

**PROMPT: Use your sociological imagination and key terms from the class to analyze the practice of “gavage” in Mauritania.**

STUDENT RESPONSE: Mauritania people prefer to be heavier / obese. So young girls are often forced to overeat so that they gain weight. Some of the women and girls don't like it, but that's what they have to do to find a husband.

**GRADE: 2/5**

**FEEDBACK:** You've provided a basic description of the practice of gavage in Mauritania, which shows some understanding of the topic. However, the analysis is missing key elements from the prompt:

1. **Sociological Imagination:** The response should explore how this practice is influenced by cultural norms, historical context, and societal expectations rather than simply describing it. For example, you could analyze how societal pressures around marriage and beauty standards shape this practice or discuss its connection to gender roles and economic factors.
2. **Key Terms from the Class:** The prompt asks you to apply specific sociological terms or concepts we've covered, such as norms, socialization, patriarchy, or cultural relativism. Including these terms would deepen your analysis and show your ability to connect course material to real-world examples.

**Suggestions for Improvement:**

- Think about why this practice exists and how larger social structures or cultural values influence it.
- Incorporate specific sociological concepts from class to explain how this practice is shaped by and reinforces societal expectations.
- Avoid simply stating opinions or surface-level observations; aim to provide a deeper analysis using the tools of sociology.

This is a good starting point, but with more depth and application of course concepts, your analysis will improve significantly!