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Name:_____ Class:_____ Date:_____

Ch 01: Thinking Like a Sociologist

1. Auguste Comte saw sociology as the scientific study of two aspects of society, namely
   a. social statics and social dynamics.
   b. history and biography.
   c. conventional wisdom and facts.
   d. ideology and intuition.

ANSWER: a

2. A Sociologist would be most interested in studying which of the following?
   a. How racial and ethnic diversity has changed
   b. The systematic pressure of a racing car engine
   c. The genetic makeup of an individual's brain
   d. How gravity is measured

ANSWER: a

3. A(n) _____ is a set of statements that explains why a phenomenon occurs.
   a. theory
   b. variable
   c. analysis
   d. assertion

ANSWER: a

4. John is researching the issue of unemployment and thinks about the effects of unemployment in his family as well as in society. John is utilizing the:
   a. Part of the brain called the hypothalamus
   b. The Peter Principle
   c. The sociological imagination
   d. The looking-glass self

ANSWER: c

5. Karl Marx saw industrial society as composed of
   a. capitalists, petit bourgeoisie, and proletariat.
   b. capitalists, socialists, and communists.
   c. sustainers, maintainers, and drainers.
   d. core, semiperipheral, and peripheral cultures.

ANSWER: a

6. John goes away to college and is struggling with living on his own and preparing a schedule for the day. Learning how to live on one's own and preparing a schedule is a _____ function of going away to college.
   a. manifest
   b. intended
   c. overt
   d. latent

ANSWER: d

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7. Which of the following did W. E. B. Du Bois include as part of the "cure" for prejudice and discrimination?
   a. Promoting Black political power
   b. Creating a Black working class
   c. Creating an independent Black homeland
   d. Punishing White people who discriminate

ANSWER: a

8. Why did Jane Addams win the Nobel Peace Prize?
   a. For the development of Hull House and founding the settlement house movement
   b. For her advocacy of negotiating, rather than waging war, to settle disputes
   c. For her support of the temperance movement
   d. For creating an international coalition to advance women's rights

ANSWER: b

9. A researcher is trying to decide whether to utilize a microsociological or macrosociological approach when studying the issue of crime. Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of each approach.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. Microsociology examines the patterns of individuals' social interaction in specific settings. Macrosociology examines the large-scale patterns and processes that characterize society as a whole. An advantage of utilizing the microsociological approach is researchers can understand how each individual views a particular event or issue. The disadvantage of this approach is it doesn't take into the larger societal factors. An advantage of utilizing the macrosociological approach is researchers can focus on the larger societal factors that shape human behavior. A disadvantage would be that this approach doesn't take into account how each individual may view a particular issue or topic.

10. Knowledge gained from microsociological investigations frequently disputes knowledge gained from macrosociological investigations.
   a. True
   b. False

ANSWER: False

11. Jill is a senior in high school and is unsure of the career path she wants to pursue in college. Her advisor explains that she may want to major in Sociology as she has an interest in:
   a. administration and managerial work
   b. medical positions
   c. math and statistics
   d. science and technology

ANSWER: a

12. Bill is a researcher who is going to focus on how governmental laws impact the school system; therefore he is utilizing the symbolic interactionist perspective.
   a. True
   b. False

ANSWER: False

13. Émile Durkheim is known as the father of sociology, and Harriet Martineau may be described as its mother.
   a. True

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b. False

ANSWER: False

14. Latent functions of education include teaching students basic literacy and math skills.
a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

15. Conflict theorists view societal arrangements as inherently unstable and dysfunctional because they favor some groups over others.
a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

16. Goffman likened our everyday interactions to theatrical performances.
a. True
b. False

ANSWER: True

17. Discuss the principles of the feminist perspective in the field of Sociology and the evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using this perspective to understand a social problem.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. The feminist perspective in the field of Sociology focuses on women's social, economic, and political inequalities. The advantage of using this perspective is it allows the researcher to focus on the issues that impact women with regards to a particular social problem. The disadvantage of using this perspective is it doesn't take into account the perspectives of other groups in society besides women, including men.

18. Identify and discuss three ways in which sociology differs from common sense.

ANSWER: Answers will vary but may include:

- Common sense is subjective but sociology examines claims and beliefs critically.
- Common sense ignores facts to protect cherished beliefs, but sociology relies on facts not just to build theories but also to modify even well-established theories.
- Common sense varies across groups and cultures, but sociology considers many points of view.
- Much of our common sense is based on myths and misconceptions, but sociology enables us to move beyond established ways of thinking.

