Society - The Basics 17th edition Macionis Test Bank

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Chapter 1: Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method

In this revision of the test bank, I have updated all of the questions to reflect changes in *Society: The Basics, Seventeenth Edition* and increased the number of questions by 50 percent so that this test bank covers all the new material that has been added and better meets your needs. The questions are tagged according to four levels of learning that move from lower-level to higher-level cognitive reasoning. The four levels:

Recollection: a question involving recall of key terms or factual material

Understanding: a question testing comprehension of more complex ideas

Application: a question applying sociological knowledge to some new situation

Analysis: a question requiring identifying elements of an argument and their interrelationship

The 279 **questions** in this chapter's test bank are divided into four types. **True/False questions** are the least demanding. As the table below shows, two-thirds of these are "Recollection" questions, and all of them fall within the lowest three levels of cognitive reasoning ("Recollection," "Understanding," and "Application"). **Multiple-choice questions** span a broader range of skills (almost half are "Recollection" questions and the remainder are divided among the three higher levels). **Short-answer questions** also span a broad range of skills (from "Understanding" to "Analysis"). Finally, **essay questions** are the most demanding because they require analysis and other higher levels of cognitive reasoning.

Types of Questions

	True/False	Multiple Choice	Short Answer	Essay	Total Qs
Recollection	60 (70%)	71 (49%)	6 (19%)	0	137
Understanding	19 (22%)	22 (15%)	9 (28%)	0	50
Application	7 (8%)	30 (20%)	5 (16%)	3 (20%)	45
Analysis	0	23 (16%)	12 (38%)	12 (80%)	47
	86	146	32	15	279

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Chapter 1: Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method

TRUE/FALSE QUESTIONS

1. Most people in the United States marry partners whose racial and ethnic identity differs from their own.

   Answer: False

   Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

   Topic: The Sociological Perspective

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

2. According to sociologists, human behavior mostly reflects our personal "free will."

   Answer: False

   Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

   Topic: The Sociological Perspective

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

3. Sociology is defined as the systematic study of human society.

   Answer: True

   Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

   Topic: The Sociological Perspective

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

4. Sociologists focus only on unusual or unexpected patterns of behavior.

   Answer: False

   Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

   Topic: The Sociological Perspective

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

5. Using the sociological perspective, we would look at society based on the assumption that people's lives are mostly a result of what they, as individuals, decide to do.

   Answer: False

   Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

   Topic: The Sociological Perspective

   Difficulty Level: Moderate

   Skill Level: Application

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6. On average, college students in the United States come from families with above-average incomes.

   Answer: True

   Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

   Topic: The Sociological Perspective

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

7. Emile Durkheim provided evidence that categories of people with weaker social ties have lower suicide rates than people with stronger social ties.

   Answer: False

   Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

   Topic: The Sociological Perspective

   Difficulty Level: Moderate

   Skill Level: Recollection

8. In the United States, Black people have a higher suicide rate than White people.

   Answer: False

   Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

   Topic: The Sociological Perspective

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

9. In the United States, men have a higher suicide rate than women.

   Answer: True

   Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

   Topic: The Sociological Perspective

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

10. In the United States, White people have a lower suicide rate than people who identify as Hispanic.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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11. People with lower social standing are usually more likely to see the world from a sociological perspective than people who are well off.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

12. U.S. sociologist C. Wright Mills argued that times of social crisis encourage widespread use of the sociological perspective.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

13. C. Wright Mills claimed that sociology encourages people to take personal responsibility for solving their own problems.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

14. A global perspective has little in common with a sociological perspective.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

15. Societies around the world are more interconnected than ever before.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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16. Studying other societies is a good way to increase awareness of not only others' social patterns but our own way of life.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

17. In the nineteenth century, revolutionary changes in several European societies sparked the development of sociology.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

18. The discipline of sociology first took root in France, Germany, and England.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

19. Among all academic disciplines that are taught at colleges and universities today, sociology is one of the youngest.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

20. The term *sociology* was coined by Emile Durkheim in 1898.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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21. Ancient philosophers, including Plato, were primarily interested in imagining the "ideal" society rather than studying society as it really is.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

22. Across the history of human societies, the last of Auguste Comte's three stages is the metaphysical stage, in which people seek to know the world in terms of a divine plan.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

23. The English philosopher Thomas Hobbes believed that society reflected the basic goodness of human nature.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

24. Auguste Comte approached society as a positivist who believed that there were laws of society in the same way that the laws of physics guide the operation of the natural world.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

25. Research by Barbara Ehrenreich, who spent many months working at low-wage jobs, concluded that most people in such jobs are able to move ahead to better-paying work.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

    Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

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26. Sociological research may be interesting, but it is of little use in shaping public policy, including legislation.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

    Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

27. The sociological perspective helps us to assess the truth of the "common sense" beliefs most people tend to take for granted.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

    Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

28. Learning to see and think sociologically is useful because almost all jobs require understanding how various categories of people differ in their beliefs and patterns of behavior.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

    Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Recollection

29. Sociology is useful training for any job that involves working with people.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

    Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

30. Sociologists gather facts in order to confirm, reject, or modify the theories they develop.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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31. The chapter explains that, in general, areas of the country with high population density have high rates of suicide.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

32. The structural-functional, social-conflict, and symbolic-interaction approaches are three basic theoretical approaches in sociology.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

33. According to Robert K. Merton, all social patterns exist because they have the same beneficial effect on all members of a society.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

34. Rarely are members of a society aware of all the functions of any social structure.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

35. Delaying the entry of young people into the labor market is one latent function of higher education.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

36. We would correctly describe tens of thousands of deaths in traffic accidents each year as a manifest function of our society's reliance on personal automobiles.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

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Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

37. To say that a social pattern is "dysfunctional" simply means that it has more than one function for the operation of society.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

38. The goal of the structural-functional approach is not just to understand how society operates, but to reduce social inequality.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

39. In the United States, secondary schools provide students with an education that reflects, in part, the social standing of their families.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

40. Both feminism and the gender-conflict approach highlight ways in which women and men are socially unequal.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

41. W. E. B. Du Bois translated the writings of Auguste Comte from French into English.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

42. Harriet Martineau, who wrote about the evils of slavery and worked to improve the lives of factory workers, is widely regarded as the first woman sociologist.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

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Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

43. W. E. B. Du Bois, the first Black person to earn a doctorate from Harvard University, sought not only to understand problems faced by Black communities in the United States but to encourage change that would solve them.

