Sociology 18th edition Macionis Test Bank

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Chapter 2: Sociological Investigation

In this revision of the test bank, I have updated all of the questions to reflect changes in *Sociology, Eighteenth Edition*. The questions are tagged to indicate one of 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 **123 questions** in this chapter's test bank are divided into four types. **True/False questions** are the least demanding. As the table below shows, half 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 (most are "Recollection" questions and the remainder are divided among the three higher levels). **Short-answer questions** are spread across the highest three levels of reasoning. Finally, **essay questions** are the most demanding because they include the highest levels of cognitive reasoning.

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Types of Questions

	True/False	Multiple Choice	Short Answer	Essay	Total Qs
Recollection	21 (54%)	28 (44%)	0	0	49
Understanding	15 (39%)	10 (16%)	3 (30%)	1 (10%)	29
Application	3 (8%)	13 (20%)	1 (10%)	1 (10%)	18
Analysis	0	13 (20%)	6 (60%)	8 (80%)	27
	39	64	10	10	123

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Chapter 2: Sociological Investigation

TRUE/FALSE QUESTIONS

1. Two simple requirements that underlie the process of sociological investigation are (a) looking at the world using the sociological perspective and (b) becoming curious and asking questions.

   Answer: True

   Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

   Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

2. The sociologist recognizes various types of "truth."

   Answer: True

   Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

   Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

3. Science is a logical system that is based on intuition and insight.

   Answer: False

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   Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

   Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

4. "Empirical evidence" refers to what people in a society agree is true.

   Answer: False

   Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

   Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

5. "Empirical evidence" refers to information that we can verify with our senses.

   Answer: True

   Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

   Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

   Difficulty Level: Easy

   Skill Level: Recollection

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6. A positivist approach assumes that an objective reality exists "out there."
   Answer: True
   Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
   Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
   Difficulty Level: Easy
   Skill Level: Recollection
7. In every situation, the mean is a better statistical measure than the mode or the median.
   Answer: False
   Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
   Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
   Difficulty Level: Moderate
   Skill Level: Understanding
8. Reliability is a concept that refers to the quality of consistency in measurement.
   Answer: True
   Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
   Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
   Difficulty Level: Easy
   Skill Level: Recollection
9. Validity is a concept that refers to actually measuring what you want to measure.
   Answer: True
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   Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
   Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
   Difficulty Level: Easy
   Skill Level: Recollection
10. A variable that is changed by another variable is called the "independent variable."
    Answer: False
    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
11. A variable that causes change in another variable is called the "dependent variable."
    Answer: False
    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection

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12. Whenever two variables are statistically related (change together), a cause-and-effect relationship always exists.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

13. A false correlation between two variables caused by some third variable is described as a "spurious" correlation.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

14. Natural scientists often have an easier time than social scientists in identifying cause-and-effect relationships.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

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15. In real life, sociologists always achieve complete personal objectivity in their work.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

16. Max Weber urged sociologists to strive toward the goal of being value-free.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

17. Replication is one way to assess the accuracy of existing research.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

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

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

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

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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24. "Gender blindness" refers to the problem of failing to consider the importance of gender in sociological research.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

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

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

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

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

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    Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

27. To identify cause-and-effect relationships, it is usually necessary to exercise experimental control of variables.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

28. The very act of observing people may affect their behavior.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: 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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29. A survey is a research method in which subjects respond to a series of statements or questions.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

30. A random sample is likely to represent the population from which it is drawn.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

31. Just walking up to people on the street is a convenient and correct way to generate a random sample.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

32. A closed-ended questionnaire format generally makes it easier to analyze research data compared to an open-ended questionnaire format.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

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

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Application

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34. 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 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

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

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

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

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

37. The sociologist E. Digby Baltzell found that a surprisingly large number of high-achieving people in our country's history came from the Boston area.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

38. Inductive logical thought turns theory into testable hypotheses.

    Answer: False

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: 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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39. "Statistical evidence" may or may not be the same as truth.

