Human Sexuality in a Changing World 11th edition Rathus Test Bank

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Chapter 01: What Is Human Sexuality?

Multiple Choice Questions

1. **Where would a person be most likely to find a "sleepcrawler" interested in sexual activity?**
   A) On the island of Inis Beag off the coast of Ireland, right around 1963
   B) In Eustis, Nebraska, about midway between North Platte and Hastings, *circa* 1978
   C) On the island of Mangaia, one of the Cook Islands in the South Pacific ocean, sometime in the 1950s
   D) Just south of San Francisco, California, in the period between 1980 and 1985

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-1-01
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: C) On the island of Mangaia, one of the Cook Islands in the South Pacific ocean, sometime in the 1950s

2. **Amber, a 9-year-old girl, asked her father a question that children often ask: "Dad, what's sex?" How should her father reply, if he wishes to be both clear and comprehensive?**
   A) "Oh! Well, 'sex' refers to body parts that people use to make babies."
   B) "Well, that depends. The word 'sex' has a lot of different meanings depending on the context, and I'd be happy to explain each of them to you."
   C) "I don't want to talk to you about that. We'll talk about that sometime later, maybe when you're a little older."
   D) "Sex is a way of talking about how females and males are different; like, you're one sex, and I'm another sex."

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-02
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: B) "Well, that depends. The word 'sex' has a lot of different meanings depending on the context, and I'd be happy to explain each of them to you."

3. **Many researchers prefer to use the term _____ when discussing anatomical features of the human body, and the term _____ when considering social or cultural categories related to humans.**
   A) gender; sex
   B) identity; roles
   C) roles; identity
   D) sex; gender

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-1-03
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality

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Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: D) sex; gender

4. **Which term do researchers use to refer to the ways in which people experience and express themselves as sexual beings?**
   A) human sexuality
   B) sexual orientation
   C) sexual activity
   D) gender roles

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-04
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality
Skill: Remember the Facts
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: A) human sexuality

5. **Dr. Pomeroy was asked about his research specialization. "I study sexual arousal and response, focusing primarily but not exclusively on female anatomy." Based on this information, which orientation to the study of human sexuality does Dr. Pomeroy most likely have?**
   A) Religious
   B) Sociological
   C) Biological
   D) Psychological

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-05
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: C) Biological

6. **What does it mean to say that a society is pluralistic in regard to human sexuality?**
   A) People living in that society are tolerant of a variety of sexual practices.
   B) There is likely to be a singular view of "correct" sexual activity, usually informed by a dominant religion.
   C) The members of that society are likely to endorse a wide range of attitudes and values regarding sex.
   D) The social structure has evolved over time to encourage people having multiple sex partners in a lifetime.

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-1-06
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.

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Answer: C) The members of that society are likely to endorse a wide range of attitudes and values regarding sex.

7. **A street corner preacher was expounding on the wages of sin as she saw it. "And if a man shall take his sister, his father's daughter, or his mother's daughter, and see her nakedness, and she see his nakedness; it is a wicked thing; and they shall be cut off in the sight of their people!" she inveighed. "Huh," thought Roscoe, who was listening to her pronouncements. "I recognize that. It's from the _____."**

A) *Bhagavad Gita*
B) Koran
C) *Kama Sutra*
D) *Book of Leviticus*

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-1-07
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: D) *Book of Leviticus*

8. **Which value system argues that moral conduct should bring about the greatest good for the greatest number of people?**

A) Utilitarianism
B) Asceticism
C) Relativism
D) Rationalism

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-1-08
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: A) Utilitarianism

9. **Gwen was sharing her views with some friends. "I think sex is a natural need, like eating or drinking or sleeping. There's no morality to it; it comes down to one simple principle: 'If it feels good, do it!'" Gwen's attitude reflects which value system?**

A) Rationalism
B) Hedonism
C) Relativism
D) Situational ethics

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-1-09
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.