19. Define the term *sociological imagination*, discuss its relationship to troubles and issues, and provide an illustrative example from your own life.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. A sociological imagination is the ability to see the relationship between individual experiences and larger social influences. It emphasizes how personal troubles can be related to structural issues.

20. Define *microsociology* and provide an example of a microsociological issue that is of interest to you.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. Microsociology examines the patterns of individuals' social interaction in specific settings.

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21. Discuss the concept of "value-free" as it pertains to studying a social problem. Why would it be difficult for a researcher to be value-free while conducting a research study?

ANSWER: Answers will vary. A researcher who is value-free is one who separates their personal values, opinions, ideology and beliefs from scientific research. It can be difficult to be value-free as every individual has an his or her own values and opinions about different issues. It can be hard to put those values aside when conducting a study, especially is an individual feels strongly about a particular issue.

22. Identify the father and mother of sociology and describe their contributions.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. Auguste Comte coined the term *sociology* and is often described as the "father of sociology." Comte maintained that the study of society must be empirical and based on observations, experiments, or other data collection rather than on ideology, religion, intuition, or conventional wisdom. He saw sociology as the scientific study of two aspects of society: social statics and social dynamics. Social statics investigates how principles of social order explain a particular society, as well as the interconnections between institutions. Social dynamics explores how individuals and societies change over time. Comte's emphasis on social order and change within and across societies is still useful today because many sociologists examine the relationships between education and politics (social statics), as well as how such interconnections change over time (social dynamics).
Harriet Martineau, an English author, translated and condensed Auguste Comte's difficult material for popular consumption and was largely responsible for the dissemination of Comte's work. She emphasized the importance of systematic data collection through observation and interviews, and an objective analysis of data to explain events and behavior. She also published the first sociology research methods textbook.

23. Jane is a Sociologist who is preparing to study the issues surrounding poverty utilizing the symbolic interactionist perspective. Using this perspective what would be the focus of her study on poverty?

a. The societal institutions that play a role in poverty rates
b. The various groups in society who are most likely to be impacted by poverty
c. How individuals interact with each other based on their perceived social class
d. The laws that the government passes

ANSWER: c

24. Discuss the benefits as well as the limitations of utilizing the sociological imagination in understanding social issues.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. The sociological imagination emphasizes the connection between personal troubles (biography) and structural issues. The benefits of using the sociological imagination is it allows a researcher to see the connections between an individual's private troubles and the larger societal picture. A limitation of this perspective is it doesn't necessary examine the details of each individual experience; it more so focuses on the connections between the individual and society.

25. Discuss Durkheim's account of suicide. Use Durkheim's account to propose a program to address the problem of high suicide rates among military veterans.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. In his classic study, *Suicide*, Durkheim (1897/1951) relied on extensive data collection to test his theory that suicide is associated with social integration. He concluded that people who experience meaningful social relationships in families, social groups, and communities are less likely to commit suicide than those who feel alone, helpless, or hopeless. Thus, many seemingly isolated individual acts, including suicide, are often the result of structural arrangements, such as weak social ties.

26. Describe the contributions of Jane Addams and W. E. B. Du Bois. Describe a contemporary issue that, were they alive today, might be of interest to each.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.
Jane Addams was a social worker who co-founded Hull House, one of the first settlement houses in Chicago

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that served the neighborhood poor. An active reformer throughout her life, Jane Addams was a leader in the women's suffrage movement and, in 1931, was the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her advocacy of negotiating, rather than waging war, to settle disputes. She was ignored by her colleagues at the University of Chicago because discrimination against women sociologists was rampant, but published articles in many popular and scholarly journals, as well as many books on the everyday life of urban neighborhoods, especially the effects of social disorganization and immigration. Much of her work contributed to symbolic interaction. One of Addams's greatest intellectual legacies was her emphasis on applying knowledge to everyday problems. Her pioneering work in criminology included ecological maps of Chicago that were later credited to men.

