Sociology Compass for a New Social World (Canadian) 7th edition Brym Test Bank

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Name:_____ Class:_____ Date:_____

CHAPTER 1 - A SOCIOLOGICAL COMPASS

1. According to the text, which of the following is a major issue of our time that sociologists should study?
   a. the Industrial Revolution b. globalization
   c. the Informational Revolution d. identity

ANSWER: b

2. Harpreet is studying how the shift in employment from manual manufacturing work to non-manual office work affects families and gender relations. What major social process does this subject illustrate?
   a. the Technological Revolution b. the Globalization Revolution
   c. the Industrial Revolution d. the Postindustrial Revolution

ANSWER: d

3. According to the text, what does sociology ultimately offer for the resolution of challenges faced by society?
   a. clear solutions for addressing our social problems
   b. scientific explanations of social issues
   c. a pessimistic perspective of social concerns
   d. useful ways of understanding current social affairs

ANSWER: d

4. Raj would like a job where he can work with people and create positive social change. According to the text, which of the following fields should he get a degree in?
   a. political science b. sociology
   c. biology d. women's studies

ANSWER: b

5. According to the text, what is the main factor driving the transformation from industrial to postindustrial societies?
   a. democracy b. decreasing natural resources
   c. equality d. technology

ANSWER: d

6. What kind of conflict emerges from the stories of conquest that the author was exposed to in school and stories of the Gluskap that he also heard during childhood?
   a. Progress is often costly to relationships between humans and between humans and the environment.
   b. Progress is exciting and harmony between humans is less important than harmony between humans and the environment.
   c. Harmony between humans is important and conquest is unimportant.
   d. The benefits of conquest justifies all the damage it does to harmony between humans.

ANSWER: a

7. After her first sociology class, Adele excitedly told her best friend Erin that she was looking forward to a school year of "mapping the social world." When Erin asked her why she would want to do such a thing, what would Adele reply?
   a. It allows us to find our geographical place in the new world.
   b. It allows us to understand ourselves within a larger social context.
   c. It allows us to forge relationships between ourselves and other people.
   d. It allows us to understand how people navigated in past explorations of the world.

ANSWER: b

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8. Attending university on a football scholarship, Brayton was teased by his teammates for electing to take a sociology class. What reason would Brayton most likely offer when they taunted him about his choice?

a. It helps me to understand the past.
b. The course makes the past come alive for me.
c. What I learn in class will help me to create the best possible future.
d. Sociology helps me to understand the relationship between humans and nature.

ANSWER: c

9. Why did Durkheim's contemporaries overlook social forces as possible causes of suicide?

a. because suicide was rare
b. because instances of suicide were concealed and their numbers were unknown
c. because there can be no social reasons for carrying out such an individual act
d. because suicide was considered an individual act of desperation, often resulting from a psychological disorder

ANSWER: d

10. What did Durkheim's nineteenth-century study of suicide in France demonstrate?

a. that suicide was mainly carried out by desperate people
b. that suicide was influenced mainly by people's level of psychological distress
c. that suicide was related to an individual's level of integration into society
d. that suicide was caused by a high level of confusion among people who belonged to several social networks at once

ANSWER: c

11. According to Durkheim, which type of suicide is most likely to occur in a society having vague norms or few shared norms?

a. altruistic suicide b. anomic suicide
c. egoistic suicide d. nomadic suicide

ANSWER: b

12. Following the COVID-19 lockdown, Christian is disheartened by the increase in suicide rates reported by a Canadian newspaper. Adopting a Durkheimian perspective, what would Christian argue to be a major contributor to the upsurge?

a. a diminishing of social bonds
b. a lack of social control
c. the economic inequality throughout society
d. inadequate mental health funding

ANSWER: a

13. According to Durkheim's research, when are persons more likely to commit altruistic suicide?

a. when they are Catholics
b. when they are in the military
c. during times of sudden economic change
d. when living in a society that lacks a shared code of morality

ANSWER: b

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14. Carla has many friends, is well-liked in her workplace, and is an active member of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). What would you accurately conclude about Carla?

a. She has a high level of integration.
b. She has a low religious affiliation.
c. She is in a high risk for suicide category.
d. She is relatively wealthy.

