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Name:_____ Class:_____ Date:_____

Chapter 01 2020- The Sociological Perspective

True / False

1. Sociology is considered a systematic study because sociologists apply both theoretical perspectives and research methods to examinations of social behavior.
   a. True
   b. False

ANSWER: True

2. Few sociologists attempt to discover patterns or commonalities in human behavior.
   a. True
   b. False

ANSWER: False

3. Middle-income countries are nations with highly industrialized economies; technologically advanced industrial, administrative, and service occupations; and relatively high levels of national and personal income.
   a. True
   b. False

ANSWER: False

4. According to sociologist Max Weber, rational bureaucracy, rather than class struggle, is the most significant factor in determining the social relations between people in industrial societies.
   a. True
   b. False

ANSWER: True

5. In an experiment, the experimental group contains the subjects who are exposed to an independent variable to study its effect on them.
   a. True
   b. False

ANSWER: True

6. Sociologist George Herbert Mead was one of the first scholars to note that a dual heritage creates conflict for people of color. He called this duality double-consciousness—the identity conflict of being both Black and American.
   a. True
   b. False

ANSWER: False

7. Sociologist Talcott Parsons suggested that the division of household labor between husband and wife is one of the fundamental sources of conflict in industrialized societies.
   a. True
   b. False

ANSWER: False

8. All conflict theorists regard race–ethnicity inequalities as the central and most important source of social

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change.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

9. An example of quantitative research is a study in which researchers systematically analyze the content of the transcripts of personal interviews conducted with patients of breast cancer, whereas an example of qualitative research is a study in which researchers compare the rates of breast cancer among people of different ethnicities.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

10. Manifest functions are intended and/or overtly recognized by the participants in a social unit, whereas latent functions are unintended functions that are hidden and remain unacknowledged by participants.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

11. The sociological imagination helps an individual place personal troubles, such as losing his or her job or feeling like committing suicide, into a larger social context, where the individual can distinguish whether and how personal troubles may be related to public issues.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

12. Like Auguste Comte, British social theorist Herbert Spencer was strongly influenced by the turmoil of the French Revolution.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

13. According to Durkheim, social facts can only be explained by other social facts.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

14. Because of his radical views and emphasis on social action, not just the study of society, Karl Marx's work has been largely discredited today.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

15. German sociologist Georg Simmel concluded that industrialization created greater equality, thus minimizing class conflict.

a. True

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b. False

ANSWER: False

16. The first department of sociology in the United States was established at the University of Chicago, where the faculty was instrumental in starting the American Sociological Society (now known as the American Sociological Association).

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

17. All sociological theories and theorists can be categorized as functionalist, conflict, or symbolic interactionist.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

18. Quantitative research and qualitative research both follow the same research model.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

19. Sociological studies on suicide that analyze the contents of suicide notes to look for recurring patterns and themes are an example of qualitative research.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

Multiple Choice

20. The cultural heritage or identity of a group, based on factors such as language or country of origin, is termed _____.

a. ethnicity

b. religion

c. race

d. genealogy

ANSWER: a

21. Which of the following was one of the problems that led social thinkers to study societal changes?

a. Inadequate housing

b. A shift among people from being consumers to being producers

c. An increased emphasis on agriculture and cottage industries

d. Creation of the barter system

ANSWER: a

22. French philosopher Auguste Comte's belief that the world can best be understood through scientific inquiry

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became known as _____.

a. absolutism
b. positivism
c. functionalism
d. symbolic interactionism

ANSWER: b

23. A major criticism of Spencer's theory of social Darwinism is that:

a. he did not consider the fact that societies are the same as biological systems.
b. it can easily be used to justify class, racial–ethnic, and gender inequalities in society.
c. it explains society in an era that is less tumultuous than that of the Industrial Revolution.
d. he plagiarized the work of Charles Darwin.

ANSWER: b

24. Which of the following terms was used by Durkheim to refer to a condition in which social control becomes ineffective as a result of the loss of shared values and of a sense of purpose in society?

a. Deinstitutionalization
b. Social Darwinism
c. Cultural imperialism
d. Anomie

ANSWER: d

25. The basis for Durkheim's theory of society is the belief that:

a. people are the product of their social environment.
b. the evolution of society is based on the concept of "survival of the fittest."
c. society contains social statics and social dynamics.
d. conflict between different economic classes is necessary to produce social change.

