keep order, and it provides services for its people. In return, the people of the country must pay money called taxes to the government.

6. **History** – History is the study of the past. The study of history helps make sense of humankind. It also helps people understand the things that happen today and that may happen in the future.

7. **Law** – All governments have sets of rules called laws. Laws are based on ideas about what is right and wrong.

8. **Philosophy** – The word philosophy comes from the Greek language. It means “love of wisdom.” Philosophy is the study of some of the most basic questions about human life. For example, what can people really know about life? Or, are human beings basically good or evil?

9. **Psychology** – Psychology is the scientific study of the ways that people think, feel, and behave. Psychologists study the human mind and emotions to try to understand the reasons behind people’s actions.

10. **Religion** – Religion is the study of the worship of a god or gods or some other type of supernatural being. One thing that all religions have in common is that they help their followers to find meaning in the world.

11. **Sociology** – Sociology is the scientific study of human societies, or groups. Sociology is one of the social sciences.