ANSWER: a

15. Evelyn is a 78-year-old woman whose husband died last year. She spends most of her days alone because many of her friends are either ill or have died and her children are too busy to visit her. Evelyn has decided to commit suicide because she cannot stand being lonely anymore. According to Durkheim, what kind of suicide is Evelyn contemplating?

a. egoistic suicide
b. altruistic suicide
c. anomic suicide
d. fatalistic suicide

ANSWER: a

16. Which of the following findings is common to both suicide rates in Canada today and those found by Durkheim a century ago?

a. Men are much more likely to commit suicide than women.
b. Women are much more likely to commit suicide than men.
c. Suicide among youth is so rare as to be almost non-existent.
d. Suicide among people aged 85 and over is so rare as to be almost non-existent.

ANSWER: a

17. According to the text, why are suicide rates among the Innu of Labrador among the highest in the world?

a. The Innu are a nomadic people who rely upon hunting and trapping.
b. Government assistance in the forms of welfare and education was cut back.
c. Most Innu youth are engaged in sniffing gasoline and abusing alcohol to get high.
d. The Innu's traditional lands, practices, norms, and values have been destroyed.

ANSWER: d

18. For her final sociology research paper, Omolewa is comparing the suicide rates of nineteenth-century France with present day suicide rates in Canada. Which of the following will she find and report?

a. Youth suicide rates are higher in Canada today.
b. Youth suicide rates are lower in Canada today.
c. Suicide rates of women are lower in Canada today.
d. Suicide rates of men are lower in Canada today.

ANSWER: a

19. Emmett believes that he should make the money and control the finances while his wife should raise the children and clean the house. By which of the following macrostructures are Emmett's views most likely to be influenced?

a. globalization
b. patriarchy
c. class conflict
d. capitalist economy

ANSWER: b

20. Jessica wishes to live and work overseas after getting her university degree. She is trying to determine which areas of expertise are likely to be in demand in the parts of the world she is interested in. What should she study in order to get information that is likely to be useful in her planning?

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a. global structures b. macrostructures
c. mesostructures d. microstructures

ANSWER: a

21. Which term refers to social relations that are stable and patterned?
a. sociological maps b. social forces
c. social solidarity d. social structures

ANSWER: d

22. Which theorist developed the idea of a sociological imagination?
a. C. Wright Mills b. Émile Durkheim
c. Karl Marx d. Auguste Comte

ANSWER: a

23. Which term refers to the ability to make connections between one's personal troubles and the social context that they occur within?
a. global structural analysis b. macrosocial theory
c. sociological imagination d. sociological compass

ANSWER: c

24. Allyson is trying to make her heartbroken friend Linda feel better about her impending divorce. Allyson explains that many people get divorced, because women have more economic options today than in the past. What is Allyson using to explain Linda's situation?
a. sociological mapping b. sociological imagination
c. structural investigation d. global structural analysis

ANSWER: b

25. Darryl has just been laid off after 30 years working in the auto industry, and he knows that his layoff was due to the company moving its manufacturing plant to Cambodia. What has Darryl used to better understand his situation?
a. sociological imagination b. social forces
c. social structural analysis d. structural transformation theory

ANSWER: a

26. Which revolution put forth the idea that humans can intervene in and shape society?
a. Industrial Revolution b. Scientific Revolution
c. Sociological Revolution d. Democratic Revolution

ANSWER: d

27. Which revolution prompted the development of sociology by causing a large number of social problems that the social and political thought of the time could neither understand nor solve?
a. Industrial Revolution b. Scientific Revolution
c. Sociological Revolution d. Democratic Revolution

ANSWER: a

28. Which revolution put forth the idea that conclusions should be based on evidence and not on speculation?

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a. Industrial Revolution b. Scientific Revolution
c. Sociological Revolution d. Democratic Revolution

