Essentials of Sociology 8th edition Giddens Test Bank

SKU: 9780393537925-TEST-BANK

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Chapter 1

1. Sociologists recognize that “personal” troubles, if occurring in patterned ways and to large numbers of individuals, reflect
   a. public issues.
   b. individualized problems.
   c. anomie.
   d. organic solidarity.

2. What are the four types of questions that sociologists generally ask themselves when examining a social phenomenon? Using the example of romantic love, explain how these four questions help one to focus their sociological imagination.

3. With a sociological imagination, one sees a simple, seemingly private act, such as drinking a cup of coffee, in terms of larger public issues.
   a. True
   b. False

4. In one or two sentences, explain Émile Durkheim’s idea of social facts and give one example of a social fact.

Essentials of Sociology 8th edition Giddens Test Bank

5. Tori's father loses his job during a time of economic crisis when many people are losing their jobs. Her mother is a skilled daycare worker with years of experience, but, like many daycare workers, she cannot find any jobs that pay well. Sociologists would likely see the struggle of Tori's parents as

   a. a personal trouble.

   b. the fault of Tori's father for not providing for the family.

   c. the result of a socialist economy.

   d. a public issue.

6. One of the latent functions of marriage is to reproduce the class structure of society.

   a. True

   b. False

7. When Durkheim theorized about anomie, what was he referring to? What use did he make of the concept?

8. In one or two sentences, please explain the difference between microsociology and macrosociology.

9. When Juan drinks his morning coffee, he thinks about its production in Colombia, its transportation through many countries, the taxes and tariffs applied for international commerce, and the diverse array of social relations behind his drink. According to the textbook, one might say that Juan is using a _____ perspective.

   a. bureaucratic

   b. postmodern

c. global

d. domestic

10. Feminism is a major influential movement within sociology today.

a. True

b. False

11. Compare and contrast how macrosociology and microsociology would examine romantic love. Explain why we need both perspectives to understand romantic love.

12. What are the four main methods used in sociological research?

13. The idea of a sociological imagination originated with

a. W. E. B. Du Bois.

b. C. Wright Mills.

c. Émile Durkheim.

d. Karl Marx.

14. In order to ensure that their findings are reproducible, sociologists should always publish not just their results but also their research procedures.

a. True

b. False

15. What are sociologists able to study by employing the method of ethnography?

16. Consider the income and wealth gap in the United States. Compare how functionalism and conflict theory view income and wealth inequality.

17. The significance of a sociological imagination is that
    a. sociology should be considered a philosophy rather than a science.
    b. sociologists are primarily interested in predicting the unobservable.
    c. sociology attempts to connect individual experiences to larger social issues.
    d. sociology is rarely concerned with empirical verification of theories.

18. What is one advantage of experiments over surveys or ethnographies?

19. The main challenge in conducting surveys is attaining a large enough sample size.
    a. True
    b. False

20. List the seven steps in the scientific research process and discuss what happens in each step.

21. When sociologists visit college campuses, they are able to connect a variety of individual behaviors and social relationships they observe to larger social issues. Such connections are not always immediately apparent to the members of the college community because their perspectives are likely to be limited to the

immediate campus context that surrounds them. A sociologist's ability to interpret the larger meanings of the experiences taking place on a college campus is referred to as

a. theory.

b. macrosociology.

c. feminism.

d. sociological imagination.

22. What are the pros and cons of conducting experiments in the field?

23. A sociologist wishes to gain insight into street vendor activities in a major American city. What research method would probably be best to use in such a study? Why? What are the strengths and weaknesses of this method in regard to this topic?

24. The best way to measure the degree of dispersal for quantitative data is by using the median.

a. True

b. False

25. _____ refers to how human societies are reconstructed at every moment by their "building blocks" –human beings themselves.

a. "Survival of the fittest"

b. The materialist conception of history

c. Structuration

d. Social physics

26. What is one advantage that the median has over the mean when looking at skewed data?

27. You receive a major research grant for $100,000 to study prescription stimulant (e.g., Adderall) misuse and its effect on student grades on college campuses across the United States. Which of the major research methods discussed in the text (survey, experiment, field research, comparative-historical) is most appropriate in your opinion, and why? What are the strengths and weaknesses of this method in regard to this topic?