Answer: True

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

44. Like the gender-conflict approach, the race-conflict approach focuses on social inequality.

Answer: True

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

45. W. E. B. Du Bois wrote a classic study of the Black community in the city of Philadelphia.

Answer: True

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

46. W. E. B. Du Bois tried to discourage sociologists from studying controversial topics such as racial inequality.

Answer: False

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understanding

47. Both Karl Marx and W. E. B. Du Bois carried out research guided by the structural-functional approach.

Answer: False

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

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48. Among the various theoretical paradigms in sociology, the symbolic-interaction approach is a micro-level orientation.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

49. The focus of the symbolic-interaction approach is how society is divided by class, race, and gender.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

50. Social-exchange analysis is one micro-level approach to understanding social interaction.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

51. People included in racial and ethnic minority categories of the U.S. population represent a far larger share of team players than CEO/presidents.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

52. The meaning people find in competitive sports would be one focus of a symbolic-interaction approach.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

53. "Empirical evidence" refers to whatever people who are members of the same society agree is true.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Positivist Sociology

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Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

54. "Empirical evidence" refers to what we can verify with our senses.
Answer: True
Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Positivist Sociology
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

55. A positivist approach assumes that an objective reality exists "out there."
Answer: True
Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Positivist Sociology
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

56. In every situation, the mean is a better statistical measure than the mode or the median.
Answer: False
Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Positivist Sociology
Difficulty Level: Moderate
Skill Level: Understanding

57. Reliability is a concept that refers to the quality of consistency in measurement.
Answer: True
Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Positivist Sociology
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

58. Validity is a concept that refers to actually measuring what a researcher claims to measure.
Answer: True
Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Positivist Sociology
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

59. A variable that is changed by another variable is called the "independent variable."
Answer: False
Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Positivist Sociology
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

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60. A variable that causes change in another variable is called the "dependent variable."
    Answer: False
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Positivist Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
61. Whenever two variables appear to vary together, a cause-and-effect relationship between the two variables must exist.
    Answer: False
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Positivist Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Understanding
62. A false correlation between two variables caused by a third variable is described as a "spurious" correlation.
    Answer: True
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Positivist Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Understanding
63. In real life, sociologists always achieve complete personal objectivity in their work.
    Answer: False
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Positivist Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Understanding
64. Max Weber urged sociologists to strive toward the goal of being value-free.
    Answer: True
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Positivist Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
65. Replication is one way to assess the accuracy of existing research.
    Answer: True
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Positivist Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection

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66. The logic and methodology of science guarantee that sociological research will result in objective, absolute truth.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Positivist Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

67. Interpretive sociology focuses less on action itself and more on the meaning people attach to their actions.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Positivist Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

68. Scientific sociologists focus on what Max Weber called *verstehen* in order to make sense of their surroundings.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Positivist Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

69. Interpretive sociology defines a person's subjective feelings as a source of bias.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Positivist Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

70. Critical sociology studies society and tries to bring about social change.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Positivist Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

71. Karl Marx is a key founder of the critical orientation in sociology.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Positivist Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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72. Sociological research never poses the danger of harm to subjects.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.5: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

73. Carrying out research on Hispanic people, Asian people, or people of any distinctive ethnicity or category requires that researchers be sensitive to how these subjects will interpret a researcher's words and actions.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.5: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

74. The experiment is the research method best suited for investigating cause-and-effect relationships.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

75. Philip Zimbardo conducted research that supported the conclusion that prisons are successful at rehabilitating offenders.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

76. A survey is a research method in which subjects respond to a series of statements or questions.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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77. In general, conducting interviews with subjects takes no more time than having the subjects complete a questionnaire.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

78. Participant observation is a research method by which researchers stand back from a setting, watch from a distance, and then carefully record the behavior of others.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

79. Participant observation research is usually explanatory, which means that it identifies cause-and-effect relationships.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

80. The use of existing data and documents makes most historical research possible.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

81. Sociological research shows that all categories of people in the United States have had the same opportunities to participate in sports.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

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82. A symbolic-interaction analysis focuses on broad patterns of social inequality involving all of society's major institutions.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Recollection

83. Sociological generalizations are the same as simple stereotypes.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

84. Structural-functional theory tends to be politically conservative, just as social-conflict theory tends to be politically progressive.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

    Topic: The Politics of Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Recollection

85. Historically, the discipline of sociology developed largely as an effort to address social problems.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

    Topic: The Politics of Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

86. On balance, the discipline of sociology directs attention more to the structures of society (politically speaking, a progressive perspective) and less to the choices made by individuals (politically speaking, a conservative perspective).

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

    Topic: The Politics of Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

87. What does the sociological perspective reveal about people's selection of marriage partners?

    a. People marry because they fall in love

    b. When it comes to romance, it is all a matter of personal taste

    c. Typically, a person marries someone of similar social position

    d. When it comes to love, opposites attract

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Analysis

88. The statement that the social world guides our actions and life choices just as the seasons influence activities and choice of clothing is best described as which of the following?

    a. The basis of what philosophy calls "free will"

    b. The essential wisdom of the discipline of sociology

    c. Evidence that people everywhere have "common sense"

    d. Evidence that people from countries all around the world make mostly the same choices about how to live

    Answer: b

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

89. Which discipline defines itself as "the systematic study of human society"?

    a. Sociology

    b. Psychology

    c. Economics

    d. History

    Answer: a

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

90. Peter Berger describes using the sociological perspective as seeing the _____ in the _____.

    a. good; worst tragedies

    b. new; old

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c. specific; general

d. general; particular

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

91. By stating that the sociological perspective shows us "the strange in the familiar," the chapter argues that sociologists _____.

a. focus on the bizarre elements of society

b. reject the familiar idea that people simply decide how to act in favor of the initially strange idea that society shapes our lives

c. believe that people often behave in strange ways

d. believe that even people who are most familiar to us have some very strange habits

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

92. Three campus roommates are talking about why they have come to college. A sociological view of going to college highlights the effect of _____.