W. E. B. Du Bois was a prominent Black sociologist, writer, editor, social reformer, and orator. The author of almost two dozen books on Africans and Black Americans, Du Bois spent most of his life responding to the critics and detractors of Black life. He was the first Black individual to receive a Ph.D. from Harvard University. Du Bois helped found the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and edited its journal, *Crisis*. The problem of the twentieth century, he wrote, is the problem of the color line. Du Bois believed that the race problem was one of ignorance, and advocated a "cure" for prejudice and discrimination. Such cures included promoting Black political power and civil rights and providing Black people with a higher education rather than funneling them into technical schools.

27. Define manifest and latent functions and provide examples of each using a single social institution.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. Manifest functions are intended and recognized; they're present and clearly evident. Latent functions are unintended and unrecognized; they're present but not immediately obvious.

28. Discuss the differences between the principles of Emile Durkheim and Max Weber and discuss similarities that exist between the two Sociologists.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. To be scientific, Durkheim maintained, sociology must study social facts—aspects of social life, external to the individual, that can be measured. Durkheim also focused on social integration. Weber focused on social organization, a subjective understanding of behavior, and a value-free sociology. Each sociologist focuses on different aspects of society and how they impacted human behavior. They both became well-known in the field of Sociology in the 19th century. Also, their works are still applicable today with regards to understanding the root of social problems.

29. Discuss how conflict theorists understand social inequality, and provide a critique of that understanding.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. Conflict theorists see society not as cooperative and harmonious, but as a system of widespread inequality. For conflict theorists, there's a continuous tension between the haves and the have-nots, most of whom are children, women, minorities, people with low incomes, and the poor. Many conflict theorists focus on how those in power—typically wealthy White Anglo-Saxon Protestant males (WASPs)—dominate political and economic decision making in U.S. society. This group controls a variety of institutions—like education, criminal justice, and the media—and passes laws that benefit primarily people like themselves.

Some have criticized conflict theorists for overemphasizing competition and coercion at the expense of order and stability. Inequality exists, and struggles over scarce resources occur, critics agree, but conflict theorists often ignore cooperation and harmony. Critics also point out that the have-nots can increase their power through negotiation, bargaining, lawsuits, and strikes.

30. Compare the principles of the functionalist perspective to the conflict perspective; discuss the similarities between the two perspectives.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. The functionalist perspective focuses on the societal institutions in society and how one institution can impact another institution. The conflict perspective focuses on the conflict between groups in society scarce resources. Both of these perspectives utilize a microanalytical approach when studying social

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problems.

31. Identify and describe the three perspectives of feminist theory discussed in your text and provide an example of how each would address a contemporary issue related to gender inequality.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. *Liberal feminism* endorses social and legal reform to create equal opportunities for women. *Radical feminism* sees male dominance in social institutions (e.g., as the economy and politics) as the major cause of women's inequality. *Global feminism* focuses on how the intersection of gender with race, social class, and colonization has exploited women in the developing world.

32. Select two different occupations and discuss the usefulness of Sociology in each occupation.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. An example might be a lawyer and a doctor. Both of these individuals interact with individuals and understanding human behavior which is discussed in Sociology can help these individuals be successful in their careers. Sociology allows us to examine social class, race, and gender on a deeper level and this can be helpful in any career where individuals are interacting with individuals who come from various backgrounds.

33. Discuss the importance of symbols to symbolic interactionists, providing an example from your personal experience.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. Symbolic interaction looks at subjective, interpersonal meanings and how we interact with and influence each other by communicating through symbols—words, gestures, or pictures that stand for something and that can have different meanings for different individuals. To interact effectively, our symbols must have shared meanings, or agreed-on definitions. One of the most important of these shared meanings is the definition of the situation, or the way we perceive reality and react to it. We typically learn our definitions of the situation through interaction with significant others, especially parents, friends, relatives, and teachers, who play an important role in our socialization.

34. Discuss the advantages of using the functionalist perspective when examining a social problem and provide a critique of this perspective.

ANSWER: Answers will vary. Functionalism (also known as structural functionalism) maintains that society is a complex system of interdependent parts that work together to ensure a society's survival. Functionalism was so focused on order and stability that it often ignored social change. Functionalism can't explain the many rapid changes sparked by the civil rights, women's, and gay movements. A second and related criticism is that functionalism often glosses over the widespread inequality that a handful of powerful people create and maintain.