ANSWER: a

26. In the context of types of surveys, which of the following is a method of gathering data for research in which face-to-face communication between a researcher and a respondent allows the researcher to ask questions to the respondent and record his or her answers?

a. A questionnaire
b. An interview
c. Secondary analysis
d. Content analysis

ANSWER: b

27. Karl Marx's term for the feeling of powerlessness and estrangement from other people and from themselves that workers feel as a result of being exploited by the capitalist class is _____.

a. symbolic interactionism
b. alienation
c. anomie
d. social Darwinism

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ANSWER: b

28. Daniel is the owner of a company that manufactures automobile parts. He owns all the factories of the company and employs 3,000 workers. In the context of Karl Marx's theory of class conflict, Daniel belongs to the _____.

a. working class
b. laissez-faire class
c. proletariat
d. bourgeoisie

ANSWER: d

29. Which of the following statements is true of the beliefs of German social scientist Max Weber?

a. He stressed that social behavior can be analyzed by purely objective criteria.
b. He believed that values cannot be separated from the research process.
c. He disagreed with Marx's idea that economics is the central force in social change.
d. He believed that class struggle is the most significant factor in determining the social relations between people in industrial societies.

ANSWER: c

30. Automobiles provide transportation and independence. They also cause air pollution and contribute to climate change. Sociologist Robert K. Merton would consider these negative impacts the _____.

a. dysfunctions of automobiles
b. overt functions of automobiles
c. anomie of automobiles
d. manifest functions of automobiles

ANSWER: a

31. Both Karl Marx and Max Weber were in agreement that economic conditions played a role in producing inequality in society. However, Max Weber also suggested two other sources of social inequality and conflict. These sources are _____.

a. power and prestige
b. gender identity and gender inequality
c. differences in education and differences in age
d. alienation and anomie

ANSWER: a

32. Which of the following terms was used by sociologist C. Wright Mills to refer to a small clique composed of top corporate, political, and military officials?

a. The proletariat
b. Bureaucracy
c. Anomie
d. The power elite

ANSWER: d

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33. Who among the following sociologists is most likely to conduct a macrolevel analysis?
    a. Rubin, who believes that a society is composed of institutions such as the family and the government that contribute to the stability of the society
    b. Georgia, who believes that society is the sum of the interactions of people and groups
    c. Rebecca, who believes that behavior is the result of communication between people
    d. Matthew, who believes that an individual's interpretation of events and the situations he or she encounters becomes the individual's subjective reality

ANSWER: a

34. Which of the following perspectives focuses on the immediate reciprocally oriented communication between two or more people and the part that facial gestures, posture, tone of voice, and other gestures play in communication?
    a. The functionalist perspective
    b. The conflict perspective
    c. The postmodern perspective
    d. The symbolic interactionist perspective

ANSWER: d

35. In a study of education in the United States, who among the following theorists is likely to emphasize the daily activities of students and the various forms of communication between teachers and students?
    a. Conflict theorists
    b. Symbolic interactionists
    c. Postmodern theorists
    d. Functionalists

ANSWER: b

36. A sociologist who is conducting a study on the relationship between social media use and narcissism formulates the following statement: Regular use of social media increases narcissism among people. This statement is a(n) _____.
    a. theory
    b. variable
    c. operational definition
    d. hypothesis

ANSWER: d

37. Kevin, a sociologist, decides to study the relationship between stress and aggression. He develops a hypothesis and conducts an experiment with a group of participants to systematically gather data. After analyzing the results, Kevin concludes that there is a positive correlation between stress and violence. In this scenario, which of the following methods is Kevin using to test his hypothesis?
    a. Symbolic interactionism
    b. Research
    c. Ethnography
    d. Secondary analysis

ANSWER: b

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38. A sociology student is asked to conduct quantitative research on a topic related to sociology as part of his final-year curriculum. The student decides to study racism and its causes and defines his research problem. In the context of the research process, which of the following steps should the student take next?

a. The student should formulate a hypothesis.
b. The student should review previous research on the chosen topic.
c. The student should develop the research design.
d. The student should collect data on incidents of racism and analyze them.