a. only age, because college students tend to be young

b. only class, because college students tend to come from families with above-average incomes

c. only our place in history, because a century ago going to college was not an option for most people

d. age, class, and our place in history, because these are all ways in which society guides college attendance

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

93. The chapter's sociological analysis of childbearing around the world suggests that the number of children born to a woman reflects _____.

a. only her preference for family size

b. how many children she can afford

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c. whether she lives in a low-income or a high-income society

d. simply the desires of her husband

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

94. According to Emile Durkheim, categories of people with a higher suicide rate typically have _____.

a. more clinical depression

b. less money, power, and other resources

c. lower levels of social integration

d. higher self-esteem

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

95. The pioneering sociologist who studied patterns of suicide in Europe was _____.

a. Robert K. Merton

b. Auguste Comte

c. Emile Durkheim

d. Karl Marx

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

96. In the United States today, the suicide rate is highest for which of the following categories of people?

a. White men

b. Black men

c. White women

d. Black women

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

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Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

97. Because there is more social isolation in rural areas of the United States than in urban areas, we would expect suicide rates to be _____.

a. higher in urban areas

b. higher in rural areas

c. high in both urban and rural areas

d. low in both urban and rural areas

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

98. Sociologists use the term *social marginality* to refer to _____.

a. people who have little understanding of sociology

b. people who have unusual social skills

c. people who are defined by others as "outsiders"

d. people who are especially sensitive about their family background

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

99. Because social marginality encourages sociological thinking, we might expect people in which category listed below to make the most use of the sociological perspective?

a. Wealthy and powerful people

b. People within a racial minority category

c. Politicians

d. People in the middle class

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

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100. Following the thinking of C. Wright Mills, we would expect the sociological imagination to be more widespread _____.

a. during times of peace and prosperity

b. among very rich people

c. among very religious people

d. during times of social crisis

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

101. C. Wright Mills claimed that the "sociological imagination" transformed _____.

a. common sense into laws of society

b. activists for change into supporters of the status quo

c. personal problems into public issues

d. scientific research into common sense

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

102. The United States falls within which category of the world's nations?

a. Low-income nations

b. Middle-income nations

c. High-income nations

d. Socially marginalized nations

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

103. Countries in which average people's income is typical for the world as a whole and in which people are as likely to live in a rural area as in an urban area are categorized as _____.

a. low-income nations

b. middle-income nations

c. high-income nations

d. socially marginalized nations

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Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understanding

104. The nations of Western Europe, Israel, Japan, and Australia fall into which category of countries?

a. Low-income nations

b. Middle-income nations

c. High-income nations

d. Socially marginalized nations

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

105. Almost all Latin American nations (excluding Mexico) and almost all Asian nations fall into the category of _____.

a. low-income nations

b. middle-income nations

c. high-income nations

d. socially marginalized nations

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

106. Understanding how social patterns differ from one country to another increases _____.

a. distrust among people living in various nations

b. the rate of global social change

c. our understanding of both ways of life in other nations and our own way of life

d. conflict among global nations

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

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Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

107. The steady flow of people and products into the United States each year supports the conclusion that _____.

a. the world's nations are increasingly interconnected

b. other nations have little effects on life in rich countries such as the United States

c. people around the world share little in terms of their ways of life

d. sociologists have little reason to pay attention to nations other than the United States

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

108. Gaining a global understanding is _____.

a. unimportant because the United States is so rich and there is little reason for us to learn about other nations

b. important for college students because most new U.S. jobs involve some element of international trade

c. unimportant because there is no longer very much poverty in the world

d. important because people the world over have ways of life that are much the same

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

109. Social problems that exist in the United States, such as poverty and gender inequality, are _____.

a. less serious in lower-income countries

b. more serious in lower-income countries

c. equally serious in lower-income countries

d. unheard of in lower-income countries

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

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110. Sarah is spending a summer living in another country where people have a way of life that differs from her own. A sociologist might expect that this experience would lead her to _____.

    a. end up with a greater understanding of both a new way of life and her own way of life

    b. accept what people in the United States call "common sense"

    c. assume that people's lives simply reflect the choices they make

    d. gradually understand less and less about her own way of life

    Answer: a

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Application

111. Among the historical changes that stimulated the development of sociology as a discipline was _____.

    a. the founding of the Roman Catholic church

    b. the rise of the industrial economy and growth of cities

    c. the power of tradition

    d. a belief that our futures are defined by "fate"

    Answer: b

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

112. We would expect the sociological perspective to be most likely to develop in a society that was _____.

    a. very traditional

    b. experiencing many social changes

    c. very low income

    d. small and socially isolated

    Answer: b

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Analysis

113. Sociology first appeared as a formal discipline in _____.

    a. the United States

    b. Japan

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c. France

d. China

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

114. The term *sociology* was coined in 1838 by _____.

a. Karl Marx

b. Herbert Spencer

c. Adam Smith

d. Auguste Comte

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

115. Sociology differs from the older discipline of philosophy by focusing on _____.

a. what the ideal society should be

b. human nature

c. the place of God in shaping human events

d. how society actually operates

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

116. The major goal of sociology's pioneers, including Auguste Comte and Emile Durkheim, was _____.

a. to serve the powerful

b. to help build an "ideal society"

c. to discover how society actually operates

d. to prevent disruptive social change

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

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Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

117. Auguste Comte described the earliest human societies as being at which stage of historical development?

a. Theological stage

b. Metaphysical stage

c. Scientific stage

d. Postscientific stage

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

118. According to Auguste Comte, people living in Europe during the Middle Ages thought of society as _____.

a. a system operating according to its own laws

b. chaotic and having little order or form

c. an expression of God's will

d. a system of behavior according to natural laws

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

119. The ancient Romans saw the stars as being gods. Auguste Comte would classify Roman society as being in which of the following stages of history?

a. Scientific stage

b. Metaphysical stage

c. Theological stage

d. Postscientific stage

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

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120. According to Auguste Comte, the discipline of sociology took place as society entered which stage of development?

    a. Theological stage

    b. Metaphysical stage

    c. Scientific stage

    d. Postscientific stage

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

121. Thomas Hobbes's idea that society reflects a selfish human nature illustrates the thinking common at which of Auguste Comte's historical stages?