ANSWER: b

29. Which theorist is responsible for calling the scientific study of society "sociology"?
a. C. Wright Mills b. Karl Marx
c. Auguste Comte d. Herbert Spencer

ANSWER: c

30. Donald justifies his privilege and that of his wealthy friends by saying it was the consequence of their hard work and superior skills. This belief is consistent with which of the following ideas?
a. sociological imagination b. Darwinian evolution
c. Democratic Revolution d. social Darwinism

ANSWER: d

31. "Survival of the fittest" is a concept most closely associated with which theorist's work?
a. Auguste Comte b. Herbert Spencer
c. Karl Marx d. Max Weber

ANSWER: b

32. Which important characteristic do the works of Marx, Durkheim, and Weber share?
a. a good theoretical explanation of Postindustrial Revolution
b. use of class conflict to explain historic changes
c. understanding that societies are similar to biological systems
d. suggesting ways to improve people's lives

ANSWER: d

33. Adrian states that children who have a close bond with their parents are less likely to engage in drug use and vandalism because they feel more closely tied to mainstream norms that discourage this type of behaviour. Which of the following is Adrian engaging in?
a. research b. theorizing
c. sociological imaginings d. scientific investigation

ANSWER: b

34. Tanya is interested in the way people behave in public spaces. She spends one hour every day for a week at her office building riding the elevator, observing people's behaviour, and making notes. What type of scientific activity is Tanya engaging in?
a. speculating b. theorizing
c. research d. evaluating

ANSWER: c

35. Dallin thinks that more funding should be spent on researching alternatives to fossil fuel. According to the text, what likely drives his opinions about what funding should be spent on?
a. personal values b. the sociological imagination
c. microstructural analysis d. interpersonal conflict

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ANSWER: a

36. Why would a sociological theory be referred to as tentative?
a. Some theorists are biased and fake their evidence.
b. Further research could make the theory invalid.
c. Many theories are based on overgeneralizations.
d. Subjectivity and bias are a big problem in theorizing.

ANSWER: b

37. According to the text, which theory has arisen in recent decades to correct some omissions in earlier sociological theories?
a. functionalism b. feminist theory
c. conflict theory d. symbolic interactionism

ANSWER: b

38. A feminist sociologist's interest in researching the sex trade may stem from thinking about female exploitation in a patriarchal society. In this case, which term reflects his motivation for choosing this topic?
a. values b. beliefs
c. theories d. prejudices

ANSWER: a

39. Which of the following is a tentative explanation of some aspect of social life that states how and why certain facts are related?
a. a theory b. a null hypothesis
c. a sociological assertion d. a research proposition

ANSWER: a

40. Who is historically associated with the development of functionalism?
a. Karl Marx b. Émile Durkheim
c. Max Weber d. Harriet Martineau

ANSWER: b

41. Which theory is characterized by the study of macrostructures, shared values, and a focus on societal equilibrium?
a. functionalism b. conflict theory
c. symbolic interactionism d. feminism

ANSWER: a

42. Jonah is researching the ways that the public education system has taken on the work of educating children that families and religious groups used to do. Which theoretical tradition is he most likely following in his research?
a. feminism b. conflict theory
c. symbolic interactionism d. functionalism

ANSWER: d

43. Michelle believes that prostitution is beneficial for society because it provides people with outlets for sexual gratification that they might not have otherwise. Which of the following theories is her idea most closely aligned with?

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a. symbolic interactionism b. functionalism
c. conflict theory d. feminism

ANSWER: b

44. When there is great social upheaval, people are often attracted to theories that focus on restoring social harmony. Which theory is likely to be most popular in such a situation?

a. feminism b. conflict theory
c. functionalism d. symbolic interactionism

ANSWER: c

45. Zoë is interested in studying the ways that family socialization contributes to social harmony. Whose work is most closely aligned to her interests?

a. C. Wright Mills b. Herbert Spencer
c. Talcott Parsons d. Max Weber

ANSWER: c

46. Amandev has noticed that while universities are places where people learn specific skills that prepare them for the world of employment, they are also excellent places for meeting one's future mate. Whose work is he using in identifying these differing functions?