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Answer: B) Hedonism

10. **Lenny fancies himself to be a critical thinker, undoubtedly an admirable character trait. As such, what should Lenny insist on when evaluating claims?**
A) Some form of reliable and valid evidence related to the matter at hand
B) The opinions of an authority figure who has studied the matter
C) The consensus view that most people hold
D) His intuitions about what seems likely, sensible, or realistic in a given situation

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-10
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: A) Some form of reliable and valid evidence related to the matter at hand

11. **_____ may have been the first human taboo, even though exceptions to it can be found in the dynasties of _____.**
A) Murder; Greece and Japan
B) Worshipping idols; Great Britain, France, and the Netherlands
C) Polygamy; India and China
D) Incest; Egypt, Hawaii, and the Incas

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-1-11
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: D) Incest; Egypt, Hawaii, and the Incas

12. **Morris was pontificating at a cocktail party: "A good wife rises before dawn to tend to her family's needs, brings home food, makes the clothes, helps others, and works well into the night. It's clear that a wife should be considered the property of her husband," he brayed. "Wow," replied Wanda, with a disgusted look on her face. "With those attitudes, you'd be right at home with _____."**
A) the ancient Greeks
B) the ancient Hebrews
C) prehistoric phallic worshipers
D) Taoist philosophers

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-12
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: B) the ancient Hebrews

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13. **Compared to the others, which cultural group would have been most likely to view sexual pleasure as a spiritual ideal?**
A) Prehistoric hunting and gathering societies
B) The ancient Hindus of India
C) The Christians living in the time of St. Augustine
D) The Victorians of the United Kingdom

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-1-13
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Remember the Facts
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: B) The ancient Hindus of India

14. **Which correct conclusion can be reached regarding sexuality during the Victorian period?**
A) Women were not allowed to experience sexual desires or sexual pleasures.
B) Repression of sexuality was codified in the 1852 Edict of Chichester.
C) The behavior of Victorians was not as repressed as commonly believed.
D) Same-sex sexual behavior was considered acceptable among authors, painters, and sculptors.

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-14
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: C) The behavior of Victorians was not as repressed as commonly believed.

15. **Compared to the others, which historical figure would argue that masturbation was acceptable for females but forbidden for males?**
A) Yang Xiong, a Taoist philosopher
B) Epicurus, a Greek philosopher
C) Gaius Caesar Augustus Germanicus, Emperor of Rome
D) Lewis Carroll, a Victorian author

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-15
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: A) Yang Xiong, a Taoist philosopher

16. **Who wrote the books *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male* and *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female*?**
A) Havelock Ellis
B) Virginia Johnson
C) Shere Hite
D) Alfred Kinsey

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Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-1-16
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Remember the Facts
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: D) Alfred Kinsey

17. **How many chromosomes are normally contained in each human cell?**
A) 23, grouped by type
B) 23, aligned in a single sequence
C) 46, aligned in a single sequence
D) 46, arranged in 23 pairs

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-1-17
Topic: Scientific Perspectives on Human Sexuality
Skill: Remember the Facts
Objective: LO 1.4 Discuss scientific ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: D) 46, arranged in 23 pairs

18. **Connie was talking to her friend Stephanie over coffee one afternoon. "I'm just not sure where I stand with Alphonse," she confided. "I mean, our sex life is okay, but it feels like I'm doing it just to make sure he doesn't break up with me." Connie's remarks illustrate which of the basic reasons for having sex?**
A) The self-esteem boost element of the insecurity factor
B) The utilitarian aspect of the goal attainment factor
C) The mate guarding element of the insecurity factor
D) The social status element of the emotional factor

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-1-18
Topic: Scientific Perspectives on Human Sexuality
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.4 Discuss scientific ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: C) The mate guarding element of the insecurity factor

19. **Frans was watching bonobos mating in the wild. Far from merely satisfying his voyeuristic tendencies, Frans was taking detailed notes about the animals' practices, patterns, behaviors, and outcomes. Which scientific perspective does Frans's approach represent?**
A) The biological perspective
B) The cross-species perspective
C) The evolutionary perspective
D) The sociological perspective

Difficulty: Difficult

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QuestionID: 01-1-19
Topic: Scientific Perspectives on Human Sexuality
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.4 Discuss scientific ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: B) The cross-species perspective

20. **Compared to the others, which position would a behaviorist be most likely to endorse regarding sexual behavior?**
A) Rewards and punishments shape the learning of sexual behavior and sexual attitudes.
B) Latent sexual desires can be revealed through the symbolism of a person's dreams.
C) Heterosexuality is normative and superior to homosexuality.
D) The forces of natural selection shape the mating strategies of females and males.