    Answer: True

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Moderate

    Skill Level: Understanding

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

40. Lois Benjamin's research on the life experiences of high-achieving Black Americans suggests that _____.

    a. race has little to do with the life experiences of successful people

    b. racism remains a burden even among privileged Black Americans

    c. race is now more of a barrier to Black Americans than ever before in U.S. history

    d. racism mainly affects lower-class Black Americans

    Answer: b

    Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

    Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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41. Science is correctly defined as a _____.

    a. logical system that bases knowledge on direct, systematic observation

    b. belief based on faith in ultimate truth

    c. belief based on a society's traditions

    d. logical system that bases truth on political goals

    Answer: a

    Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

    Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

42. 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 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

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Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

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

a. what people call "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 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

44. "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

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Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

45. Imagine that you were going to measure the age of a number of respondents taking part in a survey. As you record the data, you are using the concept "age" as _____.

a. a theory

b. a hypothesis

c. a variable

d. an axiom

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

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46. 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 operationalize the concept to specify exactly what you are measuring
    b. you must measure "social class" in every way possible
    c. there is no way to measure "social class"
    d. everyone agrees on what "social class" means

    Answer: a

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Application

47. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

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    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

48. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

49. Which of the following concepts refers to the arithmetic average of a series of numbers?
    a. Mean
    b. Mode
    c. Median
    d. Correlation

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Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

50. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

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

a. 1

b. 2

c. 3

d. 4

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Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

52. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

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53. _____ refers to measuring exactly what one intends to measure.
    a. Congruence
    b. Validity
    c. Repeatability
    d. Reliability
    Answer: b
    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
54. With regard to the process of measurement, _____.
    a. for measurement to be reliable, it must be valid
    b. for measurement to be valid, it must be reliable
    c. all measurement is both reliable and valid
    d. measurement cannot be both reliable and valid
    Answer: b
    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Difficult
    Skill Level: Analysis
55. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Difficult
    Skill Level: Application
56. Two variables are said to display correlation if _____.
    a. they are both caused by the same third variable
    b. one occurs before the other
    c. both measure the same thing
    d. they vary together
    Answer: d
    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

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Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

57. An apparent, although false, association between two variables, which is caused by some third variable, is called _____.

a. a spurious correlation

b. an unproven correlation

c. an unreliable correlation

d. an invalid correlation

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

58. The ability to neutralize the effect of one variable in order to assess the relationship between two other variables is called _____.

a. making the correlation spurious

b. making the correlation reliable

c. control

d. causing the correlation

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Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

59. In a cause-and-effect relationship, _____.

a. both variables must be independent of each other

b. the independent variable must come before the dependent variable in time

c. the two variables must not display correlation

d. there must be evidence that the correlation is spurious

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

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60. It is difficult to establish all the cause-and-effect relationships in a social situation because _____.
    a. most patterns of behavior have a single cause
    b. most patterns of behavior are random and have no cause at all
    c. most patterns of behavior are caused by many factors
    d. sociologists are not able to reach conclusions about cause and effect
    Answer: c
    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Analysis
61. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Understanding
62. The sociologist who called on his colleagues to be "value-free" in the conduct of their research was _____.
    a. Karl Marx
    b. Emile Durkheim
    c. Herbert Spencer
    d. Max Weber
    Answer: d
    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Easy
    Skill Level: Recollection
63. Imagine that you are repeating research done by someone else in order to assess the accuracy of that research. You are doing which of the following?
    a. Replication
    b. Objectification
    c. Reliability
    d. Scientific control

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Answer: a
Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
Difficulty Level: Moderate
Skill Level: Application

64. Sociologists cannot precisely predict any specific person's behavior because _____.
a. human behavior is highly complex and has many causes
b. the discipline of sociology is too new
c. there are too many competing sociological approaches
d. sociology is not scientific
Answer: a
Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
Difficulty Level: Moderate
Skill Level: Understanding