a. Talcott Parsons b. Erving Goffman
c. George Herbert Mead d. Robert Merton

ANSWER: d

47. Massimo has noticed that while universities are places where people learn specific skills that prepare them for the world of employment, they are also excellent places for meeting one's future mate. Which term best characterizes the "marriage market" role of the university?

a. evolutionary advantage b. evolutionary disadvantage
c. overt function d. latent function

ANSWER: d

48. The fact that many people meet their future mate in university would be seen by functionalists as an example of which of the following?

a. a primary function b. a manifest function
c. a latent function d. a dysfunction

ANSWER: c

49. Which term best describes how Robert Merton would characterize the issue of bullying in schools?

a. dysfunctional b. manifest function
c. latent function d. contributing function

ANSWER: a

50. Functionalism was criticized for exaggerating the degree of consensus that people in a society share. Which theorist then proposed that social structures may have different impacts on different groups of people?

a. Robert Merton b. Erving Goffman
c. Talcott Parsons d. George Herbert Mead

ANSWER: a

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51. Which theorist is best known in North America for identifying how various societal institutions work together to create a smoothly running society?

a. Robert Merton b. Erving Goffman

c. Talcott Parsons d. George Herbert Mead

ANSWER: c

52. What is the functionalist term for the disruptive impact that social structures can sometimes have on a group of people?

a. social disequilibrium b. manifest function

c. latent function d. dysfunction

ANSWER: d

53. Which theory focuses on inequalities between social classes, struggles for power, and the resulting social change?

a. functionalism b. symbolic interactionism

c. conflict theory d. feminism

ANSWER: c

54. Which theorist is responsible for the development of conflict theory?

a. Karl Marx b. Émile Durkheim

c. Herbert Spencer d. Max Weber

ANSWER: a

55. Which of the following is a central concept of conflict theory?

a. ethnic conflict b. gender conflict

c. cultural conflict d. class conflict

ANSWER: d

56. The International Labour Organization (ILO) lobbies, sponsors research, and conducts negotiations with employers to improve workers' life conditions. Which term best characterizes the ILO's work?

a. Protestant ethic b. class consciousness

c. false consciousness d. *Verstehen*

ANSWER: b

57. Which theorist found flaws in the argument that capitalism would inevitably collapse?

a. Karl Marx b. Émile Durkheim

c. Herbert Spencer d. Max Weber

ANSWER: d

58. Phoenix believes that class conflict is not the only force that drives social change, but that religion and politics also create change. Whose theoretical works is Phoenix most closely aligned with?

a. Karl Marx b. Talcott Parsons

c. Max Weber d. Émile Durkheim

ANSWER: c

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59. Workers today can access employment insurance benefits, and they enjoy higher wages and less oppressive working conditions than workers in earlier centuries. What has resulted from this situation?

a. a critique of the inevitability of a worker revolution
b. a critique of the inevitability of a capitalist society
c. a critique of communism
d. a critique of capitalism

ANSWER: a

60. According to the text, which of the following theorists has been one of the most prominent supporters of conflict theory in North America?

a. Erving Goffman b. Talcott Parsons
c. Robert Merton d. C. Wright Mills

ANSWER: d

61. What was the main research finding of the book *The Power Elite*?

a. Power is spread evenly between various classes in American society.
b. Power is highly concentrated in American society.
c. American military elite has a decisive influence over its economy.
d. American business elite has a decisive influence over its military decisions.