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-1-20
Topic: Scientific Perspectives on Human Sexuality
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.4 Discuss scientific ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: A) Rewards and punishments shape the learning of sexual behavior and sexual attitudes.

21. **What are the goals of the science of human sexuality?**
A) Sample, test, resample, retest
B) Evaluate, analyze, treat, confirm
C) Describe, explain, predict, control
D) Theorize, hypothesize, measure, deduce

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-21
Topic: Research Methods in Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.5 Explain the steps in the scientific method and how they are applied in research methods.
Answer: C) Describe, explain, predict, control

22. **The magazine *Highly Traditional House and Home* publishes a survey of its female readers called "The 24/7 Job." It reports that 87 percent of all women who work outside the home feel too tired to cook and clean for their families. The critical flaw in this research would be the fact that _____.**
A) a questionnaire, rather than a survey, should have been administered
B) the sample is not representative of all American women
C) not all women are members of a family
D) *work* has not been directly observed

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-22
Topic: Research Methods in Human Sexuality
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.5 Explain the steps in the scientific method and how they are applied in research methods.

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Answer: B) the sample is not representative of all American women

23. **What constitutes a sample of convenience?**
A) Randomly selecting members of the overall population to form a sample for further study.
B) Specifically selecting members of the population based on their demographic characteristics, such as age, gender identity, income level, geographic region, and so on.
C) Repeatedly testing the same group of individuals in multiple contexts and multiple setting, so that their responses across conditions can be compared.
D) Measuring a group of people who happen to be available to a researcher, and who may or may not represent the population of interest as a whole.

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-23
Topic: Research Methods in Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.5 Explain the steps in the scientific method and how they are applied in research methods.
Answer: D) Measuring a group of people who happen to be available to a researcher, and who may or may not represent the population of interest as a whole.

24. **Ingo wants to obtain an in-depth, comprehensive understanding of what courtship was like during the 1960s, so he interviews his grandparents at length. Over the course of several months, Ingo asked the couple a variety of questions about how they met how they decided to marry, and so on. After 80 or so hours of responses Ingo had what he was after; a very clear picture of how these two people fell in love. Which research method did Ingo employ?**
A) Participant observation
B) Experimentation
C) Ethnographic observation
D) Case study

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-1-24
Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: D) Case study

25. **Compared to the others, which group of scientists would be most likely to utilize the ethnographic-observation method?**
A) Psychologists
B) Biologists
C) Demographers
D) Anthropologists

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-1-25

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Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Remember the Facts
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: D) Anthropologists

26. **Quincy, a sociologist, wanted to understand the motivations and behaviors of people who engage in mate-swapping, so he and his partner joined The Intercourse Resource, a local organization that hosts "swinging parties." After attending a few events, Quincy decided to join in the activities, and afterwards found a private corner of the room to jot down detailed notes about his experiences. Which research technique has Quincy embraced?**

A) Ethnographic observation
B) Naturalistic observation
C) Participant observation
D) Experimentation

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-26
Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: C) Participant observation

27. **Both Reiko and Marcella are interested in human sexuality, specifically the types of dating strategies that young adults engage in. Reiko visits a local bar and makes notes about the people she sees as they interact with one another. Marcella invites young adults to a specially designed room in a psychology building and watches them through a one-way mirror as they get to know one another. Both approaches are sensible, but the difference is that Reiko is using _____ whereas Marcella is using _____.**

A) naturalistic observation; laboratory observation
B) a field experiment; a laboratory experiment
C) laboratory observation; the case-study method
D) the case-study method; naturalistic observation

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-27
Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: A) naturalistic observation; laboratory observation

28. **A negative correlation means that _____.**

A) the high values of one variable are associated with the low values of the other
B) the high values of one variable are associated with the high values of the other
C) the low values of one variable are associated with the low values of the other

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D) there is no relationship between the two variables

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-28
Topic: Correlational and Experimental Research
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.7 Explain the correlational method, experimental research, and the ethical concerns that govern the ways in which professionals interact with research participants and clients in treatment.
Answer: A) the high values of one variable are associated with the low values of the other

29. **Dr. Rabinowitz asks individuals to run on a treadmill for 0, 15, or 30 minutes and then measures their self-reported sexual arousal. In this hypothetical study, the independent variable is:**
A) the number of minutes individuals run on the treadmill.
B) the self-reported arousal.
C) the individuals who run for 15 or 30 minutes.
D) the individuals who run for 0 minutes.