    a. Theological stage

    b. Metaphysical stage

    c. Scientific stage

    d. Postscientific stage

    Answer: b

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

122. According to Auguste Comte, the type of thinking favored by people such as Thomas Edison, the inventor of the light bulb, becomes common in a society at which stage of societal development?

    a. Theological stage

    b. Metaphysical stage

    c. Scientific stage

    d. Postscientific stage

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

123. When did sociology become established as an academic discipline in the United States?

    a. During the Middle Ages

    b. About 1800

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c. About 1900

d. About 2000

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

124. Most of today's sociologists agree with Auguste Comte's claim that _____.

a. no society has reached the scientific stage of history

b. human behavior is not patterned and orderly

c. sociology should be based on religion

d. science is an important foundation of sociology

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understanding

125. Sociologists cannot identify "laws of society" that allow us to precisely predict the behavior of an individual because _____.

a. human behavior may display patterns, but it is also spontaneous

b. sociology is still very young

c. no sociologist ever tried to discover such laws

d. no sociologist would wish to predict human behavior

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

126. Making use of the sociological perspective encourages _____.

a. challenging many commonly held beliefs

b. acceptance of all commonly held wisdom

c. the belief that society is mysterious

d. people to be happy with their lives as they are

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

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Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understanding

127. In recent years, sociological research has helped policy makers to _____.

a. plan establishing communities on other planets

b. reduce the extent of political polarization in the Unted States

c. better understand the role of race in interactions between police and the public

d. boost the earnings of major corporations in the United States

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

128. Learning more sociology can help you _____.

a. understand that people have little control over their lives

b. assess the opportunities and constraints in our lives

c. understand that people should accept their lives just as they are

d. see how individuals guide their own lives through “free will”

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

129. In the feature about Barbara Ehrenreich working at low-wage jobs, we learned that she _____.

a. was able to make a good living right from the start

b. worked very hard, but barely made enough money to pay for her basic needs

c. found most of her coworkers to be dull and lazy

d. was eventually convinced that personal ability is everything

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

130. Which of the following statements best illustrates the career advantage a person gains by studying sociology?

a. A researcher discovers a new and effective vaccine.

b. A person in retail sales knows how to exceed the monthly sales target.

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c. A police officer understands which categories of people are at high risk of becoming victims of crime.

d. A financial services worker devises a new type of hedge fund.

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

131. Sociology provides an advantage to students preparing for later careers by preparing them for work _____.

a. only as teachers of sociology

b. only in criminal justice or social work

c. only as clinical sociologists

d. in teaching, criminal justice, business, and many other careers

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

132. Examples of people applying their knowledge of sociology at work include people in medicine _____.

a. declining to offer treatment to certain categories of people

b. understanding patterns of health in a community

c. working as clinical sociologists.

d. understanding that factors like race, class and gender have no effect on well-being

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

133. A statement that explains how and why specific facts are related is called a(n) _____.

a. approach

b. precept

c. concept

d. theory

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

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Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

134. To evaluate a theory using evidence, sociologists _____.

a. gather data or facts

b. accept the conventional wisdom of their society

c. are guided by their personal feelings about the issue

d. look to the past for guidance

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understanding

135. If we state that children raised in single-parent families are at high risk of becoming single parents themselves, we have constructed a _____ of family life.

a. paradigm

b. precept

c. concept

d. theory

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

136. In deciding what kinds of questions to ask in their research, sociologists look to their professional training and are guided by _____.

a. one or more theoretical approaches.

b. their own common sense

c. our society's traditional wisdom

d. sheer chance

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

137. Looking at the United States, high suicide rates are typical of areas in which people _____.

a. live densely packed in cities

b. live spread apart in rural areas

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c. have higher incomes

d. live in a warmer climate

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

138. The early sociologists Auguste Comte and Emile Durkheim used the _____.

a. the structural-functional approach

b. the social-conflict approach

c. the symbolic-interaction approach

d. theological approach

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

139. The theoretical approach in sociology that views society as a complex system whose parts work together to promote solidarity and stability is the _____.

a. structural-functional approach.

b. social-conflict approach

c. symbolic-interaction approach

d. tradition-based approach

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

140. Which concept is used to describe relatively stable patterns of social behavior?

a. Social structure

b. Manifest functions

c. Social functions

d. Social dysfunctions

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

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141. The structural-functional approach is concerned with _____.
    a. the meaning people attach to their behavior
    b. patterns of social inequality
    c. the consequences of social patterns for the operation of society
    d. ways in which each person differs from all others
    Answer: c
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Analysis
142. Identify the three sociologists who played a part in the development of sociology's structural-functional approach.
    a. Auguste Comte, Karl Marx, W. E. B. Du Bois
    b. Auguste Comte, Herbert Spencer, Emile Durkheim
    c. Herbert Spencer, Karl Marx, Auguste Comte
    d. Harriet Martineau, Robert K. Merton, W. E. B. Du Bois
    Answer: b
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
143. Herbert Spencer described human society as a complex system having much in common with _____.
    a. animal societies
    b. planets and stars
    c. the human brain
    d. the human body
    Answer: d
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
144. Who was the U.S. sociologist who explained that social patterns have both manifest functions and latent functions?
    a. Robert K. Merton
    b. William Graham Sumner
    c. Talcott Parsons
    d. C. Wright Mills

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Answer: a
Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
Topic: Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

145. The recognized and intended consequences of a social pattern are referred to as _____.
a. latent functions
b. manifest functions
c. eufunctions
d. dysfunctions
Answer: b
Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
Topic: Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

146. Unrecognized and unintended consequences of a social pattern are called _____.
a. latent functions
b. manifest functions
c. operational functions
d. dysfunctions
Answer: a
Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
Topic: Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

147. An example of a latent function of college is _____.
a. providing skills needed for later jobs
b. keeping young people out of the labor force, which may not have jobs for them
c. gaining the knowledge required to be an active and thoughtful citizen
d. giving young people experience living on their own
Answer: b
Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
Topic: Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Moderate
Skill Level: Application

148. Social structures sometimes have negative consequences for the operation of society as a whole. Which of the following concepts refers to these negative consequences?
a. Social structure
b. Manifest functions