35. Psychology is more valuable than Sociology with regards to making informed decision about human behavior.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

36. Sociology is subjective, and conventional wisdom is objective.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

37. The sociological perspective analyzes how social context influences people's lives.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

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38. Sociologists believe that one theoretical perspective is better than another when examining a social problem
    a. True
    b. False
ANSWER: False

39. Macrosociology examines the patterns of individuals' social interaction in specific settings.
    a. True
    b. False
ANSWER: False

40. A Sociologist who is applying the principles of Karl Marx focuses on social solidarity and division of labor within a particular society.
    a. True
    b. False
ANSWER: False

41. Microsociology focuses on large-scale patterns and processes that characterize society as a whole.
    a. True
    b. False
ANSWER: False

42. A Sociologist utilizing the principles of Emile Durkheim in studying social class would focus on the divisions of labor between each social class level.
    a. True
    b. False
ANSWER: True

43. The sociological imagination challenges the core assumptions of the sociological perspective.
    a. True
    b. False
ANSWER: False

44. The sociological imagination emphasizes the connection between individual differences and commonalities.
    a. True
    b. False
ANSWER: False

45. Auguste Comte maintained that the study of society must be
    a. personal.
    b. spiritual.
    c. empirical.
    d. ideological.
ANSWER: c

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46. According to Émile Durkheim, _____ is maintained by _____.
    a. social solidarity; the division of labor
    b. harmony; social solidarity
    c. the division of labor; cohesiveness
    d. social solidarity; harmony

ANSWER: a

47. The disadvantage of using the symbolic interactionist perspective in analyzing a social problem is its focus on societal institutions and not the individual.
    a. True
    b. False

ANSWER: False

48. College students who participate in semester or year abroad programs may experience a period of anomie when they arrive in a new culture and are not completely sure of how to behave.
    a. True
    b. False

ANSWER: True

49. According to Karl Marx, history is a series of
    a. class struggles between capitalists and workers.
    b. class struggles between men and women.
    c. struggles between man and the environment.
    d. struggles between religion and science.

ANSWER: a

50. According to Marx, in _____ systems, workers feel _____ because they don't own or control either the means of production or the product.
    a. industrial capitalist; alienated
    b. communist; relieved
    c. industrial capitalist; relieved
    d. socialist; alienated

ANSWER: a

51. Imagine a friend asks why Sociology is a valuable discipline to study. What reasons would you give to your friend as far as the value of Sociology in understanding society?

ANSWER: Answers will vary. Sociology, in contrast to conventional wisdom, examines claims and beliefs critically, considers many points of view, and enables us to move beyond established ways of thinking. The sociological perspective analyzes how social context influences people's lives. The "sociological imagination" is at the center of the socio-logical perspective. Sociology can help us make more informed decisions.

52. Sociologists focus on social change and ignore social stability.
    a. True
    b. False

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ANSWER: False

53. Sociology is a(n) ____ discipline, meaning conclusions are based on systematic observations.
   a. empirical
   b. faith-based
   c. commonsense
   d. rigorous

ANSWER: a

54. The #MeToo movement has led to loss of jobs, loss of reputation, and sometimes criminal charges against individuals who have been credibly accused of sexual harassment. A sociologist would most likely understand this as
   a. individual choices.
   b. social forces impacting private lives.
   c. failed socialization.
   d. faith-based choices.

ANSWER: b

55. What distinguishes sociology from mere opinion or other forms of social commentary?
   a. The focus on universal truths
   b. The use of empirical analysis
   c. The importance assigned to common sense
   d. The search for solutions to social problems

ANSWER: b

56. Sociologists believe that persistent problems in the United States are
   a. largely the result of individual behavior.
   b. caused by people with psychological problems.
   c. embedded in society.
   d. the consequence of free will.

ANSWER: c

57. When young adults return to living with their families after graduating from college because they cannot find jobs that pay enough to both pay back their student loans and live independently, the young adults
   a. have simply made bad choices.
   b. are feeling the effects of social forces.
   c. have failed important psychosocial tasks.
   d. are probably just lazy.

ANSWER: b

58. Applying the sociological ____ means that one has the ability to see the societal patterns that influence

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individual and group life.

a. perspective
b. ideal
c. faith
d. consensus

ANSWER: a

59. Durkheim, Marx, and Weber have which of the following in common?

a. They were all macrosociological theorists.
b. They were all focused on economic inequities.
c. They all followed the Chicago School.
d. They were all functionalists.