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-29
Topic: Correlational and Experimental Research
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.7 Explain the correlational method, experimental research, and the ethical concerns that govern the ways in which professionals interact with research participants and clients in treatment.
Answer: A) the number of minutes individuals run on the treadmill.

30. **Which consideration is a common ethical guideline for conducting research with human participants?**
A) Participants cannot be deceived about aspects of the research.
B) Participants may not withdraw from a research study after it has begun.
C) Participants cannot be subjected to offensive material of any kind.
D) Participants must be allowed to make an informed decision about whether or not they want to participate in the study.

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-1-30
Topic: Correlational and Experimental Research
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.7 Explain the correlational method, experimental research, and the ethical concerns that govern the ways in which professionals interact with research participants and clients in treatment.
Answer: D) Participants must be allowed to make an informed decision about whether or not they want to participate in the study.

True or False Questions

1. **The terms *sex* and *gender* are synonymous and interchangeable.**
a True
b False

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Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-2-01
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: b. False

2. **The study of human sexuality is focused primarily on the biological processes involved in reproduction.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-2-02
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: b. False

3. **Some of the variability in sexual behavior between males and females reflects power rather than choice.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-2-03
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: a. True

4. **Value systems provide a framework for judging the morality of sexual options.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-2-04
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: a. True

5. **Asceticism is a value system that uses the pursuit of pleasure as its guiding principle.**
a True
b False

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Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-2-05
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: b. False

6. **Sexual practices such as bestiality, sadism, or incest are recent historical developments, unknown in the ancient world.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-2-06
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: b. False

7. **In the cultures of the Far East, sexuality was akin to spirituality.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-2-07
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Remember the Facts
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: a. True

8. **Sigmund Freud used the term *erogenous zones* to describe his idea that many parts of the body are responsive to sexual stimulation.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-2-08
Topic: Scientific Perspectives on Human Sexuality
Skill: Remember the Facts
Objective: LO 1.4 Discuss scientific ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: a. True

9. **Heteronormativity is the assumption that heterosexuality is normal and superior to homosexuality.**
a True
b False

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Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-2-09
Topic: Scientific Perspectives on Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.4 Discuss scientific ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: a. True

10. **One of the goals of the science of human sexuality is to tell people how they ought to behave.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-2-10
Topic: Research Methods in Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.5 Explain the steps in the scientific method and how they are applied in research methods.
Answer: b. False

11. **Selecting an appropriate sample to study from a population contributes to the generalizability of any results that might be obtained.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-2-11
Topic: Research Methods in Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.5 Explain the steps in the scientific method and how they are applied in research methods.
Answer: a. True

12. **The research technique of naturalistic observation is sometimes also called participant observation.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-2-12
Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: b. False

13. **A vaginal plethysmograph measures the seeping of moisture through the vaginal walls.**
a True
b False

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Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-2-13
Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: a. True

14. **A positive correlation between two variables indicate that the variables are causally related.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-2-14
Topic: Correlational and Experimental Research
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.7 Explain the correlational method, experimental research, and the ethical concerns that govern the ways in which professionals interact with research participants and clients in treatment.
Answer: b. False

15. **People must give their informed consent before participating in a research study.**
a True
b False

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-2-15
Topic: Correlational and Experimental Research
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.7 Explain the correlational method, experimental research, and the ethical concerns that govern the ways in which professionals interact with research participants and clients in treatment.
Answer: a. True

Short Answer Questions

1. **Distinguish between the terms *sex* and *gender* as researchers often use them.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-3-01
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: Many researchers reserve the word *sex* for reference to anatomic or biological categories and prefer the word *gender* when they are referring to social or cultural categories. For example, one might say that reproductive anatomy appears to depend on the *anatomic sex* of the individual, and in so-called traditional societies, *gender* is often seen as applying to polar opposite categories (women versus men).