28. To study the homeless, you must actually live among them.

    a. True

    b. False

29. In the United States, women began entering the workforce in larger numbers until their employment eventually became normalized, altering women's structural place in society. This is an example of

    a. structuration.

    b. triangulation.

    c. postmodernism.

    d. globalization.

30. Compare and contrast two of the major research methods discussed in the text (survey, experiment, field research, comparative-historical). What are the advantages and disadvantages of each method? Write a research question on the topic of divorce using each of the three methods.

31. What would the correlation coefficient be if two variables are not at all correlated?

32. Which question about the transformations that accompanied industrialization in the West would a sociologist be MOST likely to explore?

    a. Which marriage ideals preceded the romantic love ideal, and why did the shift occur?

    b. What are key differences between an industrial economy and information economy?

    c. How are ideals of romantic love connected with industrialization?

    d. How do people manage workplace stress in industrial settings?

33. Discuss the difference between the median and the mean. Which measure might you use if you were reporting on the wealth of American families? Explain.

34. How can sociology help us understand ourselves?

35. What is the concept that sociologists use to understand the economic, political, and social interconnectedness of individuals throughout the world?

    a. globalization

    b. structuration

    c. sociological imagination

    d. organic solidarity

36. What issues may arise when following the scientific research process to study human behavior?

37. At the height of the most developed traditional civilizations, such as ancient Rome or preindustrial China,

a. most of the population lived in urban areas.

b. most people engaged in food production.

c. most people fell in love.

d. “falling in love” was a precondition for marriage.

38. The backdrop for the development of sociology in Europe was provided partly by the

a. American Revolution.

b. English Civil War.

c. Russian Revolution.

d. Industrial Revolution.

39. Which sociological theorist first used the word *sociology* to describe the science that seeks to understand human behavior?

a. Auguste Comte

b. Émile Durkheim

c. Karl Marx

d. Max Weber

40. What should knowledge of society be based on, according to Auguste Comte?

a. authority

b. imagination

c. scientific evidence

d. tradition

41. Which sociologist argued that social factors exert a fundamental influence on suicidal behavior?

a. Harriet Martineau

b. Émile Durkheim

c. George Herbert Mead

d. Robert K. Merton

42. According to Émile Durkheim, sociologists must study social facts, which are

a. the ways in which people cooperate.

b. what people report as the reasons for their behavior.

c. aspects of social life that shape our individual actions.

d. individual opinions.

43. Organic solidarity is

a. how society operates naturally.

b. when people disagree on basic values and customs but work together anyway.

c. a source of social conflict in society.

d. when the institutions of society function as an integrated whole.

44. According to Émile Durkheim, societies must have organic solidarity based on cooperation and a general agreement on basic values and customs in order to

a. persist over time.

b. survive in the face of globalization.

c. exert social constraint over their members' actions.

d. limit social conflict.

45. The way in which social structure limits the range of activities and opportunities in individuals' lives is called

a. organic solidarity.

b. anomie.

c. microsociology.

d. social constraint.

46. Consider a society in which students are allowed to go to any school they can qualify and pay for. A young adult wishes to go to a costly private university but cannot afford the cost of tuition. This would be an example of the concept of

a. anomie.

b. social constraint.

c. capitalism.

d. organic solidarity.

47. According to Émile Durkheim, the rapid process of social change gives rise to many social difficulties that he linked to

a. anomie.

b. social conflict.

c. increased social constraint.

d. the economy.

48. Which early theorist saw class conflict as the main source of social change?

a. Émile Durkheim

b. Harriet Martineau

c. Karl Marx

d. Max Weber

49. In Marxian analysis, which group makes up the largest component of society?

a. the ruling class

b. capitalists

c. wage workers

d. the aristocracy

50. Karl Marx differs from Émile Durkheim in that Marx

a. concentrated on postindustrial society as opposed to industrial society.

b. argued that social change is caused by economic influences as opposed to values and ideas.

c. argued for a social physics and scientific understanding.

d. argued that social change causes anomie.