ANSWER: b

39. Brian has developed a hypothesis that the stress felt by single parents increases the probability of child abuse. In this case, child abuse will be considered the _____ .

a. independent variable
b. control variable
c. dependent variable
d. universal variable

ANSWER: c

40. The extent to which a study or research instrument accurately measures what it is supposed to measure is known as its _____.

a. validity
b. reliability
c. consistency
d. variability

ANSWER: a

41. A researcher who is conducting a study on how religious views impact the voting behavior of citizens aged 65 years and up sends an e-mail with a questionnaire to all members of the population being studied. The people who complete the questionnaire and thereby provide data for analysis are called _____.

a. observers
b. respondents
c. placebos
d. control variables

ANSWER: b

42. Which of the following research methods requires researchers to use existing material and examine data that were originally collected by others?

a. An experiment
b. Secondary analysis
c. Survey research
d. An ethnographic study

ANSWER: b

43. Two researchers affiliated with different universities decided to study the Amish. The first researcher moved into an Amish community for six months and observed the behavior and activities of the residents of that

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community. The second researcher moved into an Amish community and lived there for four years, participating in the residents' daily lives during this period. In this context, unlike the first researcher, the second researcher conducted a(n) _____.

a. correlational study
b. ethnographic study
c. experiment
d. secondary analysis

ANSWER: b

44. Which of the following is a guideline set forth by the American Sociological Association's *Code of Ethics* for conducting research?

a. Researchers must ensure that all research methods used in a study have the same sample size.
b. Researchers must attempt to maintain objectivity at all times.
c. Researchers can share participant information as long as it is not privileged.
d. Researchers must obtain informed consent from participants under the age of 18.

ANSWER: b

45. Sociology is the _____.

a. systematic study of human society and social interaction
b. analysis of deviant groups and individuals
c. scientific analysis of premodern people
d. academic discipline that examines individual human behavior

ANSWER: a

46. A _____ is a large social grouping that shares the same geographical territory and is subject to the same political authority and dominant cultural expectations.

a. culture
b. society
c. nation
d. country

ANSWER: b

47. When studying the problem of suicide, sociologists are most interested in explaining its _____.

a. psychological dimensions
b. association with biological abnormalities
c. societal patterns
d. media coverage

ANSWER: c

48. _____ refers to a relationship in which the lives of people everywhere are intertwined closely so that one nation's problems have an impact on other nations as well.

a. Societal cohesiveness
b. Universal cooperation
c. Global interdependence

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d. International interlock

ANSWER: c

49. People throughout the world share the same biosphere; environmental pollution in one area may have an adverse effect on people in other areas. Therefore, environmental problems are an example of _____.

a. commonsense knowledge
b. universal cooperation
c. the sociological imagination
d. global interdependence

ANSWER: d

50. Which of the following is *not* part of the sociological approach to the study of society and social interaction?

a. systematic research techniques
b. presentation of research findings
c. search for patterns in human behavior
d. application of commonsense or everyday understandings

ANSWER: d

51. Sociologist C. Wright Mills coined the term _____ to refer to the ability to see the relationship between individual experiences and the larger society.

a. conflict perception
b. sociological imagination
c. reality perception
d. symbolic interaction approach

ANSWER: b

52. According to Mills, the sociological imagination enables one to distinguish between personal troubles, which must be solved within the immediate social setting, and _____, which affect large numbers of people and often require solutions at the societal level.

a. unimportant troubles
b. nonprivate difficulties
c. public issues
d. societal dysfunctions

ANSWER: c

53. Emile Durkheim refused to accept that suicide is merely a(n) _____.

a. personal trouble
b. interdependence issue
c. public issue
d. societal dysfunction

ANSWER: a

54. The world's _____ are nations with highly industrialized economies; technologically advanced industrial, administrative, and service occupations; and relatively high levels of national and personal income.