ANSWER: a

60. Theoretical frameworks that strive to understand society as a whole are referred to as

a. macrosociology.
b. microsociology.
c. theories of the middle range.
d. universalistic sociology.

ANSWER: a

61. Theoretical frameworks that center on face-to-face social interaction are categorized as

a. macrosociology.
b. microsociology.
c. theories of the middle range.
d. universalistic sociology.

ANSWER: b

62. All the major theoretical perspectives in sociology focus on macrolevel analysis, examining whole societies, large-scale social structures, and social systems.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

63. 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 family and government that contribute to the stability of the society
b. Georgia, who believes that a society is the sum of the interactions of people and groups
c. Rebecca, who believes that behavior is the result of the 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

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64. 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

65. Debbie is interested in understanding how changes in society on a large scale are related to unemployment. She is examining how the movement of factory jobs from the United States to overseas locations is related to an increase in the number of unemployed people in the United States. Debbie is most likely conducting a:

a. microlevel analysis.
b. comparative analysis.
c. macrolevel analysis.
d. transactional-level analysis.

ANSWER: c

66. A microlevel analysis focuses on:

a. analyzing society from a functionalist perspective.
b. examining social dynamics in individuals' lives.
c. examining whole societies and social systems.
d. analyzing society from a conflict perspective.

ANSWER: b

67. Sociological imagination refers to the ability to

a. create meaningful sociological theories and test those theories.
b. develop methods to modify society and thus improve the lives of individuals.
c. see the societal patterns that influence the individual as well as groups of individuals.
d. identify societal needs and develop ways to address those needs.

ANSWER: c

68. 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

69. Sociologist C. Wright Mills coined the term _____ to refer to the ability to see the relationship

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between individual experiences and the larger society.

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

ANSWER: b

70. 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

71. One couple's inability to keep their marriage intact may be an example of a _____, whereas widespread divorce as a result of changes in the economy or other social factors is an example of a _____.

a. dysfunction; psychological difficulty
b. personal trouble; public issue
c. psychological difficulty; private issue
d. public issue; personal trouble

ANSWER: b

72. From a sociological point of view, an issue is ____ and should be understood in terms of ____.

a. an individual problem; personal choices
b. an individual problem; the underlying social forces
c. a societal matter; how it impacts individuals
d. a societal matter; the underlying social forces

ANSWER: d

73. The sociological imagination refers to the ability to view personal problems independently of the social settings in which the problems occur.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

74. Auguste Comte believed sociology could

a. not solve social problems.
b. discover the laws of the natural world.
c. discover the laws of human social behavior.

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d. help solve social problems.

ANSWER: c

75. ____ gave sociology its name and emphasized that the field should use ____ to understand society.
a. Auguste Comte; the scientific method
b. Émile Durkheim; prevailing cultural beliefs
c. Max Weber; the scientific method
d. Karl Marx; prevailing cultural beliefs

ANSWER: a

76. Unlike Herbert Spencer, Auguste Comte supported the idea of the "survival of the fittest," or the view of society known as social Darwinism.
a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

77. At the same time that urban problems were growing worse as a result of industrialization, social thinkers started to believe that by applying the methods developed by natural sciences, they might discover the laws of human behavior and apply these laws to solve social problems. This period is referred to as the _____.
a. Age of Enlightenment
b. Social Age
c. Age of Discovery
d. Early Modern Period

ANSWER: a

78. Who among the following is considered the founder of sociology?
a. Max Weber
b. Karl Marx
c. Emile Durkheim
d. Auguste Comte

ANSWER: d

Positivism

79. Positivism regards ____ as the highest form of knowledge.
a. religious dogma
b. scientific observation
c. introspection
d. general consensus

ANSWER: b

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

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inquiry became known as _____.

a. absolutism
b. positivism
c. functionalism
d. specific methodology

ANSWER: b

81. Auguste Comte's philosophy of _____ refers to a belief that the world can best be understood through scientific inquiry.

a. positivism
b. nihilism
c. stoicism
d. constructionism

ANSWER: a

Durkheim

82. According to Emile Durkheim,

a. deviance has no place in a "healthy" society.
b. people in society are held together by belief systems.
c. the best theoretical approach to the study of society is social conflict theory.
d. the economic system has the most important influence on human thought and behavior.