ANSWER: b

62. According to the text, many contemporary leading sociologists attended graduate school in the 1960s and 1970s. Considering this fact, which theoretical perspective are they most likely to subscribe to?

a. functionalism b. conflict theory
c. symbolic interactionism d. queer theory

ANSWER: b

63. Gramsci wrote that in pre-industrial societies the powerful controlled populations mostly by force. According to Gramsci, what mechanism of control has largely replaced force after the Industrial Revolution?

a. economic domination b. cultural hegemony
c. class consciousness d. imperialism

ANSWER: b

64. Which sociologist is famous for the work titled *The Vertical Mosaic*?

a. John Porter b. Erving Goffman
c. Margrit Eichler d. S.D. Clark

ANSWER: a

65. Soon-Li believes that society should change for the better by equalizing privileges between the wealthy and the poor. Which theoretical tradition is she most likely following?

a. conflict theory b. symbolic interactionism
c. feminist theory d. functionalism

ANSWER: a

66. Awan is analyzing social change throughout history using the perspective of Karl Marx. What will be the focus of

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Awan's research?

a. racial discrimination b. scientific discoveries
c. war and conquest d. class conflict

ANSWER: d

67. In a class discussion, Taylor argues that gender is not an innate characteristic, but rather something that is performed because of social conditions. Which perspective has Taylor adopted?

a. feminist b. social constructionist
c. functionalist d. metrosexualist

ANSWER: b

68. Priya is interested in studying the ways that family socialization contributes to formation of its members' identities. Whose work is most closely aligned her interests?

a. C. Wright Mills b. George Herbert Mead
c. Talcott Parsons d. Max Weber

ANSWER: b

69. The belief that hard work, thrift, and humility would result in "grace" in God's kingdom is central to which of the following concepts?

a. the sociological imagination b. patriarchy
c. the Protestant ethic d. *Verstehen*

ANSWER: c

70. What did Max Weber believe fuelled capitalism?

a. technological development b. the Protestant ethic
c. the power elite d. class consciousness

ANSWER: b

71. In her research study, Tabitha is trying to understand the meanings her interviewees place on various types of new cell phone applications by putting herself in their situations and using the same applications. What would Weber call the research methodology Tabitha is employing?

a. *Verstehen* b. structural analysis
c. functionalism d. class consciousness

ANSWER: a

72. Which theorist made important contributions to both conflict theory and symbolic interactionism?

a. C. Wright Mills b. Robert Merton
c. Max Weber d. George Herbert Mead

ANSWER: c

73. The North American cultural focus on individualism contributed to the development of which of the following theories linking the individual to society?

a. functionalism b. feminism
c. conflict theory d. symbolic interactionism

ANSWER: d

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74. Which theory emphasizes that humans have agency and can influence their own destinies?
a. conflict theory b. social Darwinism
c. symbolic interactionism d. functionalism
ANSWER: c

75. Which theory focuses on subjectivity, interpersonal relationships, and human agency?
a. conflict theory b. functionalism
c. queer theory d. symbolic interactionism
ANSWER: d

76. Which influential symbolic interactionist compared social interaction to a carefully staged play?
a. Talcott Parsons b. George Herbert Mead
c. Michel Foucault d. Erving Goffman
ANSWER: d

77. Which important characteristic do symbolic interactionism and queer theory have in common?
a. They focus on macrosocial structures.
b. They sometimes validate unusual and unpopular viewpoints.
c. They consider *Verstehen* irrelevant to sociological explanation.
d. They consider patriarchy more important than class inequality.
ANSWER: b

78. According to the text, which of the following theories is a variation of symbolic interactionism?
a. feminist theory b. queer theory
c. postmodernism d. social constructionism
ANSWER: d

79. Maya believes that although people's food preferences seem natural and innate, they are really prescribed by cultural norms. Which theory is her belief most consistent with?
a. feminism b. queer theory
c. social constructionism d. conflict theory
ANSWER: c

80. Freja believes that there is immense variability in gender identities and performances. Which theory is her argument most consistent with?
a. feminism b. queer theory
c. social constructionism d. conflict theory
ANSWER: b

81. According to the text, which theory is responsible for increasing tolerance for alternate or minority viewpoints?
a. feminist theory b. social Darwinism
c. postmodernism d. symbolic interactionism
ANSWER: d

82. According to the text, why were there so few early female sociologists?

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a. Because very few women were interested in sociology before the women's movement of the 1960s.
b. Because women did not have access to, or widespread opportunities to engage in, higher education.
c. Because women were primarily interested in family life and devoted their energies to it.
d. Because women were far more likely to be engaged in social and educational activism and reform.