51. According to Karl Marx's materialist conception of history, which of the following would be considered a source of social change in society?

a. democratic political movements

b. the conflict between the working class and the ruling class

c. acceptance of new religions

d. changes in family structure

52. According to Karl Marx, society is

a. like a living being, with organic solidarity.

b. a voluntary association of equals, for mutual benefit.

c. a hierarchy of classes based on economic roles.

d. a hierarchy of classes based on race.

53. The economic system in which conflict is inevitable because it is in the interest of the ruling class to exploit the working class and in the interest of workers to overcome that exploitation is called

a. socialism.

b. Marxism.

c. communism.

d. capitalism.

54. Which of the following was a focus of Max Weber's research?

a. class struggles

b. the influence of cultural ideas and values on social change and individual behavior

c. a belief in the superiority of Western culture

d. the sense of aimlessness provoked by modern social life

55. According to Max Weber, economic factors are important to social change in society. However, he also argued that _____ is/are just as important for social change.

a. ideas and values

b. cohesion

c. government

d. the ability to accept social change

56. What played the fundamental role in developing the capitalistic outlook, according to Max Weber?

a. organic solidarity

b. specialization

c. religious values

d. symbolic interaction

57. Max Weber contended that a bureaucratic structure is the most efficient organizational type. Which of the following best exemplifies a bureaucratic organization?

a. the Beta chapter of Delta Gamma sorority

b. a block party in celebration of Independence Day

c. an introductory sociology class

d. the college or university you attend

58. Minzee has just been promoted to head assistant of Technology Innovations for the Department of Sociology. She now reports directly to the chairperson of the Technology Committee. Minzee is in charge of digitizing movie clips and sending them to the chairperson, who then loads the clips onto the department website. This chain of command is an example of

a. capitalism.

b. social structure.

c. socialization.

d. bureaucracy.

59. Which type of organization causes problems for effective democratic participation, according to Max Weber?

a. government

b. capitalism

c. organic solidarity

d. bureaucracy

60. Besides being an active proponent of women's rights, Harriet Martineau also fought for

a. the outlawing of alcoholic drinks.

b. better working conditions in factories.

c. better treatment for the mentally ill.

d. the emancipation of slaves.

61. Many foundational figures in sociology developed theories to address social inequality, exploitation, and stratification. At the same time, however, they

a. neglected to examine industrialization.

b. ignored women and minorities.

c. forgot to examine values and beliefs.

d. ignored the role of religion in society.

62. Who was the first sociologist to look at previously ignored issues, such as domestic life and race relations?

a. Émile Durkheim

b. Emily Dickinson

c. Harriet Martineau

d. Jean Baudrillard

63. Harriet Martineau is significant to sociologists today for insisting that an analysis of society must include

a. a focus on culture.

b. an examination of economic factors.

c. all of society's members, including women.

d. the most powerful figures in a society.

64. According to W. E. B. Du Bois, African Americans' sense of self and identity is greatly influenced by the tension and disorientation of living in a society that requires them to see themselves through the eyes of others. Du Bois labeled this idea

a. organic solidarity.

b. anomie.

c. dialectical materialism.

d. double consciousness.

65. Who said about American society, "The problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the color line"?

a. Émile Durkheim

b. George Herbert Mead

c. Harriet Martineau

d. W. E. B. Du Bois

66. Having a _____ allows one to understand the importance of gender relations and gender inequality in analyzing the social world.

a. sociological imagination

b. double consciousness

c. global perspective

d. feminist perspective

67. Who introduced sociology to England by publishing a translation of August Comte's *Positive Philosophy*?

a. Émile Durkheim

b. Karl Marx

c. Harriet Martineau

d. Max Weber

68. A neighborhood has an annual food drive with the primary purpose of collecting food for disadvantaged families. However, this event also has the effect of fostering a stronger sense of community in this neighborhood. The creation of a stronger sense of community would be an example of Robert K. Merton's concept of

a. manifest functions.

b. latent functions.

c. microsociology.

d. functionalism.

69. Who had the greatest influence on the theoretical approach known as symbolic interactionism?

a. Auguste Comte

b. Émile Durkheim

c. Talcott Parsons

d. George Herbert Mead

70. According to George Herbert Mead, what happens when a child begins to use the word “I”?

a. The child starts to act out of self-interest.

b. The child starts to develop a sense of self.

c. Caregivers start to see child as having unique needs and wants.

d. Older siblings start to see the child as a rival for caregivers’ attention.