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2. **Briefly describe how an anthropologist might approach the study of human sexuality, compared to a researcher in some other discipline of your choice (e.g., psychology, sociology, biology).**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-3-02
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: Answers will vary, but should focus on applying a general knowledge of the disciplines to the subject matter. For example, an anthropologist might be interested in mating rituals or rites of passage related to sexuality, a psychologist might focus on the thoughts and emotions that motivate sexual behavior, whereas a sociologist might be interested in how urbanization affects the availability of potential sex partners. A biologist would likely be interested in the anatomical and physiological aspects of sexual behavior.

3. **There are many value systems that people can draw from regarding sexual decision making. Choose any two of these and describe its basic tenets, along with providing an example: Legalism, situational ethics, relativism, hedonism, asceticism, utilitarianism, rationalism.**

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-3-03
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: Answers will vary, but should reflect correctly identifying the underlying principles of each system, and supplying an example that illustrates those principles.

4. **Explain why critical thinkers are leery of taking the word of an authority figure, and discuss which standard they adhere to instead.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-3-04
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: Most people tend to assume that authority figures such as doctors and government officials provide factual information and are qualified to make decisions that affect people's lives. But when authority figures disagree, how can both be correct? Critical thinkers never say that something is true because an authority figure says it is true. They demand relevant evidence that supports the claims or conclusions being made.

5. **What evidence is there that people living during the Stone Age period were marginally aware of human reproductive processes?**

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-3-05
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts

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Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: Art produced in the Stone Age suggests the worship of women's ability to bear children and perpetuate the species. Primitive statues and cave drawings portray women with large, pendulous breasts, rounded hips, and prominent sex organs. Most theorists regard the figurines as fertility symbols. Stone Age people may have been unaware of the male's contribution to reproduction.

6. **Identify two sexual terms that are derived from Latin roots that would have been familiar to people living in ancient Rome.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-3-06
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: Any two of these terms are sufficient: Fellatio derives from the Latin *fellare,* meaning "to suck." Cunnilingus derives from *cunnus,* meaning "vulva," and *lingere,* "to lick." Fornication derives from *fornix,* an arch or vault. The term stems from some Roman sex workers' practice of serving their customers in the shadows of archways near public buildings such as stadiums and theaters.

7. **Briefly discuss some of the factors that contributed to the sexual revolution from the mid-1960s to the mid-1970s.**

QuestionID: 01-3-07
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: The sexual revolution gained momentum from a timely interplay of scientific, social, political, and economic forces. The war (in Vietnam), the bomb (fear of the nuclear bomb), the pill (the introduction of the birth control pill), and the mass media (especially television) were four such forces. Pop psychology movements, such as the Human Potential Movement of the 1960s and 1970s, spread the message that people should get in touch with and express their genuine feelings, including their sexual feelings.

8. **Explain how dream symbolism might reveal sexual ideas and impulses, according to Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic perspective.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-3-08
Topic: Scientific Perspectives on Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.4 Discuss scientific ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: Although many sexual ideas and impulses are banished to the unconscious, they continue to seek expression. One avenue of expression is the dream, through which sexual impulses may be perceived in disguised, or symbolic, form. The therapists and scholars who follow in the Freudian tradition are quite interested in analyzing dreams, and interpreting symbols for sex organs or sexual intercourse, such as tunnels, rockets, knives, jars, climbing a staircase, crossing a bridge, and so on. However, this view has not been supported by research evidence.

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9. **Summarize some of the notions that feminist theory seeks to challenge.**

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-3-09
Topic: Scientific Perspectives on Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.4 Discuss scientific ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: Among other things, feminist theory challenges:
- Traditional views of men as breadwinners and women as homemakers
- Traditional views of men as political policymakers, especially because those policies affect women and children
- Traditional views of men as sexual "aggressors" and women as sexual "gatekeepers"
- Traditional gender roles that view men as objective and rational, and women as emotional and irrational

10. **Contrast populations and samples, and describe how they are involved in the research process.**

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-3-10
Topic: Research Methods in Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.5 Explain the steps in the scientific method and how they are applied in research methods.
Answer: Researchers seek to learn about populations—complete groups of people, animals, or events. Because of the difficulty in studying all members of a population, scientists select individuals from the population and study them. The individuals who participate in research are said to compose a sample. However, that sample must represent the target population. Researchers use random samples, when possible, because every member of the target population has an equal chance of participating.