ANSWER: b

83. According to the text, what is a major concern of feminist sociologists?
a. local social structures b. global social structures
c. patriarchy d. matriarchy

ANSWER: c

84. Who is considered the first female sociologist and one of the first feminists?
a. Margrit Eichler b. Dorothy Smith
c. Jane Addams d. Harriet Martineau

ANSWER: d

85. Which sociologist received the 1931 Nobel Peace Prize for work with the poor in Chicago?
a. Jane Addams b. Talcott Parsons
c. Wright Mills d. George Herbert Mead

ANSWER: a

86. Which theory is characterized by social activism, and a focus on patriarchy and on structures of social, political, and economic power?
a. conflict theory b. feminist theory
c. queer theory d. postmodernism

ANSWER: b

87. In order to fully understand domestic violence, Reilly believes that one must look at the interactions between members of heterosexual couples and at the overarching gender ideology of the society. Which theoretical framework is Reilly's belief most consistent with?
a. symbolic interactionism b. feminist theory
c. queer theory d. social constructionism

ANSWER: b

88. In 1969, the Canadian government passed a bill which legalized homosexual acts between consenting adults. What else was included in this legislation?
a. the birth control pill b. abortion on demand
c. same-sex marriage d. recognition of common-law status

ANSWER: a

89. The belief that hookups are nothing more than a new form of male heterosexual domination is a feature of which type of analysis?
a. functionalist b. conflict theory
c. symbolic interactionist d. feminist

ANSWER: d

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90. In his recently published journal article, Randall outlined how his research participants adopted a somewhat new identity in their online communications, demonstrating that one's identity can be more readily modified and performed due to the anonymity provided by online platforms. This finding is consistent with which theory?

a. functionalist b. conflict theory
c. symbolic interactionist d. feminist

ANSWER: c

91. When asked for her opinion of online dating sites, Karyn said that they were a boon to society in how they foster interactions and relationships across racial lines. Which theoretical perspective aligns with Karyn's opinion?

a. functionalist b. conflict theory
c. symbolic interactionist d. feminist

ANSWER: a

92. In recent years, the likelihood that Canadian females would pursue a university degree has been increasing. Which of the characteristics of contemporary society does this illustrate?

a. the increasing inequality of opportunity b. the increasing equality of opportunity
c. increasing constraint d. increasing freedom

ANSWER: b

93. Sierra went to the store to buy new running shoes and fell in love with a pair that was blue with splotches of red and was made by a small, unknown company. However, fearing that her friends would make fun of her, Sierra left with a pair of Nikes. Sierra's action reflects which unresolved social issue?

a. prosperity versus inequality b. autonomy versus constraint
c. diversity versus uniformity d. economy versus polity

ANSWER: c

94. Émile Durkheim's analysis of suicide demonstrates how the process of taking one's life through violent means is an isolated and individualistic act.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

95. The hometown football team has a tight-knit group of players who care about each other on and off the field. A sociologist would conclude that the team has a high degree of social solidarity.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: True

96. The stable patterns of social relations in our lives, such as the organization of work and family composition, are called global structures.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

97. Three of the major theoretical traditions in sociology were initiated by Durkheim, Goffman, and Marx.

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a. True
b. False
ANSWER: False

98. According to data from 2017, there were 22.8 suicides for every 100 000 people in Canada.
a. True
b. False
ANSWER: False

99. The ability to see the connection between personal troubles and social structures (for example, personal problems and public issues related to unemployment) is known as the sociological imagination.
a. True
b. False
ANSWER: True

100. The sexual revolution of the 1960s was the result of the legalization of the birth control pill, therapeutic abortions, and homosexual acts between consenting adults.
a. True
b. False
ANSWER: False

101. While the hookup culture had become pervasive on college and university campuses by the late 20th century, an increasing number of Canadians aged 18 to 29 are less in favour of premarital sex.
a. True
b. False
ANSWER: True

