

# Focusing on Micro, Meso and Macro

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## Sharing a perspective of persons and their interactions with individuals, groups in the community and large organisations

		
<p>Micro level interactions are personal and occur between individuals and their family, peers at school and individuals in the community. As the name suggests this is the most local and most personal of the levels of interactions in society. At the micro level we deal with the daily actions and interactions of people. Everyone within that group knows each other or is within close acquaintance of knowing every person in the small group. Micro level investigations explain the relationship we have with others and the roles we have within society. The outcome of these relationships help to shape our identity through socialisation processes and this helps us to understand further the expectations and norms of the wider societies and cultures we share. We learn through micro level interactions and this new knowledge is known as personal experience. Micro level studies of society focuses on how and why persons interact with and within small groups.</p> <p>An example: A local cricket club form a team for a competition. Individuals meet, train and collaborate on strategies for play. Team members experience a micro level relationship with each other that is very interpersonal. The outcome is new experiences and knowledge as a result of sharing at this personal level of interaction.</p>	<p>Meso level interactions occur between the micro and the macro levels of society. Meso-level structures are groups in the community, village, school, workplace, local interest club, branch, and organisations within the state. The meso level is also known as the middle level. This level features social groups and a level of organisation with more structured expectations and norms. The meso level is the middle ground where the mid-scale organisations in the community or neighbourhood are not as large compared to the macro structure of institutions or very large organisations. The meso level also deals with the divisions within societies, how they are organised by roles, income, location and ethnicity. Meso-level groups provide an interface between themselves and the individual and themselves and the macro institutions.</p> <p>An example: The local cricket club operates at the Meso level i.e. in-between the micro level interaction between individual players and the larger bureaucratic organisation of Cricket Australia. The cricket club is made up of a large group of people where perhaps not all people in the hierarchy of the club are known to all the individual players however the group is not so large that that the leaders are unapproachable. This club has a structure and the rules, norms, expectations and values of the club permeate to the teams and individual players.</p>	<p>Macro level interactions relate to large scale institutions, the media, law and government and are evident at a national and global level. The Macro level is the largest of the groupings in society. These large social units are complex and can exhibit bureaucratic tendencies. Most people are unlikely to know the leaders personally or have ever communicated with the leaders of these largest groups or networks in society. The “business” of these groups is of global importance. A macro level focus looks at how these institutions influence and are influenced by the wider population. The ideas of the larger groups tend to have a trickledown effect to the Micro and Meso levels of society.</p> <p>An example: The institution of Cricket Australia and the ICC international cricket council operate at the Macro level. They are both large organisations with bureaucratic systems that have a complex set of norms, rules and by-laws. The interactions of Cricket Australia at the macro level can impact on the local cricket club, thus impacting on individuals within the club at the micro level.</p>