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a. high-income countries
b. middle-income countries
c. low-income countries
d. semi-periphery countries

ANSWER: a

55. Which of the following countries is most likely to be a low-income nation?
a. Genera, a technologically advanced European nation
b. Partingham, a European nation with a high standard of living
c. Fraqut, a Latin American nation with an industrializing economy
d. Makena, an agrarian nation in the Asian subcontinent

ANSWER: d

56. A significant difference between high- and low-income countries is that low-income countries tend to be _____.
a. more industrialized
b. more agrarian
c. less populated
d. smaller

ANSWER: b

57. _____ is a socially constructed concept used by many people to specify groups of people based on their physical characteristics such as skin color.
a. Ethnicity
b. Nationality
c. Race
d. Genealogy

ANSWER: c

58. Sociologists use the term _____ to refer to the position of a person or group within a set of hierarchical social categories based on wealth, power, prestige, or other valued resources.
a. caste
b. class
c. ethnicity
d. ranking

ANSWER: b

59. The term _____ refers to the meanings, beliefs, and practices associated with sex differences.
a. postgenderism
b. biology
c. gender
d. sociobiology

ANSWER: c

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60. Interest in the systematic study of people's behavior and ideas became prevalent during the nineteenth century primarily in response to _____.

a. the agricultural revolution
b. industrialization and urbanization
c. enlightenment and new forms of religion
d. the increases in rural poverty

ANSWER: b

61. _____ refers to the process by which an increasing number of people live in cities rather than rural areas.

a. Ruralization
b. Industrialization
c. Suburbanization
d. Urbanization

ANSWER: d

62. During the _____, massive social changes occurred as technological innovations shifted the economic base of countries in Europe and, later, the economic base of the United States, from agriculture to manufacturing.

a. Renaissance
b. Industrial Revolution
c. Age of Enlightenment
d. Neolithic Revolution

ANSWER: b

63. Comte believed that societies are made up of social statics, or forces for order and stability, as well as _____, or forces for social change.

a. social facts
b. social dynamics
c. social mores
d. social symbols

ANSWER: b

64. British sociologist _____ translated and condensed Comte's work and was noted for her study of social customs in Great Britain and the United States.

a. Nancy Ammerman
b. Jane Addams
c. Harriet Martineau
d. Sarah Spencer

ANSWER: c

65. In her work, sociologist Harriet Martineau strongly advocates _____.

a. building a stronger middle class
b. the importance of cultural relativism

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c. recognizing the forces for stability and change in society
d. social equality and reform

ANSWER: d

66. The term _____ refers to the belief that those species of animals, including human beings, that are best adapted to their environment survive and prosper, whereas those that are poorly adapted die out.
a. social Darwinism
b. social eugenics
c. social statics and dynamics
d. social relativism

ANSWER: a

67. Which of the following early scientific thinkers first used the phrase "survival of the fittest" to explain his theory of society?
a. Karl Marx
b. Emile Durkheim
c. Auguste Comte
d. Herbert Spencer

ANSWER: d

68. Ron, a sociologist, conducted a study on the relationship between crime and social changes. The results of the study showed that rapid societal changes lead to increased crime rates because social facts, or the patterned ways of thinking and acting that govern the behavior of individuals in a society, are destroyed because of social changes. This observation most likely resonates with the beliefs of sociologist _____.
a. Emile Durkheim
b. Herbert Spencer
c. Auguste Comte
d. Robert K. Merton

ANSWER: a

69. The basis for Marx's theory of society is the belief that _____.
a. people are the products of their social environments
b. the evolution of society is based on the concept of "survival of the fittest"
c. society is comprised of the dual processes of social statics and social dynamics
d. conflict between different economic classes is necessary to produce social change

ANSWER: d

70. Tom works on the assembly line at the local Ford automobile factory. In the context of the Marxian framework, Tom would be considered a member of the _____ because he does not own the means of production.
a. bourgeoisie
b. capitalist class
c. proletariat class
d. laissez-faire class

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ANSWER: c

71. Unlike others who believed that values could not be separated from the research process, German social scientist _____ emphasized that sociology should be value free, that is, research should be conducted in a scientific manner to exclude the researcher's personal values and economic interests.

a. Emile Durkheim
b. Max Weber
c. Karl Marx
d. Herbert Spencer

ANSWER: b

72. Angela, a sociologist, is conducting a study on divorce and the factors that affect it. She personally believes that modern couples do not take relationships seriously and is of the opinion that married couples should stick together through thick and thin. However, she knows that she should be objective in her study and, therefore, employs an approach that allows her to gain the ability to see the world from the perspective of others. Which of the following approaches is Angela most likely using?