65. Scientific sociology _____.
a. focuses on the meaning people attach to behavior
b. seeks to bring about desirable social change
c. favors qualitative data
d. favors quantitative data
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Answer: d
Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

66. "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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Recollection

67. Which German word meaning "understanding" was used by Max Weber to describe his approach to sociological research?
a. Gemeinschaft
b. Gesellschaft

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c. Verstehen

d. Verboten

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

68. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

69. Critical sociology can best be described as a(n) _____ approach.

a. activist

b. scientific

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c. qualitative

d. value-free

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

70. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

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71. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Difficult
    Skill Level: Analysis
72. 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 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.
    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology
    Difficulty Level: Difficult
    Skill Level: Analysis
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73. 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 or focusing only on men
    d. using double standards in your research
    Answer: c
    Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.
    Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research
    Difficulty Level: Moderate
    Skill Level: Application
74. 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

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Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

75. 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 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Application

76. 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

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b. must never 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 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

77. 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 2.4: 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

78. "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 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

79. Three researchers wish to test the effects of playing soft music during an exam on the test performance of their sociology students. They conduct an experiment in which one test-taking class hears music and another does not. In experimental terms, the class hearing the music is called _____.

a. the placebo

b. the control group

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c. the experimental group

d. the dependent variable

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Application

80. What concept refers to any change in a subject's behavior that is caused by the awareness of being studied?

a. Invalid response

b. Unreliable response

c. The Stanford effect

d. The Hawthorne effect

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: 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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81. What research method was used in Philip Zimbardo's study, the "Stanford County Prison"?

a. An experiment

b. A survey

c. Participant observation

d. Secondary analysis

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

82. 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 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

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Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

83. 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. sampling frame

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

84. In a questionnaire, asking respondents to identify their income level from a number of possible categories represents _____.

a. a closed-ended question format.

b. an open-ended question format

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c. an interview question format

d. a qualitative question format

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

85. In a questionnaire, the question "Please state your opinions about the extent of economic inequality" is an example of _____.

a. a closed-ended format

b. an open-ended format

c. experimental design

d. a dependent variable

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

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86. One disadvantage of conducting interviews is that this research method _____.

a. does not permit follow-up questions

b. does not allow subjects' answers to be detailed

c. results in a very low response rate

d. may easily allow the researcher to influence subjects' responses

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

87. From a research point of view, what is the problem with the question, "Do you think that the government should spend less on defense and spend more on health care?"

a. Most people will have no opinion on these issues.

b. The question may spark an emotional response.

c. Two different questions are being asked, so that a simple "yes" or "no" may distort the subject's actual opinion.

d. The question asks for a personal opinion, which involves a value judgment.

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's

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research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

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

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

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 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

89. Lois Benjamin's research shows that interviews _____.

a. take a lot of time to complete

b. must always be conducted in a laboratory

c. do not allow the researcher to ask follow-up questions

d. do not require face-to-face contact with subjects

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Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understanding

90. 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 2.4: 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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91. Joseph Ewoodzie discovered that homeless people in Jackson, Mississippi, _____.

    a. ate more nutritious food than better-off people

    b. could easily find jobs and housing if they just wanted to

    c. made use of available social services so that they rarely went for a day without food

    d. were unwilling to speak with any researcher about their lives

    Answer: c

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Understanding

92. 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 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

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    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Application

93. 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 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Easy

    Skill Level: Recollection

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

    a. The experiment

    b. The survey

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c. Participant observation

d. The use of existing and available data

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

95. 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 2.4: 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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96. Which sociological research method is most likely to produce quantitative data that will identify cause-and-effect relationships?

a. The experiment

b. The survey

c. Participant observation

d. Secondary analysis

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

97. 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. The use of existing data

Answer: b

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Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