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c. Social functions

d. Social dysfunctions

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

149. Robert K. Merton explained that what is functional for one category of people _____.

a. is always functional for everyone

b. may not be functional for people in another category

c. is unlikely to change over time

d. can never be functional in the future

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

150. Understanding marriage using the structural-functional approach might prompt you to consider _____.

a. what people think marriage means

b. how marriage benefits women and men unequally

c. the consequences of marriage for the operation of society

d. how can we help people find more pleasure in their marriages

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

151. The main characteristic of the _____ approach is its view of society as being orderly and stable.

a. structural-functional

b. social-conflict

c. social-interaction

d. tradition-based

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

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152. A fair criticism of the structural-functional approach is that it _____.
    a. ignores inequality that can generate tension and conflict
    b. focuses too much on social dysfunction
    c. focuses too much on power divisions in society
    d. is a politically liberal view of society
    Answer: a
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Analysis
153. A limitation of the structural-functional approach is that it _____.
    a. is not concerned with the consequences of patterns of social behavior
    b. is not focused on macro-level social structures
    c. does not use the sociological perspective
    d. focuses on stability at the expense of conflict
    Answer: d
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Analysis
154. The "framework for building theory that sees society as an arena of inequality that generates conflict and change" is the _____.
    a. structural-functional approach.
    b. social-conflict approach
    c. symbolic-interaction approach
    d. tradition-based approach
    Answer: b
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
155. The social-conflict approach draws attention to _____.
    a. how elements contribute to the overall operation of society
    b. how people construct meaning in their interaction
    c. patterns of social inequality
    d. the stable aspects of society
    Answer: c
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory

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Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

156. Looking at the operation of U.S. schools guided by the social-conflict approach might lead a sociologist to conclude that _____.

a. the function of schools is to teach needed skills

b. the meaning of schooling varies from child to child

c. schools have been a major path to social advancement

d. our society provides some students with far better schooling than others

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

157. Using the social-conflict approach, a sociologist might highlight _____.

a. income differences among young people in high school.

b. the functions of sports for society as a whole

c. meanings people associate with various family members

d. the functions of a social institution such as the family

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

158. Karl Marx, guided by the social-conflict approach, argued that the point of studying society was _____.

a. to understand how society really operates

b. to compare U.S. society to others

c. to foster support for a nation's government

d. to bring about greater social equality

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understanding

159. _____ had an important influence on the development of the social-conflict approach.

a. Karl Marx

b. Talcott Parsons

c. Emile Durkheim

d. Herbert Spencer

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Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

160. The social-conflict approach sometimes receives criticism for _____.

a. focusing on values that everyone shares

b. being openly political

c. promoting the status quo

d. ignoring factors like class

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

161. A sociologist using the gender-conflict approach might be expected to state that _____

a. men .and women share in the joys of family life

b. in many ways, men are in positions of power over women

c. gender functions in an important way to keep society operating

d. men and women enjoy equal rights and privileges in our society

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

162. Who helped launch the discipline of sociology by studying the evils of slavery and also by translating the writings of Auguste Comte?

a. Harriet Martineau

b. Jane Addams

c. Elizabeth Cady Stanton

d. Dorothea Dix

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

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163. Which pioneering sociologist founded Chicago's Hull House to assist immigrants and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize?

    a. Jane Addams

    b. Harriet Martineau

    c. W. E. B. Du Bois

    d. Herbert Spencer

    Answer: a

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

164. Which early sociologist received the first doctorate ever awarded by Harvard University to a person of color?

    a. Jane Addams

    b. Harriet Martineau

    c. W. E. B. Du Bois

    d. Herbert Spencer

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

165. Which early U.S. sociologist studied the Black community and served as a founding member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)?

    a. Jane Addams

    b. Harriet Martineau

    c. W. E. B. Du Bois

    d. Herbert Spencer

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sociological Theory

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

166. Which of the following theoretical approaches would you expect to highlight the fact that, on average, Black families have less income than White families?

    a. The race-conflict approach

    b. The gender-conflict approach

    c. The structural-functional approach

    d. The symbolic-interaction approach

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Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

167. W. E. B. Du Bois claimed that _____ was the major problem facing the United States during the twentieth century.

a. class

b. race

c. gender

d. ethnicity

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

168. W. E. B. Du Bois described Black Americans as having a "double consciousness" because _____.

a. most Black Americans felt that, compared to White people, they had to be twice as careful in how they acted

b. there is a double disadvantage for those who are both low income and Black

c. Black people have to work twice as hard as White people to get the same reward

d. Black Americans are not "just Americans"; they are American citizens who have a second identity based on skin color

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

169. The _____ approaches are macro-level, describing societies in broad, structural terms.

a. structural-functional and social-conflict

b. structural-functional and symbolic-interaction

c. social-conflict and symbolic-interaction

d. gender-conflict and symbolic-interaction

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

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170. Which of the following examples illustrates a micro-level focus?
    a. The operation of the U.S. economy
    b. Patterns of global terrorism
    c. Two people traveling on an airplane getting to know one another
    d. Class inequality in the armed forces
    Answer: c
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Difficult
    Skill Level: Application
171. The basic idea of the symbolic-interaction approach is that society is _____.
    a. an arena of conflict between categories of people
    b. the product of people interacting in countless everyday situations
    c. a system that operates to benefit people
    d. a system that generates social inequality
    Answer: b
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Understanding
172. Which theoretical approach claims that it is not so much what people do that matters as much as what meaning they attach to their behavior?
    a. Structural-functional approach
    b. Social-conflict approach
    c. Symbolic-interaction approach
    d. Social-exchange approach
    Answer: c
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Understanding
173. _____, one of the founding sociologists, urged sociologists to understand a social setting from the point of view of the people in it.
    a. Karl Marx
    b. Emile Durkheim
    c. Auguste Comte
    d. Max Weber
    Answer: d
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

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Topic: Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

174. Looking at romantic relationships, a social-exchange analysis would point out that _____.
a. people typically seek mates who offer as much as they do
b. class differences are reflected in favored sports
c. people build reality as they introduce themselves
d. people who do more important work usually earn more pay
Answer: a
Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
Topic: Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Moderate
Skill Level: Analysis

