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Chapter 1: Theory and Crime

True/ False

1. Spiritual explanations of crime deemed crime to be a phenomenon based on the Earth.

   Answer: False

2. The modern-day penitentiary developed by the Quakers was based on the spiritual explanation of crime.

   Answer: True

3. Theories make statements about the relationships between things that we can observe.

   Answer: True

4. When two things (e.g., grades and time spent studying) are vary together in a systematic manner, they are said to be correlated.

   Answer: True

5. A negative correlation is said to occur when, on average, one phenomenon increases and another phenomenon also increases.

   Answer: False

6. Theories that have a coherent explanation of why two or more things are related are said to have theoretical rationale.

   Answer: True

7. Theories help us explain the facts of crime.

   Answer: True

8. The behavior of criminal law explanation of crime suggests that people are driven to crime through opportunity.

   Answer: False

9. Structure/process theories suggest crime is due to individual factors such as biology and drug use.

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Answer: False

10. Theory testing helps researchers identify causes of crime with 100% certainty.

Answer: False

Chapter 1: Theory and Crime

Multiple Choice

1. Examples of punishments for crimes based on spiritual explanations include:
   A. Compurgation
   B. Trial by ordeal
   C. Trial by battle
   D. Drowning
   E. All of the above

Answer: E

2. Theories can be falsified by:
   A. Using your best judgment to determine if the theory explains a behavior
   B. Conducting a study, collecting observations, and comparing those observations to the arguments made in the theory
   C. Flipping a coin to pick the most probable theoretical explanation
   D. None of the above

Answer: B

3. According to Bernard, Snipes, and Gerould, causation means four things are present. They are:
   A. Testability, absence of spuriousness, variance, implication
   B. Time sequence, correlation, absence of spuriousness, theoretical rationale
   C. Observation, linearity, theoretical rationale, tautology
   D. Justification, evidence that the theory is correct, time sequence, believability

Answer: B

4. Causal relationships are statements of:
   A. Probability
   B. Relevance
   C. Believability
   D. Deference

Answer: A

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5. Bernard and his colleagues discuss three different ways of thinking about crime (i.e., assumptions about criminal behavior). Which one of the choices below is **NOT** one of the them?
    A. Criminal behavior is a result of how laws are written and enforced
    B. Criminal behavior is freely chosen
    C. Criminal behavior is a natural phenomenon
    D. Criminal behavior is beyond the control of individuals

Answer: C

6. What are the three main categories of criminological theories?
    A. Individual differences; structure/process; behavior of criminal law
    B. Classical; positivist; moderate
    C. Puritan; Quaker; subcultural
    D. Social control; strain; deterrence

Answer: A

7. Correlation means that two variables:
    A. Are not related
    B. Vary together in an unsystematic way
    C. Vary together in a systematic way
    D. Are causally related

Answer: C

8. Criminology is the study of:
    A. Explanations the facts of crime
    B. How to present the facts of crime
    C. Identifying criminal behaviors
    D. Prosecuting crimes

Answer: A

9. _____ criminology sees crime as determined by multiple causes and calls for attempts to turn people into law abiding citizens through rehabilitation.
    A. Spiritual
    B. Classical
    C. Reformatory
    D. Positivist

Answer: D

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10. Self-control theory states that higher levels of self-control are related to lower levels of delinquency. What type of relationship is expected between these two variables?
    A. A negative correlation
    B. A positive correlation
    C. No correlation
    D. Causation

Answer: A

Chapter 1: Theory and Crime

Short Answer

1. Spiritual explanations of criminal behavior in U.S. colonies were typical during the 1600-1700s. Describe the rationale behind this explanation of crime and outline the evolution over time to current explanations of criminal behavior.

2. Quaker beliefs and practices are evident in the modern prison system. How were these beliefs and practices used in the development of the early penitentiary? What aspects of modern prisons can be traced to the Quaker era?

3. Describe how theories can be falsified. Why is it important for theories to be falsifiable?

4. Correlation and causation are often confused by students. First, define the two concepts: correlation and causation. Second, describe the use of correlation and causation in theory development and testing. Why are they important, what do they tell us about explanations of crime?

5. Identify the four elements of meaningful scientific causation. How do they contribute to theoretical testing?

6. Describe the following theoretical relationships, assuming two variables: positive correlation, negative correlation, no correlation.

7. What was the penance system established by the Quakers in the U.S. in the early 1800s? How did this model influence modern day corrections?

8. How do criminologists use scientific theories in their work? What benefits do scientific theories have over other explanations of crime?

9. Some criminological theories focus on the characteristics of individuals to explain involvement in criminal behavior. Describe the role of probability in these explanations of crime.

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10. There are three main categories of theories described in the text: (1) individual; (2) structural/process; and (3) behavior of criminal law. Describe the tenets of each category and provide an example explanation of crime for each category.

Chapter 2: Theory and Policy in Context

True/False

1. Theories help criminologists link trends in crime to policy.

   Answer: True

2. Violent crime increased in the 2000-2010 period.

   Answer: False

3. During 1985-1994, adult homicide tripled.

   Answer: False

4. “Super-predators” were believed to become responsible for an increase in violent crime.