98. Which sociological research method provides the best chance to understand social behavior in a natural setting?

a. The experiment

b. The survey

c. Participant observation

d. Secondary analysis

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

99. Which sociological research method is likely to be the most difficult to replicate (repeat)?

a. The experiment

b. The survey

c. Participant observation

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d. Secondary analysis

Answer: c

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

100. 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. The use of existing sources

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: 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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101. Inductive logical thought involves _____.

a. turning theories into hypotheses suitable for testing

b. selecting a research method based on available resources

c. doing research about the past

d. transforming specific observations into general theory

Answer: d

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

102. Deductive logical thought involves _____.

a. turning theories into hypotheses suitable for testing

b. selecting a research method based on available resources

c. doing research about the past

d. transforming specific observations into general theory

Answer: a

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

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Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Recollection

103. People can mislead others, even when they provide statistics, by _____.

a. using deductive reasoning

b. interpreting the data to lead their readers to a desired conclusion

c. using inductive reasoning

d. identifying a testable hypothesis

Answer: b

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

104. How does a researcher transform a concept into a variable?

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Application

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105. When measuring a variable, how is reliability different from validity? Which of the two concepts implies the other?

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

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

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

107. What is a spurious correlation?

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understanding

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

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

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Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

109. How do positivist sociology, interpretive sociology, and critical sociology deal with the issue of subjectivity in a different way?

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

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

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

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

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analysis

112. If you were doing a research project for your sociology class in which you were trying to discover how students assess the benefits of taking a sociology class, which research method might you use? Why?

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

113. Define both inductive logical thought and deductive logical thought. How does sociological research make use of both types of thought? Provide an example that illustrates each type of logical thought.

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

Topic: Research Methods

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Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

ESSAY QUESTIONS/TOPICS FOR SHORT PAPERS

114. What makes science a special way of knowing? What are important traits of scientific sociology? How does interpretive sociology differ from scientific sociology?

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how scientific evidence often challenges common sense.

Topic: Basics of Sociological Investigation

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

115. Should sociologists try to be objective? Develop a positivist sociological response to this question and also a critical sociological response. Which of the two responses comes closer to your own personal views? Why?

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analysis

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116. How does interpretive sociology differ from scientific sociology? What are the differences in terms of the basic image of society? How do the two approaches differ in the types of data they generate? Do you favor one approach over the other? If so, why?

    Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Describe sociology's three research orientations.

    Topic: Three Ways to Do Sociology

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

117. How and why can gender be important in conducting research? What are some of the problems in research that involve gender? How about race and ethnicity? Why might a researcher need to take race and ethnicity into account when planning research with a specific category of people?

    Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

118. What are some of the dangers of sociological research to subjects? Explain why the discipline has developed ethical guidelines to guide research. What are three specific problems with research that ethical guidelines address?

    Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

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    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

119. Why is it necessary for researchers to understand the social characteristics of the people they are studying? What problems could arise if a researcher started to study the Amish, Korean Americans, or some other distinctive category of people and had no understanding of their way of life?

    Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Identify the importance of gender and ethics in sociological research.

    Topic: Issues Affecting Sociological Research

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Application

120. None of the major methods of sociological research—experiment, survey, participant observation, and secondary research—is better than any other in an absolute sense, but each is suitable for addressing a certain type of question or situation. Explain why this is true and develop brief illustrations of the type of questions that would lead a researcher to select one method over the others.

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: 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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121. How does inductive logical thought differ from deductive logical thought? How can a researcher benefit from using both kinds of thinking?

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Analysis

122. Outline the ten steps in the process of carrying out sociological investigation. You may use the format presented in the text; that is, what specific questions must be answered as a researcher moves along?

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Explain why a researcher might choose each of sociology's research methods.

    Topic: Research Methods

    Difficulty Level: Difficult

    Skill Level: Understanding

123. Based on your own interests, identify a research question that you would like to investigate. State the question, identify an appropriate research method, and point to any challenges or issues that you would have to resolve in order to complete such a project.

    Learning Objective: LO 2.4: 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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