71. A variety of interpretations can be made of a scene at a restaurant where two men are having lunch together, laughing, and being playful with each other. Who among the following would most likely interpret their behavior by watching for subtle signs of affection and eye contact?

a. a functionalist

b. a Marxist

c. a conflict theorist

d. a symbolic interactionist

72. According to George Herbert Mead, what separates human society from the animal kingdom?

a. the ability to interpret the natural world

b. the ability to interpret and understand symbols

c. latent functions

d. organic solidarity

73. When one item is used to represent another, it is labeled a(n)

a. concept.

b. theory.

c. interpretation.

d. symbol.

74. In daily life, people rely on cues to determine which behaviors are appropriate or inappropriate in each particular context. Which of the following theories does this statement best represent?

a. functionalism

b. postmodernism

c. symbolic interactionism

d. Marxism

75. Which theoretical perspective perceives moral consensus within society as imperative for social integration?

a. functionalism

b. Marxism

c. symbolic interactionism

d. conflict theory

76. A functionalist like Talcott Parsons might say that religion survives in the modern world because it serves a functional purpose, namely maintaining social cohesion. How would a critic of functionalism most likely reply?

a. Religion is often a source of destructive social conflict.

b. The functionalist explanation serves to maintain existing social structures.

c. Concepts like “need” and “purpose” do not apply to societies as a whole.

d. The functionalist analysis ignores the role of social class.

77. According to Robert K. Merton, the intended consequences of a social activity or institution are called

a. latent functions.

b. manifest functions.

c. desired functions.

d. organic solidarity.

78. Which of the following is an example of a latent function of education?

a. Learn basic skills, such as reading and writing.

b. Learn the skills needed to get a job.

c. Learn analytical skills such as critical thinking.

d. Learn to obey authority figures.

79. The social cohesion that fans feel at a baseball game when their team wins is an example of a(n) _____ function.

a. intended

b. manifest

c. symbolic

d. latent

80. In addition to sociological analysis, Marxist sociologists believe that sociology should also include

a. political reform.

b. focus on individual behavior.

c. religious analysis.

d. moral analysis.

81. If a person or group is able to make their own concerns or interests count, even if others resist, that individual or group has

a. power.

b. privilege.

c. prestige.

d. feminism.

82. According to Marxist sociologists, ideologies are used to

a. create social cohesion.

b. justify the actions of the powerful.

c. help the disadvantaged.

d. reduce cultural inequality.

83. Feminist theory notes the systematic inequality in social life by gender and seeks political reform to overcome this inequality. These features of feminist theory illustrate its connection to

a. functionalism.

b. symbolic interactionism.

c. conflict theory.

d. rational choice theory.

84. An ideology is a

a. set of laws that enforce the power of one group in society.

b. set of moral codes that form social cohesion in society.

c. political system that governs in the interest of dominant groups.

d. shared set of ideas or beliefs that justify the interest of dominant groups.

85. What do Marxism and feminism have in common?

a. Both focus on inequalities and conflict as central features of modern societies.

b. Neither sees advocating social change as an appropriate activity for sociologists.

c. Both reject the idea that subordinate groups are important to study.

d. Marxism and feminism deemphasize political reform.

86. According to postmodern theory,

a. history is leading us inevitably toward socialism.

b. society is becoming increasingly homogenized.

c. the nation-state is growing stronger.

d. society is highly pluralistic and diverse.

87. In the postmodern world, according to Jean Baudrillard, signs and images in the media

a. have replaced economic forces as the primary shapers of society.

b. give people's lives meaning in the way religion once did.

c. help us understand ourselves, without the need for sociological theory.

d. form a link between micro- and macro-level social relationships.

88. Robert K. Merton advocated that sociologists should develop more modest theories that would not attempt to encompass all of society. He termed these types of theories

a. micro-level theories.

b. theories of the middle range.

c. rational theories.

d. manifest theories.

89. The study of everyday life and face-to-face interaction is called

a. microsociology.

b. macrosociology.

c. biosociology.

d. psychosociology.