11. **What are some limitations associated with the case-study method?**

Difficulty: Easy
QuestionID: 01-3-11
Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: Despite the richness of material that may be derived from case studies, they are not as rigorous a research design as an experiment. People often have gaps in memory, especially concerning childhood events. There is also the potential of observer bias; that is, clinicians and interviewers may unintentionally guide people into saying what they expect to hear.

12. **Why must ethnographers be concerned about how their presence might affect the behavior of the people they observe?**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-3-12
Topic: Methods of Observation

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Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: An ethnographer who studies a particular culture or subgroup within a culture tries to do so unobtrusively, so as not to alter the behavior of the members of the group by focusing their attention on it. Falling prey to social desirability, some people may present themselves in the best light while the ethnographer is present. Other people may try to impress the ethnographer by acting in ways that are more aggressive or sexually provocative than usual. In either case, people supply distorted information.

13. **Explain how a penile strain gauge and a vaginal plethysmograph work.**

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-3-13
Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: A penile strain gauge measures sexual arousal in the male genitals. A vaginal plethysmograph provides an objective measure of female sexual arousal. Both instruments directly measure vasocongestion (blood flow to the genitals), myotonia (muscle tension), and other physiological responses.

14. **Explain why establishing a correlation between two variables does not reveal the causal relationship associated with those variables.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-3-14
Topic: Correlational and Experimental Research
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.7 Explain the correlational method, experimental research, and the ethical concerns that govern the ways in which professionals interact with research participants and clients in treatment.
Answer: Any correlation has three possible explanations: (1) It could be that changes in the first variable are responsible for causing changes in the second variable; (2) It could be that changes in the second variable are responsible for causing changes in the first variable, or; (3) It could be that some third variable—unknown, unmeasured, or unaccounted for—is actually responsible for causing changes in both of the other two.

15. **Explain what the principle of informed consent requires in the research process.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-3-15
Topic: Correlational and Experimental Research
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.7 Explain the correlational method, experimental research, and the ethical concerns that govern the ways in which professionals interact with research participants and clients in treatment.
Answer: The principle of informed consent requires that people freely agree to participate after being given enough information about the procedures and purposes of the research, and its risks and benefits, to make an informed decision. After the study has begun, participants must be free to withdraw at any time without penalty.

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Essay Questions

1. **Discuss some of the difficulties in defining a simple word like *sex*. What are the multiple meanings and connotations that this word has?**

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-4-01
Topic: The Science of Human Sexuality
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.1 Define the science of human sexuality.
Answer: One use of the term *sex* refers to our anatomic sex, female, male, or intersex. The words *sex* or *sexual* are also used to refer to anatomic structures called *sex organs* or *sexual organs*, which play roles in reproduction and sexual pleasure. We may also speak of sex when referring to physical activities involving our sex organs for purposes of reproduction or pleasure, as in *having sex*. Sex also relates to erotic feelings, experiences, or desires, such as sexual fantasies and thoughts, sexual urges, or feelings of sexual attraction.

2. **Explain how hedonism and asceticism represent opposing views regarding sexual decision making.**

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-4-02
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: Hedonism is the view that the pursuit of pleasure should be the primary (or sole) guide to behavior. Hedonists might argue that, like hunger or thirst, sexual desires do not involve moral considerations, and only involve a decision to seek and attain sexual gratification or not. In contrast, asceticism promotes the view that a person should deny sexual desires in order to focus on greater devotion to spiritual pursuits. An ascetic would seek to transcend physical and worldly desires, and likely see sexual activity as a distraction from attaining that transcendence. The opposition, then, is that one approach (hedonism) focuses on gratification without much deliberation, whereas the other approach (asceticism) focuses on deliberate action to avoid gratification.