175. A common criticism of the symbolic-interaction approach is that it _____.
a. calls attention to major social institutions
b. says little about the influence of structural factors such as culture, class, gender, and race
c. paints a very positive picture of society
d. says little about how individuals actually experience society
Answer: b
Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
Topic: Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Moderate
Skill Level: Analysis

176. A limitation of the symbolic-interaction approach is that it _____.
a. is not concerned with the meaning people attach to behavior
b. is focused only on macro-level social structures
c. does not use the sociological perspective
d. does not focus on the widespread influence of class or culture
Answer: d
Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
Topic: Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Moderate
Skill Level: Analysis

177. The symbolic-interaction approach focuses on how _____.
a. society is held together
b. society is divided
c. individuals actually experience social situations
d. some people protect their privileges

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Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

178. A manifest function of sports is _____.

a. providing a source of recreation and physical conditioning

b. fostering social relationships

c. generating jobs

d. teaching a society's way of life

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sports: Playing the Theory Game

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

179. Building social relationships and creating tens of thousands of jobs are two of the _____ of sports.

a. manifest functions

b. latent functions

c. dysfunctions

d. nonfunctions

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sports: Playing the Theory Game

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understanding

180. A social-conflict approach to sports would be an analysis of _____.

a. the way in which sports help encourage competition

b. the importance of physical ability in success

c. how sports reflect social inequality

d. the different meanings people attach to games

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sports: Playing the Theory Game

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

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181. Racial discrimination in professional baseball is evident today in _____.
    a. the fact that just 2.5 percent of team owners are in a racial or ethnic minority category of the population
    b. the exclusion of Black and Latino players from professional baseball
    c. the fact that a majority of players are Black or Latino
    d. the fact that today's players earn far less than players earned fifty years ago

    Answer: a

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sports: Playing the Theory Game

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Analysis

182. A symbolic-interaction analysis of sports would conclude that _____.
    a. winning at sports means different things to different people
    b. some categories of people benefit more than others from sports
    c. sports help develop important cultural values
    d. most team presidents and CEOs are White men

    Answer: a

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sports: Playing the Theory Game

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Analysis

183. Using the symbolic-interaction approach, sports becomes _____.
    a. a structure that contributes to the functioning of society
    b. a matter of social inequality
    c. less a system than an ongoing process of interaction that creates meaning
    d. just a game without any meaning

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

    Topic: Sports: Playing the Theory Game

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

184. _____ is a way of understanding the world based on science.
    a. Tradition
    b. Positivism
    c. Metaphysics
    d. Free will

    Answer: b

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

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Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

185. Sociologists use the term *empirical evidence* to refer to _____.

a. information that is based on a society's traditions

b. information that squares with common sense

c. information we can verify with our senses

d. information that most people agree is true

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

186. The sociological perspective coupled to research reveals that _____.

a. "common sense" is usually pretty close to the truth

b. much of what passes for "common sense" in the United States turns out to be at least partly wrong

c. most people in the United States readily see how society shapes our lives

d. "common sense" is not very popular in the United States

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understanding

187. "A mental construct that represents some aspect of the world in a somewhat simplified form" is the definition of a _____.

a. variable

b. theory

c. measurement

d. concept

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

188. If you were trying to measure the "social class" of various people, you would have to keep in mind that _____.

a. it is necessary to specify exactly what variable you are measuring

b. you must measure "social class" in every way possible

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c. there is no way to measure "social class"

d. everyone agrees on what "social class" means

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

189. Which of the following concepts refers to deciding exactly what is to be measured when assigning value to a variable?

a. Operationalizing

b. Reliability

c. Conceptualizing

d. Validity

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

190. In the process of measurement, reliability refers to _____.

a. whether you are really measuring what you want to measure

b. how dependable the researcher is

c. whether or not everyone agrees with the study's results

d. whether repeating the measurement yields consistent results

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

191. _____ refers to measuring exactly what one intends to measure.

a. Congruence

b. Validity

c. Repeatability

d. Reliability

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

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192. Which of the following is the term for the value that occurs most often in a series of numbers?

a. Mean

b. Mode

c. Median

d. Standard deviation

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

193. Which of the following concepts refers to the arithmetic average of a series of numbers?

a. The mean

b. The mode

c. The median

d. The correlation

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

194. Which of the following concepts refers to the value that occurs midway in a series of numbers arranged from smallest to largest (that is, the middle case)?

a. Mean

b. Mode

c. Median

d. Correlation

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

195. Consider the following series of numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 10. What is the median value?

a. 1

b. 2

c. 3

d. 4

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

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Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
Difficulty Level: Moderate
Skill Level: Application

196. A theory states that increasing a person's formal higher education results in increased earnings over the individual's lifetime. In this theory, "higher education" is the _____.
a. independent variable
b. dependent variable
c. correlation
d. effect
Answer: a
Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
Difficulty Level: Difficult
Skill Level: Analysis

197. Two variables are said to display correlation if _____.
a. they are caused by the same factor
b. one occurs before the other
c. both measure the same thing
d. they vary together
Answer: d
Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

198. The ideal of objectivity means that a researcher must _____.
a. not personally care about the topic being studied
b. try to adopt a stance of personal neutrality toward the outcome of the research
c. study issues that have no value to society as a whole
d. carry out research that will encourage desirable social change
Answer: b
Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

199. The sociologist who called on his colleagues to be "value-free" in the conduct of their research was _____.
a. Karl Marx
b. Emile Durkheim

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c. Herbert Spencer

d. Max Weber

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

200. Interpretive sociology refers to sociology that _____.

a. focuses on action

b. sees an objective reality "out there"

c. focuses on the meaning people attach to behavior

d. seeks to bring about change

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

201. Which German word meaning "understanding" was used by Max Weber to describe his approach to sociological research?

a. Gemeinschaft

b. Gesellschaft

c. Verstehen

d. Verboten

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

202. Critical sociology _____.

a. focuses on the meaning people attach to behavior

b. seeks to bring about desirable social change

c. endorses the principle of being value-free

d. is based on Max Weber's principle of *verstehen*

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

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203. Critical sociology can best be described as a(n) _____ approach.
    a. activist
    b. scientific
    c. qualitative
    d. value-free
    Answer: a
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
204. In making judgments about how society should be improved, the _____ approach in sociology rejects Max Weber's goal that researchers should be value-free.
    a. interpretive
    b. critical
    c. scientific
    d. positivist
    Answer: b
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
205. Scientific methodology is most closely linked to _____.
    a. structural-functional theory
    b. social-conflict theory
    c. symbolic-interaction theory
    d. gender-conflict theory
    Answer: a
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
206. Qualitative research has special appeal to investigators who favor _____.
    a. the structural-functional approach
    b. the symbolic-interaction approach
    c. the social-conflict approach
    d. the social-exchange approach
    Answer: b
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