a. *verstehen*
b. positivism
c. social Darwinism
d. *gesellschaft*

ANSWER: a

73. Which of the following is *not* part of the theoretical contributions of Max Weber?

a. insights on women's issues
b. being value free in one's research
c. an emphasis on class struggle
d. concern about the impact of bureaucracy

ANSWER: c

74. German sociologist Georg Simmel analyzed how social interactions vary depending on the _____. He concluded that interaction patterns differ between a dyad and a triad.

a. sex of the social group
b. size of the social group
c. social class of the social group
d. race of the social group

ANSWER: b

75. Megan, a Black adolescent girl living in the United States, is going through the identity conflict of being a Black and an American. Sociologist Du Bois would term this conflict _____.

a. double-consciousness
b. ethnography
c. the double bind
d. functionalism

ANSWER: a

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76. A _____ is a set of logically interrelated statements that attempts to describe, explain, and (occasionally) predict social events.

a. hypothesis
b. law
c. theory
d. generalization

ANSWER: c

77. _____ states that societies develop social structures, or institutions, that persist because they play a part in helping society survive. These institutions include the family, education, government, religion, and the economy.

a. Postmodernism
b. Symbolic interactionism
c. Conflict theory
d. Functionalism

ANSWER: d

78. Functionalist Talcott Parsons suggested that complementary roles of men and women in the family contribute to social stability. The wife/mother performs the _____, which include housework, caring for the children, and providing emotional support for the entire family.

a. expressive tasks
b. instrumental tasks
c. reproductive tasks
d. interdependent tasks

ANSWER: a

79. When students go to college, they often make lifelong friends and may even find their life partners. Robert Merton would consider this a(n) _____ of education.

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

ANSWER: b

80. A functionalist study has determined that _____ is the most important factor in whether Air Force personnel experience severe suicidal ideation.

a. tangible support
b. companionship support
c. esteem support
d. appraisal support

ANSWER: c

81. According to the _____, groups in society are engaged in a continuous power struggle for control of

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scarce resources.

a. functionalist perspective
b. interactionist perspective
c. conflict perspective
d. developmental perspective

ANSWER: c

82. According to feminist theorists, we live in a(n) _____, a system in which men dominate women and in which things that are considered to be "male" or "masculine" are more highly valued than those considered to be "female" or "feminine."

a. patriarchy
b. autocracy
c. matriarchy
d. oligarchy

ANSWER: a

83. Martha, a sociologist, is conducting a study on terrorism. Instead of examining social structures such as family, education, religion, and government to evaluate their roles in advancing terrorism, Martha is studying small groups of people comprising the family members of various terrorists. In this case, Martha is conducting a _____.

a. macrolevel analysis
b. mesolevel analysis
c. microlevel analysis
d. metalevel analysis

ANSWER: c

84. Breanna believes that Jarrod is upset with her because she interprets his tone of voice as angry. Although Jarrod states that he is not angry, from a symbolic interactionist perspective, it is Breanna's _____ of the situation that is most real or believable to her.

a. prior knowledge
b. interpretation
c. trust
d. imagination

ANSWER: b

85. In a study of education in the United States, _____ would look at the role schools play in maintaining the social system as a whole, how education provides the young with skills they need later in life, and how education transmits cultural values from one generation to the next.

a. symbolic interactionists
b. postmodern theorists
c. functionalists
d. conflict theorists

ANSWER: c

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86. With _____, the goal is scientific objectivity, and the focus is on data that can be measured numerically.

a. qualitative research
b. observational research
c. quantitative research
d. explanatory research

ANSWER: c

87. Which of the following statements is true of quantitative research?

a. It allows researchers to formulate research questions that can seldom be tested using statistical methods.
b. It helps sociologists compare rates of suicide with variables such as age, race, sex, and education.
c. It allows sociologists to focus on data that can only be understood through content analysis.
d. It enables researchers to use a smaller sample than the one used in qualitative research.