ANSWER: b

83. Durkheim conceptualized social facts as

a. One's personal drives and motivations.
b. social patterns that are external to individuals.
c. society as the sum of its parts.
d. the direct outgrowth of our biological drives.

ANSWER: b

84. According to _____, the primary purpose of sociology is examining social facts.

a. Harriet Martineau
b. Alexis de Tocqueville
c. Auguste Comte
d. Emile Durkheim

ANSWER: d

85. According to Durkheim, the economic organization of society is the most important influence on what humans think and how they behave.

a. True

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b. False

ANSWER: False

86. From Durkheim's perspective, society comprises unrelated, independent parts that contribute to a stable social order.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

87. According to Durkheim, during an economic crisis

a. people will blame marginalized groups, like immigrants, for taking their jobs.
b. inequality among social classes will cause the rich to gain.
c. people will look to themselves, not the system, for failure.
d. open, sometimes violent conflict between classes is inevitable.

ANSWER: a

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

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: True

89. Sociologist Emile Durkheim stressed that people are the product of their social environment. He observed that rapid social change and a more specialized division of labor produce strains in society, which lead to a breakdown in traditional organization, values, and authority.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: True

90. 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

91. The basis for Durkheim's theory of society is the principle 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 consists of the dual processes of social statics and social dynamics

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d. conflict between different economic classes is necessary to produce social change

ANSWER: a

Suicide (Durkheim)

92. Durkheim believed that the causes of suicide were found in
a. mental illness.
b. the social environment.
c. genetics.
d. emotional stress.

ANSWER: b

93. Anomie, as defined by Durkheim, is frequently referred to as a state of
a. extreme depression.
b. excessive social integration.
c. total detachment from society and societal forces.
d. relative normlessness caused by the breakdown of social influences.

ANSWER: d

94. Corey just doesn't care. He doesn't care about his lousy, minimum wage job; he doesn't care that he can barely survive; he doesn't care about all of the expectations others have for them or the demands they put on him; and he doesn't care that he was born (alone), he will live (alone), and he will die (alone) and none of it means a thing. Durkheim would suggest that Corey is living in a state of
a. dysfunction.
b. culture conflict.
c. anomie.
d. egoism.

ANSWER: c

95. 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

96. Emile Durkheim refused to accept that suicide is merely a(n) _____.
a. personal trouble
b. interdependence issue
c. public issue
d. societal dysfunction

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ANSWER: a

97. According to Emile Durkheim, rapid social change and reduced social integration contribute to _____, a social condition in which people experience a sense of futility because social norms are weak, absent, or conflicting.

a. anomie
b. Verstehen
c. transference
d. Gemeinschaft

ANSWER: a

98. In Suicide, ____ explored ____.

a. Émile Durkheim; the social ties that suicide severed
b. Émile Durkheim; the contribution of troubles to suicide
c. C. Wright Mills; the contribution of troubles to suicide
d. C. Wright Mills; the social ties that suicide severed

ANSWER: a

99. Durkheim's vision of suicide

a. puts the spotlight on the victim.
b. places emphasis on the unique circumstances that lead people to kill themselves.
c. puts the spotlight on social relationships that are severed.
d. portrays victims as deeply psychologically troubled.

ANSWER: c

100. According to Émile Durkheim, troubles are the result of personal shortcomings.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

101. Durkheim observed that anomie is caused primarily by an absence of social change and a lack of specialized division of labor in society.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

102. _____ is 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. Social stratification
b. Catharsis
c. Cultural breakdown
d. Anomie

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ANSWER: d

103. A note left at the scene of a suicide expressed the victim's concern that he felt little sense of moral guidance. He indicated that he was uncertain about what was right or wrong in today's world. In the context of Emile Durkheim's theory, the victim's suicide can most likely be attributed to _____.

a. anomie
b. deindividuation
c. convergent thinking
d. social pluralism

ANSWER: a

104. In his book Suicide, sociologist Emile Durkheim documented that a high suicide rate was symptomatic of large-scale social problems.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: True

105. Sociologist Emile Durkheim emphasized that individual acts of suicide provide better explanations of suicide than do suicide rates.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

106. For Marx, ____ is a class system in which conflict between the classes is common and society is anything but cohesive.

a. socialism
b. communism
c. capitalism
d. fascism

ANSWER: c

107. According to Marx, the major focus for capitalists is on

a. increasing profits as much as possible.
b. feeling “connected” to the products or services they sell.
c. maintaining overall social harmony in their companies.
d. social cohesiveness and social solidarity.