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Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

207. If you have been criticized for "androcentricity" in your research, you are being criticized for _____.

a. overgeneralizing your results

b. ignoring gender entirely

c. doing the research from a male perspective

d. using double standards in your research

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.5: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

Topic: Gender

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

208. If you read a study that draws conclusions about all of humanity based on research using only women as subjects, you would correctly point to the problem called _____

a. androcentricity

b. overgeneralization

c. gender blindness

d. using double standards

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.5: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

Topic: Gender

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

209. You are doing research and you never stop to think about the possible importance of gender. Your work could be criticized for the problem called _____.

a. androcentricity

b. overgeneralization

c. gender blindness

d. employing double standards

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.5: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

Topic: Gender

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

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210. Regarding ethical research guidelines, the American Sociological Association states that researchers _____.

    a. must always perform their research several times in order to ensure its accuracy

    b. need not disclose their sources of funding for the research

    c. must protect the privacy of subjects taking part in a research project

    d. are not responsible for the safety of subjects taking part in a research project

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 1.5: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Gender

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Recollection

211. If you were to conduct sociological research that closely follows the logic of science, which research method would you most likely use?

    a. Interviews

    b. The experiment

    c. Questionnaires

    d. Participant observation

    Answer: b

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

212. "A statement of a possible relationship between two or more variables" is the definition of which concept?

    a. Measurement

    b. Correlation

    c. Spurious correlation

    d. Hypothesis

    Answer: d

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

213. What research method was used in Philip Zimbardo's study, the "Stanford County Prison"?

    a. An experiment

    b. A survey

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c. Participant observation

d. Secondary analysis

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

214. Which research method asks subjects to respond to a series of items in a questionnaire or an interview?

a. Secondary research

b. Participant observation

c. An experiment

d. A survey

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

215. A small number of people who are used to represent a much larger population is called a _____.

a. target group

b. sample

c. closed-format group

d. open-format group

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

216. Lois Benjamin's investigation of racism may be criticized because _____.

a. her sample included as many White people as Black Americans

b. she conducted her interviews over the telephone

c. her sample may not be representative of all Black Americans

d. people cannot respond to questions they find painful

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

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Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

217. Joseph Ewoodzie's research to learn about homeless people in Jackson, Mississippi, is an example of _____.

a. an experiment

b. a survey

c. participant observation

d. secondary analysis

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

218. A researcher doing participant observation may often "break in" to a setting more easily with the help of a _____.

a. key informant

b. research assistant

c. bigger budget

d. longer questionnaire

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

219. You wish to conduct an exploratory and descriptive study of people in a particular neighborhood. You have plenty of time, but you have little money or other resources. What research method should you use?

a. Experiment

b. Survey

c. Participant observation

d. Secondary analysis

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

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220. E. Digby Baltzell's historical study, *Puritan Boston and Quaker Philadelphia*, illustrates which research method?

    a. The experiment

    b. The survey

    c. Participant observation

    d. Use of existing sources

    Answer: d

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

221. E. Digby Baltzell's study, *Puritan Boston and Quaker Philadelphia*, showed that a very high number of "top achievers" listed in the *Dictionary of American Biography* came from _____.

    a. the South

    b. Pennsylvania

    c. Massachusetts

    d. Philadelphia

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Recollection

222. Which sociological research method is best used to study social life in a distinctive community such as the Amish?

    a. The experiment

    b. The survey

    c. Participant observation

    d. Secondary analysis

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

223. Which sociological research method is most likely to produce quantitative data that will identify cause-and-effect relationships?

    a. The experiment

    b. The survey

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c. Participant observation

d. Secondary analysis

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

224. Which sociological research method is best used to study what cannot be directly observed, such as attitudes and values, among large numbers of people?

a. The experiment

b. The survey

c. Participant observation

d. Secondary analysis

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

225. Which sociological research method saves the time and expense of data gathering, but the researcher has no control over possible data bias?

a. The experiment

b. The survey

c. Participant observation

d. Use of existing sources

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

226. A major benefit of learning and applying the language of politics is _____.

a. understanding that sociological analysis has no political consequences

b. gaining the ability to make sociological generalizations

c. becoming a more engaged citizen

d. remaining free of any bias

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

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Topic: The Politics of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

227. Which theoretical approach focuses on society as it exists and, therefore, tends to be politically conservative?

a. The structural-functional approach

b. The gender-conflict approach

c. The race-conflict approach

d. The symbolic-interaction approach

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

Topic: The Politics of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

228. Which theoretical approach is a micro-level approach that is generally viewed as more personal and less political?

a. The structural-functional approach

b. The gender-conflict approach

c. The race-conflict approach

d. The symbolic-interaction approach

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

Topic: The Politics of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

229. Which theoretical approach tends to be critical of social inequality and, therefore, is politically progressive?

a. The structural-functional approach

b. The social-conflict approach

c. Any micro-level analysis

d. The symbolic-interaction approach

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

Topic: The Politics of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

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230. Sociology developed largely as an effort to address social problems, and the sociological perspective directs our attention not to individual choices as much as to structures of society. Therefore, the chapter concludes, seeing the world sociologically tends to encourage people to be _____.

a. likely to engage in stereotyping

b. conservative

c. nonpolitical

d. progressive.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

Topic: The Politics of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

231. A simplified description unfairly applied to every person in the same category is called _____.

a. a sociological insight

b. a sociological generalization

c. a stereotype

d. an act of discrimination

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

Topic: The Politics of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

232. Unlike simple stereotypes, sociological generalizations _____.

a. apply to all individuals in some category

b. are based on all available facts

c. are motivated by bias

d. ignore facts

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

Topic: The Politics of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

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SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

233. In several sentences, explain the essential wisdom of sociology.

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

234. What did Peter Berger mean when he said the sociological perspective is "seeing the general in the particular"?

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

235. In the individualistic culture of North America, why can the sociological perspective be described as "seeing the strange in the familiar"?