3. **Do you think there is a "right" value system that people should consult when making sexual decisions? Why or why not? Can the members of a pluralistic society ever agree on such a value system?**

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-4-03
Topic: Sexuality and Values
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.2 Define the value systems people use in sexual decision making.
Answer: Answers will vary, but should show evidence of critical thinking and a reasoned response. For example, answering "Yes…yes I do" is insufficient! Rather, responses might note that what seems "right" for some people may simultaneously be seen as "horribly wrong" for others, and how that is the cost of living in a pluralistic society. By definition, pluralism means that there will be many differing opinions and attitudes about a variety of subjects, so insisting that any one viewpoint on any given subject is the "correct" one is an exercise in futility at best, and a badgering of dissenters at worst.

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4. **Discuss the three aspects of sexuality in ancient Greece that are of particular interest to historians of sex.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-4-04
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Understand the Concepts
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: Three aspects of Greek sexuality are of particular interest to the study of sexual practices in the ancient world: male–male sexual behavior, pederasty, and sex work. The Greeks viewed males as bisexual. Male–male sex was deemed normal and tolerated so long as it did not threaten the institution of the family. Pederasty refers to a sexual relationship between a man and a male youth. Sex between men and prepubescent boys was illegal, but families were generally pleased if their adolescent sons attracted socially prominent mentors. Sex work flourished at every level of society in ancient Greece. Sex workers ranged from refined courtesans to concubines, who were usually enslaved women. Courtesans could play musical instruments, dance, engage in witty repartee, and discuss politics. They were also skilled in the arts of love. No social stigma was attached to visiting a courtesan. At the lower rungs of society were sex workers on the street and in brothels.

5. **Describe the work of Havelock Ellis and Richard von Krafft-Ebing as pioneers in the study of human sexuality.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-4-05
Topic: The Historical Perspective on Human Sexuality
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.3 Discuss historical ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: The English physician Havelock Ellis published a veritable encyclopedia of sexuality between 1897 and 1910, *Studies in the Psychology of Sex.* Ellis drew information from case histories, anthropological findings, and medical knowledge. He argued that sexual desires in women were natural and healthy. He wrote that many sexual problems had psychological rather than physical causes. Ellis saw gay male and lesbian sexual orientations as inborn dispositions, natural variations in sexual orientation, and not as vices, aberrations, or character flaws. The German psychiatrist Richard von Krafft-Ebing described case histories of people with sexual deviations in his book, *Psychopathia Sexualis*, published in 1886. Cases included sadomasochism (sexual gratification through inflicting or receiving pain), bestiality, and necrophilia (intercourse with dead people). Krafft-Ebing viewed deviations as mental diseases that could be studied and perhaps treated by medical science.

6. **Using a few sentences each, briefly summarize any three of the scientific perspectives on human sexuality. Do you think any one of the perspectives you've selected has priority over the others, either in terms of explanatory power, applicability, soundness of the research, and so on? Why or why not?**

Difficulty: Difficult
QuestionID: 01-4-06
Topic: Scientific Perspectives on Human Sexuality

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Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.4 Discuss scientific ways of looking at human sexuality.
Answer: Answers will vary, but should draw on ideas such as these:
Biological: Study of the biology of sex informs us about the mechanisms of reproduction as well as of the mechanisms of sexual arousal and response.

Evolutionary: Species vary not only in their physical characteristics but also in their social behavior, including their mating behavior. Scientists look to evolution to help explain such variability.

Cross-Species: In an endeavor to discover what kinds of sexual behaviors are "natural," scientists have looked to the sexual behavior of other animal species.

Sociological: Sociologists consider the behavior of humans by socioeconomic status, level of education, sex (male, female, or intersex), race and ethnicity, and age.

Psychological: Psychological perspectives focus on the psychological influences—those involving perception, learning, motivation, emotion, personality, and so on—that affect our sexual attraction and behavior.

Feminist Theory: Feminist theory focuses on the subordination of women to men; analyzing the relationships among sexism, heterosexism (prejudice or discrimination against sexual minority individuals), racism, and class oppression; and exploring means of resistance on individual and societal levels.

Queer Theory: Queer theory challenges heteronormativity, the assumptions that heterosexuality is normal and superior to homosexuality.