ANSWER: b

88. With _____, interpretive descriptions (words) rather than statistics (numbers) are used to analyze underlying meanings and patterns of social relationships.

a. qualitative research
b. observational research
c. quantitative research
d. explanatory research

ANSWER: a

89. Researchers in one study systematically analyzed the content of the notes of suicide victims to determine recurring themes, such as feelings of despair or failure. Through the study of the words used in the notes, the researchers hoped to determine if any common underlying meanings were present across the notes that would help them understand why people kill themselves. This is an example of _____.

a. functionalist research
b. qualitative research
c. postmodern research
d. quantitative research

ANSWER: b

90. A researcher is conducting a longitudinal study on how age affects the learning of a new language. In this study, age is a factor that differs for each participant. The learning capacity of each participant also differs based on his or her age. In this context, age and learning capacity are both measurable traits that are likely to differ from one time to another. Therefore, age and learning capacity are examples of _____.

a. variables
b. theories
c. hypotheses
d. principles

ANSWER: a

91. When studying the relationship between social integration and suicide, a researcher hypothesizes that a low

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degree of social integration causes suicide. In this case, the degree of social integration is a(n) _____.

a. independent variable
b. dependent variable
c. universal variable
d. control variable

ANSWER: a

92. Soledad has developed a scale to assess job satisfaction among temporary workers. She is afraid that workers in her study will each interpret the scale items in a different way. Soledad is concerned about the _____ of her scale.

a. representativeness
b. accuracy
c. validity
d. reliability

ANSWER: d

93. Unlike researchers who conduct quantitative research, researchers who conduct qualitative research are more likely to _____.

a. use a larger sample
b. collect and analyze data simultaneously
c. focus on scientific objectivity
d. use statistical analysis

ANSWER: b

94. A(n) _____ is a method most commonly used to study people's behavior and beliefs.

a. survey
b. experiment
c. case study
d. content analysis

ANSWER: a

95. Asher decides to conduct a study on the effectiveness of the Gardasil vaccine but lacks time and money to gather his own data. As a result, he analyzes the data that were gathered by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In this case, Asher is conducting _____.

a. an experiment
b. secondary analysis
c. survey research
d. a participant observation

ANSWER: b

96. _____ is the systematic examination of cultural artifacts or various forms of communication to extract thematic data and draw conclusions about social life.

a. Content analysis
b. Content standardization

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c. Content validity
d. Content reliability

ANSWER: a

97. A sociologist studied the learning capacity of toddlers by joining a preschool for six months. During this period, he observed the activities of toddlers and asked questions related to their development to their parents and teachers. In this scenario, the sociologist most likely conducted _____.
a. a survey
b. secondary analysis
c. field research
d. an experiment

ANSWER: c

98. To understand the process coroners use to determine whether or not a death is a suicide, a sociologist works for six months in the coroner's office and spends as much time as possible observing coroners at work. This is an example of _____.
a. an experiment
b. survey research
c. participant observation
d. secondary analysis

ANSWER: c

99. _____ is a carefully designed situation in which a researcher studies the impact of certain variables on subjects' attitudes or behavior.
a. A case study
b. A correlational study
c. An experiment
d. Participant observation

ANSWER: c

100. Which of the following is a guideline set forth by the American Sociological Association's *Code of Ethics* for conducting research?
a. All research methods used in a study should have the same sample size.
b. Researchers must attempt to maintain objectivity at all times.
c. All research topics must fall into either of the following two categories: feminism or depression.
d. Researchers must obtain informed consent from participants under the age of 18.

ANSWER: b

Essay

101. State the major assumptions of the conflict perspectives of sociology. How can a conflict approach be used to explain suicide?

ANSWER: Answers may vary.

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102. Explain how the steps in the qualitative research model differ from the steps in the "conventional" quantitative model.
ANSWER: Answers may vary.

103. Explain how experiments can be used to demonstrate cause-and-effect relationships between variables. What are the advantages and disadvantages of experiments as a research method?
ANSWER: Answers may vary.

104. Discuss Emile Durkheim's focus on the stability of society and contrast his views with the views of Karl Marx and Max Weber about conflict and social change.
ANSWER: Answers may vary.

105. List the guidelines set forth by the American Sociological Association's *Code of Ethics* for conducting research. Provide an example of a study that violated some or all of these guidelines.
ANSWER: Answers may vary.

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