102. The Democratic Revolution encouraged the view that sound conclusions about how society works should be based on evidence, not speculation.
a. True
b. False
ANSWER: False

103. Queer theory questions the very existence of identity categories and sees these categories as products of specific discourses.
a. True
b. False
ANSWER: True

104. According to Michel Foucault, cultural hegemony functions by framing the worldview of the ruling class as legitimate and beneficial for all.
a. True
b. False
ANSWER: False

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105. In *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, Max Weber demonstrated that religious ideas could support the development of capitalism due to the unintended effect of increased savings and investment.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

106. The study of the subjective meanings that people attach to their actions and social life in an attempt to understand the intention or motives of people is part of the functionalist theory.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

107. The idea that patterns of gender inequality can and should be changed for the benefit of all members of society is one of the main features of feminist theory.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

108. Feminist sociologists see hookups as liberation—a practice that, unconstrained by social convention, increases women's freedom and independence.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

109. While both functionalists and conflict theorists focus on race in the dating world, they are diametrically opposed in terms of what they claim is happening.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

110. Teran's paper on the Postindustrial Revolution would accurately depict the shift from white-collar office work to blue-collar factory work.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

111. In postindustrial societies, the average standard of living and the number of good jobs has increased and discrimination against minority group members has declined.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

112. Define the sociological imagination and explain why it is important for all who study sociology.

ANSWER: Responses will vary. The sociological imagination is the quality of mind that enables a person to see the connection between personal troubles and social structures (C. Wright Mills). Because personal problems plague everyone, paying attention to the social-structural sources increases our understanding of the problem

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and indicates possible solutions.

113. Define social solidarity and describe an example from your own experience.

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Social solidarity refers to the (1) degree to which group members share beliefs and values, and (2) the intensity and frequency of their interaction.

114. Discuss Durkheim's study of suicide. What were the three types of suicide that he outlined? What were his major findings? How are these findings relevant in Canada today?

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Altruistic: suicide in high-solidarity settings; egoistic: the result of poor integration into society because of weak social ties to others; anomic: occurs when vague norms govern behaviour.

115. Discuss the main features of the symbolic interactionist perspective.

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Symbolic interactionism focuses on face-to-face interaction in microlevel social settings. It emphasizes the subjective meanings people attach to their social circumstances and stresses that people help to create their social circumstances. This perspective helps to validate unpopular and unofficial viewpoints, thus increasing our understanding and tolerance of people who may be different from us.

116. How did the Industrial Revolution and the Democratic Revolution together influence the development of early sociology? Explain your answer.

ANSWER: Responses will vary. The Industrial Revolution created a wide range of social problems that demanded solutions and the Democratic Revolution suggested that people could address the social ills and improve society.

117. Define feminism and describe how this perspective is useful for sociologists.

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Feminist theory is a variant of conflict theory. While conflict theory focuses on class inequality, feminist theory looks at the power relationships and inequality between men and women. Feminists claim that patriarchy is at least as important as class inequality in determining a person's opportunities in life. They content that existing patterns of gender inequality can and should be changed for the benefit of society.

118. Explain the ways that Max Weber disagreed with Karl Marx. Why is that disagreement important?

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Marx argued that the greed of the owners of industry would result in ever-increasing exploitation of the workers and class conflict which, in turn, would generate a "class-consciousness" that would culminate in a communist system. Weber noted that society also experienced a growth of a "service sector" in the economy and the members of these occupational groups stabilized society. Weber also showed that class conflict is not the only driving force of history (politics and religion also plays important roles).

119. What was "sociological" about Durkheim's work on suicide?

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Rather than regarding suicide as a simple individual act of desperation which resulted from psychological disorders, Durkheim took a sociological perspective and examined the social forces which impact suicide rates.

120. What are microstructures? Illustrate with an example from your own life.

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Microstructures are patterns of close relations formed during face-to-face interaction (e.g., families, groups of friends, work associates).

121. Explain what is meant by the Postindustrial Revolution.

ANSWER: Responses will vary. The Postindustrial Revolution references the technology-driven shift from manufacturing to service industries and the consequences of that development, including changes in how and what we study, the way we work and form families, and other aspects of society.