7. **Summarize the steps in the scientific method, and explain how they would be applied to a research question related to human sexuality.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-4-07
Topic: Research Methods in Human Sexuality
Skill: Apply What You Know
Objective: LO 1.5 Explain the steps in the scientific method and how they are applied in research methods.
Answer: There are four basic steps to "doing science": (1) formulating a research question, (2) framing the research question in the form of a hypothesis, (3) testing the hypothesis, and (4) drawing conclusions. Each of these steps involves a series of choices, and those choices in part determine what happens in all the other steps. For example, the way a research question is posed is likely to affect how a hypothesis is formed, which in turn affects how variables get operationalized, which in turn affects the methods (experimentation, survey, participant observation, etc.) that are used, which in turn can affect how outcomes are interpreted, which in turn can affect how the next research question is formulated, and so on. There are many possible applications of this scientific process to the study of human sexuality.

8. **Discuss some of the limitations of the survey method as a means to collect data regarding human sexuality, highlighting the potential methodological flaws that can color interpretation of the results.**

Difficulty: Difficult

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QuestionID: 01-4-08
Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Analyze It
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: Surveys are often used in research on human sexuality with the assumption that they can generate a large amount of data without some of the restrictions found in other methods. For example, experimentation could potentially involve serious ethical dilemmas, if a control group was required to not have sexual relations for some period of time, whereas an experimental group was required to have sexual relations. Participant observation could raise legal problems, as could ethnographic observation. However, surveys are not without their limitations. For example, the collection of a sample to survey in the first place could be biased. Unless a random sample of the population is collected, volunteer bias remains a possibility (and in fact is still a possibility, even with a random sample of participants). The way in which survey questions are phrased can be problematic, leading to socially desirable responding or outright fabrication of responses. Memory lapses can occur. Surveys often ask people to retrospectively report on events that happened in the near or far past, and recalling those events accurately cannot be assured. If the survey is conducted in a face-to-face setting (as opposed to paper-and-pencil), the behavior of the interviewer can affect the participants' responses. These and other considerations can affect both the reliability and validity of survey results, and should be anticipated by researchers and avoided to the greatest extent possible.

9. **Summarize the distinctions between various "observation" methods: Naturalistic, ethnographic, participant, and laboratory. What are the hallmarks of each approach?**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-4-09
Topic: Methods of Observation
Skill: Moderate
Objective: LO 1.6 Describe methods of observation, including the case-study method, the survey, naturalistic observation, ethnographic observation, participant observation, and laboratory observation.
Answer: In naturalistic observation, also called the field study, scientists unobtrusively directly observe the behavior of animals and humans where it happens. For example, biologists might observe the behavior of animals in the wild, sociologists might observe the street life of sex workers, and psychologists might observe patterns of body language in romantic couples. Ethnographic observation provides data concerning sexual behaviors and customs that occur among various ethnic groups—those that vary widely across cultures and those that are limited to one or few cultures. Anthropologists are the specialists who typically engage in ethnographic research. In participant observation, investigators learn about people's behavior by directly interacting with them. Rather than study individuals in their natural settings, laboratory observation brings them into the laboratory, where their behavior can be more carefully monitored.

10. **Summarize the role of independent variables, dependent variables, experimental groups, and control groups in the design of an experiment.**

Difficulty: Moderate
QuestionID: 01-4-10
Topic: Correlational and Experimental Research
Skill: Analyze It

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Objective: LO 1.7 Explain the correlational method, experimental research, and the ethical concerns that govern the ways in which professionals interact with research participants and clients in treatment.
Answer: Experimentation is the only research method that provides the possibility of reaching conclusions about causality. To do so, several elements must be in place. For example, an independent variable needs to be manipulated, which means that one group receives some kind of treatment (determined by the experimenter) while another group does not. The group that receives the treatment is called the experimental group. The group that receives no treatment is called the control group, or sometimes it is called the comparison group. In this manner the outcomes of the experimental group can be compared to those of the control group to see if there is a difference that might be attributable to the independent variable. These outcomes are known as the dependent variable; measures that "depend" on the effects of the independent variables.

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