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

236. Explain why the power of society is evident in the decision to bear a child or even, as Emile Durkheim explained, in the very personal decision to die by suicide.

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

237. What did C. Wright Mills mean by "the sociological imagination"? How does this point of view reveal a limitation of what members of our society call "common sense"? How does it change the way we see personal problems?

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

238. Why is a global approach a logical extension of the sociological perspective?

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

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Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

239. Name the three social changes in European history that were especially important to the development of sociology. Why did change spark the development of sociology?

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

240. What can you say sociologically about when and where the discipline of sociology developed?

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

Topic: The Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

241. Explain some of the personal benefits of learning to use the sociological perspective, including career advantages.

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

242. In several sentences, explain the focus of the structural-functional approach.

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

243. Distinguish between the manifest and latent functions of schooling, sports, iPhones, or another social pattern of your choosing.

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

244. What is social structure? How do the structural-functional and social-conflict approaches understand social structure differently?

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

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245. In several sentences, explain the focus of the social-conflict approach.
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Understanding
246. Explain the focus of the gender-conflict or feminist approach. Guided by this approach, provide several sentences that offer a critical analysis of our society.
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Difficult
    Skill Level: Analysis
247. Briefly describe the contributions of W. E. B. Du Bois to sociology.
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Understanding
248. Briefly explain the difference between a macro-level and a micro-level theoretical orientation.
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Analysis
249. In several sentences, explain the focus of the symbolic-interaction approach.
    Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
    Topic: Sociological Theory
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Understanding
250. How does a researcher transform a concept into a variable?
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Application
251. When it comes to measuring a variable, how is reliability different from validity? Which of the two concepts implies the other?
    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Understanding

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252. List the three conditions that are required to establish cause and effect in social scientific research.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

253. What did Max Weber mean by "value-free" research? Do you think researchers can be value-free? Should they try? Explain.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

254. How do positivist sociology, interpretive sociology, and critical sociology deal with the issue of subjectivity in different ways?

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

255. What are the essential differences between scientific sociology, interpretive sociology, and critical sociology?

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Analysis

256. Provide one strength and one limitation of each of the major research methods described in this chapter: experiment, survey, participant observation, and secondary analysis.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Analysis

257. Identify several problems with sound research that are related to gender.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.5: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Gender

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Recollection

258. Point out two important ethical concerns in conducting sociological research.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.5: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Gender

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Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

259. Briefly explain why a researcher would choose the experiment as a method of research.

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: The Experiment

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

260. Briefly explain why a researcher would choose the survey as a method of research.

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Survey Research

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

261. Briefly explain why a researcher would choose participant observation as a method of research.

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Participant Observation

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

262. Briefly explain why a researcher would choose to use existing sources rather than collect new data.

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Using Available Data

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Recollection

263. In several sentences, point to benefits derived from incorporating political analysis as well as analysis using sociological theory.

Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

Topic: The Politics of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

264. Describe the political character of each of sociology's major theoretical approaches: the structural-functional approach, the social-conflict approach, and the symbolic-interaction approach.

Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

Topic: The Politics of Sociology

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Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

ESSAY QUESTIONS/TOPICS FOR SHORT PAPERS

265. The sociological perspective helps us recognize that the lives of individuals are shaped by the forces of society. Explain, in a short essay, how the sociological perspective reveals "the general in the particular." To illustrate, explain how society plays a part in your own decision to attend college.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Application

266. Since beginning this course in sociology, how has your view of the world changed? Provide one specific example of something in your life that you see differently now compared to before you started this course. Is this change a good thing? Explain.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

267. Provide three examples of how using the sociological perspective highlights general patterns in the particular choices made by individuals.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Application

268. Sociologists increasingly focus on not just U.S. society, but the world as a whole. Provide several reasons for this global focus. How is an awareness of global patterns, such as immigration and social inequality, very much a part of the sociological perspective?

    Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Apply the sociological perspective to show how society shapes our individual lives.

    Topic: The Sociological Perspective

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

269. Do you see any dangers in adopting the sociological perspective too intensely? For example, by saying that society is at work in all of our choices about how to live, do we lose any sense of personal responsibility for our actions?

    Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

    Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

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Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

270. Imagine that you were asked by another student, "What would be the benefits of taking a course in sociology?" Explain how and why sociology can transform the way someone sees the world.

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for assessing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.

Topic: Applying the Sociological Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

271. Explain how the structural-functional approach is more focused on understanding society as it is and how the social-conflict approach (consider the gender-conflict or race-conflict approaches) is more focused on social change. Do you prefer one approach to the other? Explain.

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

272. Point out what the viewpoint of a sociologist who is influenced by the structural-functional approach (say, Emile Durkheim) has in common with that of a sociologist influenced by the social-conflict approach (say, Karl Marx). That is, how are they both sociological? At the same time, how does each represent a different assumption about the nature of the society? How is the purpose of sociological study different?

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

273. Develop the differences among the three theoretical approaches by applying each to the family. In each case, how do we understand a family and its operation?

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.

Topic: Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

274. Can you identify some social pattern that people in our society tend to see as an expression of personal ability or personal choice? Describe the pattern and then explain how society is at work in the pattern you have identified.

Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

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275. Identify the three research orientations in sociology. Explain how each is sociological, as well as how each differs from the others.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

276. Explain how a society's patterns of gender inequality can distort the research process. How might race operate in the same way?

    Learning Objective: LO 1.5: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Gender

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

277. Provide an example of the type of research question that would lead a sociologist to use each of the discipline's main methods of research: experiment, survey, participant observation, and use of existing sources.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.6: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Analysis

278. The types of questions we ask about society affect the answers we receive; similarly, the theoretical approach we employ shapes the consequences of our research for society going forward. Explain the links between theoretical analysis and political analysis.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

    Topic: The Politics of Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

279. Explain the difference between sociological generalizations about categories of people and the simple stereotypes we hear in everyday life.

    Learning Objective: LO 1.7: Understand the links between the sociological perspective, sociological theory, and political analysis.

    Topic: Is Sociology Nothing More than Stereotypes?

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

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