ANSWER: a

108. Marx’s work was devoted to explaining

a. the social basis of human behavior.
b. the social laws that governed human behavior.
c. how capitalism shaped society.

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d. how to observe social behavior while participating in it.

ANSWER: c

109. According to Marx, capitalism is based on
a. social solidarity and cohesion.
b. profit and private property.
c. a communal political system.
d. a rejection of industrialization.

ANSWER: b

110. Which of the following statements about Marx is true?
a. Marx focused more on individuals than social structure in his analysis of society.
b. Marx considered all of society to be shaped by economic forces.
c. A limitation of Marx's work was his failure to recognize the effects of class on social behavior.
d. Marx's evolutionary concept of societal development and change is almost identical to that of Durkheim's.

ANSWER: b

111. Marx's perspective of society argued that
a. capitalists do not own the actual system by which goods are produced and distributed.
b. workers receive a fair share of the profits that they help create.
c. profit is produced through the exploitation of the working class.
d. while capitalists control the production of goods, they do not control the production of ideas.

ANSWER: c

112. Which theorist made the assertion that capitalism is based on the pursuit of profit and the sanctity of private property and further argued that profit is produced through the exploitation of the working class?
a. Emile Durkheim
b. Georg Simmel
c. Karl Marx
d. Auguste Comte

ANSWER: c

113. According to Karl Marx, capitalism
a. is built on the exploitation of workers.
b. is negotiated by cultural values.
c. facilitates upward social mobility.
d. is a strong force in ensuring world peace.

ANSWER: a

114. According to Marx, class conflict is

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a. embedded in the system of capitalism.
b. independent of the capitalist system.
c. rare, given the upward mobility capitalism offers.
d. largely inconsequential since it can never succeed.

ANSWER: a

115. 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

116. In the Marxian framework, the _____ consists of those who sell their labor because they have no other way to earn a living.
a. proletariat
b. capitalist class
c. bourgeoisie
d. laissez-faire class

ANSWER: a

117. 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

ANSWER: c

118. 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

Max Weber

119. Max Weber focused on

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a. social organization and a subjective understanding of behavior.
b. economics as a major factor in explaining society.
c. capitalism and its impact on workers' social behavior.
d. the capitalists, petit bourgeoise, and the proletariat.

ANSWER: a

120. Weber posited that an understanding of society requires a "subjective" understanding of behavior. Such understanding is known as

a. entwicklung.
b. gemeinschaft.
c. gesellschaft.
d. verstehen.

ANSWER: d

121. Matt notices Julie laughing in the school hallway with a friend. He knows that Julie must be feeling happy or joyful. In this scenario, Matt is using Max Weber's ____ to deduce that Julie is happy.

a. direct observational understanding
b. explanatory understanding
c. surveillance understanding
d. common understanding

ANSWER: a

122. Weber theorized that value-free sociology could not exist since values would always influence what sociologists considered worthy of study. Because they could not be completely value free, Weber believed that sociologists should

a. not worry about whether or not their research is biased.
b. use their research to promote particular political perspectives.
c. acknowledge the influence of values and try to be as objective as possible.
d. avoid research and stick to theoretical writing.

ANSWER: c

123. An important concept in Weber's sociology is verstehen, which refers to

a. approaching the study of society from a value-free perspective.
b. a focus on the political systems of society.
c. viewing social behavior from the perspective of those engaged in it.
d. social action.

ANSWER: c

124. According to Weber, sociological research should be used to promote political beliefs.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

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125. Weber believed that people's behavior could only be understood from the objective position of the outside observer.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

126. In regard to negative consequences of industrial society, sociologist Max Weber was more concerned about the impact of rational bureaucracy than of class struggle.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: True

127. 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

Martineau

128. Harriet Martineau's book How to Observe Morals and Manners was the first

a. to discuss observing behavior while participating in the situation.
b. field study of folkways and mores.
c. in-depth analysis of democratic culture.
d. coauthored manuscript involving Auguste Comte.