   Answer: True

5. Warren Court legal protections have a substantial effect on the crime rate.

   Answer: False

6. Moral poverty reduces one’s ability to control their impulses.

   Answer: True

7. The book Body Count is a discussion on the benefits of liberal crime policies.

   Answer: False

8. Currie pinpointed the rise in incarceration rates between 1970 and the mid-1990s to the war on drugs.

   Answer: True

9. Violent crime and prison populations both increased between the early 1970s and mid-1990s.

   Answer: True

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10. Hot spots policing in New York had positive effects in reductions in crime.

Answer: True

Chapter 2: Theory and Policy in Context

Multiple Choice

1. The great crime decline has been attributed to:
   A. Aging baby boomers
   B. Crack use in US cities
   C. Reduction in prison populations
   D. Traditional policing methods

Answer: A

2. Zimring estimates that policing efforts have had no more than ____% impact on crime rates.
   A. 20
   B. 15
   C. 10
   D. 5

Answer: D

3. _____are referred to as Incapacitation effects.
   A. Reductions in crime when prison population is high
   B. Threats of imprisonment
   C. Increases in drug use
   D. Oscillations in crime

Answer: A

4. _____is a court ruling attributed to reductions in crime.
   A. Miranda v. Arizona
   B. Bratton v. New York State Board of Parole
   C. Roe v. Wade
   D. Federal Safe Water Drinking Act

Answer: C

5. Criminogenic causes are those that:
   A. Decrease the likelihood of criminal behavior
   B. Increase the likelihood of criminal behavior
   C. Have no effect on criminal behavior

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D. None of the above

Answer: B

6. The Gini Index is a measure of:
   A. Moral poverty
   B. Income distribution
   C. Crime rates
   D. Lagged effects

Answer: B

7. Removal of _____ from gasoline is believed to contribute to the great crime decline.
   A. Tetraethyl lead
   B. Malaria
   C. Ethanol
   D. Emissions

Answer: A

8. Two tactics used by NYC police attributed to a decrease in crime are:
   A. Hot spots policing and arrest
   B. Community policing and noise abatement
   C. Foot patrols and bicycle patrols
   D. Hot spots policing and a focus on drug markets

Answer: D

9. A lagged effect means something happens:
   A. At the same time as something else
   B. Before something else
   C. After something else
   D. None of the above

Answer: C

10. Lead-based paint in homes was associated with _____ in New Orleans.
   A. Neighborhood crime rates
   B. Robbery rates
   C. Incarceration rates
   D. Death rates

Answer: A

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Chapter 2: Theory and Policy in Context

Short Answer

1. Describe the changes in the national reporting systems of crime: UCR and NIBRS. How did NIBRS attempt to improve on the UCR? What remains a challenge to our quantification of crime?

2. Why are police agencies not required to participate in the UCR and NIBRS initiatives? What benefits would we see in the reporting of crime if police agencies were mandated to share this information through these programs?

3. The United States experienced a crime decline in the late 1990s. Identify and describe three reasons attributed to this decline.

4. Choose one of the following segments, a, b, or c. Using the chosen segment, compare and contrast the two explanations of the crime reduction experienced in the United States in the 1990s. Which one had a greater impact on the reduction in crime; why?

   a. Economy AND aging of baby boomers
   b. Lagged effect of Roe v. Wade AND reduction in crack epidemic
   c. Removal of led from gasoline AND police practices such as hot spots policing

5. New York City experienced a great reduction in criminal activity in the 1990s. Identify and describe two policing activities that Zimring attributes to this crime decline. Compare and contrast these policing activities to two non-policing explanations of the crime decline. Are policing activities or these other explanations responsible for more of the reduction? Define your position.

6. Describe the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) (e.g., frequency of administration, sample, types of crimes examined). Does the NCVS contribute a substantial improvement in crime statistics compared to the UCR? What about the NIBRS?

7. Zimring's analysis of the effect of imprisonment explored the deterrent and incapacitative effects of jails/prisons. Using the data presented in the text, describe the utility of imprisonment in reducing crime.

8. What is the "Ferguson Effect"? How has it contributed to crime rate trends in cities across the US?

9. What does the term "super-predator" mean? Describe its evolution and whether the idea of "super-predators" was realized and what impact it had on criminology.

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10. A researcher wants to learn about the rate of drug use among high-school students. Using the three main data sources discussed in the text (UCR, NIBRS, NCVS) describe the benefits and drawbacks of each data source for this research topic.

Chapter 3: Classical Criminology

True/False

1. Cesare Beccaria is considered the father of classical criminology.

   Answer: True

2. At its evolution, classical theory was considered an alternative to the spiritual explanations of crime.

   Answer: True

3. Beccaria believed that sanctions should be swift and a surprise.

   Answer: False

4. Strain theory has its roots in the classical school of criminological thinking.

   Answer: False

5. Punishment severity is the best predictor of deterrence effectiveness.

   Answer: False

6. Rational choice involves weighing the benefits and consequences of committing a crime.

   Answer: True

7. Rational choice theory suggests people who commit crimes are irrational.

   Answer: False

8. Routine activities theory places emphasis on where crimes occur.

   Answer: True

9. Crime increased in the 1970s due to an increase in the availability of suitable crime targets and a lack of human supervision.

   Answer: True

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