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122. What is the main concept of conflict theory? Give an example of an important contemporary event it can help explain.

ANSWER: Responses will vary. The main concept of conflict theory is that of class conflict, which is the struggle between classes to resist and overcome the opposition of other classes.

123. What twentieth-century social changes that influenced the level of class conflict did Marx NOT predict?

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Marx did not foresee the growth of occupations in the service industry, which generated groups of non-manual workers and professionals with higher status and income. Additionally, investments in technology made it possible for workers to toil fewer hours under less oppressive conditions. The higher wages, better working conditions, and welfare state benefits helped to pacify manual workers.

124. What is the relationship between theory, research, and values in sociology?

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Our values help us decide what problems are important to study. Sociologists formulate theories about how and why certain facts are related. Research is the process of observing social reality to assess the validity of a theory.

125. What do queer theorists see as consequence of such labels as “male” or “lesbian”? Do they assess these consequences as positive or negative?

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Queer theory denies the very existence of stable identities and when we apply such labels, we are adopting socially accepted labels that fail to capture the fluidity and variability of people’s actual identities and performances. They are an imposition of social conventions and act as forms of control and domination.

126. Discuss the concepts of freedom versus constraint in today’s society, using at least one example of each.

ANSWER: Responses will vary. People are freer to construct identities and form social relationships in ways that suit them; that is, people are breaking free from traditional constraints. But this freedom occurs within certain limits. Social diversity is restricted by a strong push toward conformity (e.g., consumerism seems increasingly compulsory despite the threat it poses to the natural environment).

127. Why has the youth suicide rate been rising in Canada over the last 50 years?

ANSWER: Responses will vary. Due to the erosion of shared moral principles and strong social ties, there have been declines in religious involvement and increases in divorce rates, the bullying and social exclusion of LGBT youth, and the destruction of the social fabric of Indigenous communities. All of this indicates a lowering in the level of social solidarity.

128. Using examples, explain the three origins of the sociological imagination.

ANSWER: Responses will vary.

129. Discuss the most important difference between the sociological perspective and individuals’ usual understanding of their biographies.

ANSWER: Responses will vary.

130. Explain what patriarchy is and how it has been perpetuated over time.

ANSWER: Responses will vary.

131. Identify and briefly discuss the most important characteristics of university education today, as understood by proponents of each of the four main theoretical traditions in sociology.

ANSWER: Responses will vary.

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CHAPTER 1 - A SOCIOLOGICAL COMPASS

132. Explain why Durkheim believed that suicide was influenced by social factors.
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

133. Compare the functionalist, conflict, symbolic interactionist, and feminist approaches to a social institution or cultural practice of your choice.
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

134. Describe the influence of group membership on the self-identity of a university student of your generation. Which groups are the most important and why?
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

135. Describe and explain what C. Wright Mills meant when he said you need a quality of mind that can see the connection among history, biography, and society. Give a concrete example to illustrate your explanation.
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

136. Compare micro, macro, and global social structures, and give one example of each. How do you think these structures interact in social life?
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

137. Using your knowledge and understanding of the three types of suicide outlined by Durkheim, what recommendations would you offer to address the approximate 4000 deaths by suicide every year in Canada?
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

138. Compare the Scientific, Democratic, and Industrial Revolutions. How have they provided fertile ground for the growth of sociology?
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

139. What is the Protestant ethic and what impact did it have on the worldly affairs of capitalism?
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

140. What do the authors of the text mean by a sociological compass? Discuss your own location in society on the axes of the sociological compass.
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

141. Develop an account of dating and hookup culture from either a functionalist perspective, a conflict perspective, a symbolic interactionist perspective, or a feminist perspective. Justify your choice of perspective.
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

142. Identify and describe the level of analysis for each of the four main theoretical traditions in sociology. How would each perspective view homelessness? How would each perspective attempt to resolve the issue of homelessness?
ANSWER: Responses will vary.

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