ANSWER: a

129. 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

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

a. building a stronger middle class
b. the importance of cultural relativism
c. recognizing the forces for stability and change in society

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d. social equality and reform

ANSWER: d

WEB Du Bois

131. Which statement about W. E. B. DuBois is true?

a. He was a cofounder of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People).
b. He was adamantly opposed to women being involved in professional life.
c. Because of death threats, he published under a pseudonym.
d. He was so involved in social activism that he did very little writing.

ANSWER: a

132. Which of the following early sociologists believed that the study of society should involve social activism?

a. Alexis de Tocqueville
b. Max Weber
c. W. E. B. DuBois
d. Robert Merton

ANSWER: c

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

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

ANSWER: a

134. Who among the following was one of the first scholars to note that a dual heritage creates conflict for people of color?

a. Talcott Parsons
b. Robert K. Merton
c. W. E. B. Du Bois
d. Herbert Spencer

ANSWER: c

Conflict Theory

135. Conflict theorists have been criticized for overemphasizing the drive for order and stability at the expense of competition and coercion.

a. True
b. False

ANSWER: False

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136. The sociological perspective that views power struggles as the source of social change is
a. Functionalism.
b. conflict theory.
c. symbolic interactionism.
d. none of the above.
ANSWER: b

137. Conflict theory originated in the work of
a. Karl Marx.
b. Emile Durkheim.
c. Robert Park.
d. Max Weber.
ANSWER: a

138. Conflict theory emphasizes
a. a person's or group's ability to exercise influence and control over others.
b. the significance of consensus in maintaining social order.
c. the benefits of dysfunctions that cause social change.
d. the significance of face-to-face interactions.
ANSWER: a

139. According to conflict theorists, social order in society is maintained by
a. a shared system of beliefs.
b. a shared system of values.
c. domination by the powerful.
d. social consensus.
ANSWER: c

140. Which of the following is not one of the arguments of conflict theory?
a. Inequality exists because those with wealth work to defend their advantages.
b. Society is fragmented into groups that compete for social and economic resources.
c. Social order is maintained by consensus and interdependence.
d. The dominant groups shape the beliefs of others through control of public information.
ANSWER: c

141. A criticism of ____ is that it understates the cohesion and stability found in society.
a. functionalism
b. conflict theory
c. symbolic interaction theory
d. exchange theory

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ANSWER: b

142. The conflict perspective emphasizes the role of ____ as essential for progress to occur in society.
a. women's movements
b. symbolic meaning and shared understanding
c. consensus and order
d. conflict and uprising

ANSWER: d

143. According to the _____, groups in society are engaged in a continuous power struggle for control of scarce resources.
a. functionalist perspective
b. interactionist perspective
c. conflict perspective
d. developmental perspective

ANSWER: c

144. In the context of the coal industry, which of the following theoretical perspectives of sociology would most likely be useful in analyzing the disagreements between coal companies and public health advocates?
a. functionalist perspectives
b. interactionist perspectives
c. conflict perspectives
d. developmental perspectives

ANSWER: c

145. Social-class pressures may affect rates of suicide among young people. This view is consistent with the _____.
a. conflict theory perspective
b. postmodern perspective
c. functionalist perspective
d. symbolic interactionist perspective

ANSWER: a

146. In a study of homelessness in American society, _____ would emphasize the struggle between social classes, especially how the policies of wealthy people protect their interests while pushing certain groups into unemployment and homelessness.
a. conflict theorists
b. functionalists
c. symbolic interactionists
d. postmodern theorists

ANSWER: a

147. One of the common criticisms of the functionalist theory is that it

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a. is so focused on order and stability that it often ignores social change.
b. is too focused on social change and often ignores social cohesion.
c. often ignores the contribution of gender in understanding social change.
d. often focuses too much on discrimination and inequality.

ANSWER: a

148. How do functionalists view disorganization within society?
a. They believe it must result in change to reestablish equilibrium in society.
b. They view disorganization as normal for society.
c. They believe that disorganization in one part of society will affect only those directly involved.
d. They believe that change is for the worse, stemming from instability.

ANSWER: a

149. _____ interprets each part of society in terms of how it contributes to the stability of society as a whole.
a. Functionalism
b. Conflict theory
c. Symbolic interaction
d. Positivism

ANSWER: a

150. From a functionalist perspective, the most basic manifest function of the family is
a. emotional support.
b. reproduction.
c. marriage.
d. economic support.

ANSWER: b

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