90. Which of the following is an example of microsociology?

a. studying the social interactions in a coffee shop

b. defining the organizational chart for a large corporation

c. studying the positions of responsibility in a school system

d. observing the hierarchical structures within a university

91. Analysis of large-scale systems and long-term processes is known as

a. microsociology.

b. macrosociology.

c. biosociology.

d. psychosociology.

92. Camilo wants to see whether people in France react the same way to authority as people in the United States. He will likely develop what kind of research question?

a. factual question

b. comparative question

c. developmental question

d. theoretical question

93. Florence is interested in researching how men's lives have changed as women have increasingly entered the workforce. What kind of research question will she be formulating?

a. factual question

b. comparative question

c. developmental question

d. theoretical question

94. What is the basic concern behind a developmental question?

a. Does this happen everywhere?

b. Has this happened over time?

c. What happened?

d. What underlies this phenomenon?

95. Dr. Jun is a sociologist studying first responders in major disasters. Which of the following is a factual question Dr. Jun may want to ask?

a. Why are certain professionals helpful in certain disaster situations?

b. How has the first responder profession grown and changed over time?

c. How many first responders are present after an earthquake?

d. How do first responder experiences at a hurricane site compare to first responder experiences at a wildfire site?

96. Sasha, a student in a sociology class, lost points on a graded research paper for not citing a famous study done five years earlier that was nearly identical to his own research. What step in the research process should he have done more carefully?

a. Define the research problem

b. Review the evidence

c. Carry out the research

d. Interpret the results

97. For a research project in his sociology class, Jamal is studying eating disorders among college students. He is currently interviewing several subjects. What stage of the research process is he in now?

a. Define the research problem

b. Work out a design

c. Carry out the research

d. Interpret the results

98. For a research project in his sociology class, Joe is studying cheating among college students. He is currently deciding between creating a questionnaire and conducting interviews. What stage of the research process is he in now?

a. Define the research problem

b. Work out a design

c. Carry out the research

d. Interpret the results

99. For a research project in her sociology class, Joan has decided to study gender wage differences between men and women. What should be her next step?

a. Develop a hypothesis

b. Review the evidence

c. Interpret the results

d. Report the findings

100. Maia has collected survey responses from sixty-seven students at her school and is now going over the data set to determine whether it supports or disproves her research hypothesis. Which step in the research process is this?

a. Review the evidence

b. Make the problem precise

c. Interpret the results

d. Report the findings

101. For a research project in his sociology class, José is studying dating preferences among college students. He has already decided to conduct a survey of his classmates and has developed a hypothesis. What should be his next step?

a. Define the research problem

b. Make the problem precise

c. Work out a design

d. Carry out the research

102. A good hypothesis will be formulated in such a way that the

a. existing literature will have already answered the question.

b. factual material gathered will always disprove it.

c. factual material gathered will always support it.

d. factual material gathered will provide evidence either supporting or disproving it.

103. A researcher will survey college students concerning their attitudes toward lowering the legal drinking age to 18. Which of the following is a good research hypothesis for this particular study?

a. Students under age 21 will be more supportive of lowering the drinking age than students 21 or older.

b. Opinions toward lowering the drinking age will not affect legislation.

c. Most college students' parents will oppose lowering the drinking age to 18.

d. A majority of college students have consumed alcohol before age 21.

104. Sociological research projects usually

a. provide the public with clear-cut and definitive answers to the research problem.

b. end up influencing the behavior of subjects rather than observing it.

c. create more research questions and problems.

d. allow us to use anecdotal information to illuminate social processes.

105. The seven steps in the research process are best thought of as

a. a cookbook recipe.

b. a set of regulations.

c. a software flowchart.

d. furniture assembly instructions.

106. A research project is designed to use large amounts of objective data to describe the rates and averages of several characteristics of a population and the correlations between them. The analytical method most likely to be used is called

a. hypothesis testing.

b. observational.

c. quantitative testing.

d. qualitative testing.

107. Which of the following best illustrates qualitative methods of data collection?

a. An observer takes notes on the nonverbal behavior of members of a focus group for car commercials.

b. A clerk records the number of people attending a school board meeting open to the public.

c. Each person in a sample group is recorded as being either a U.S. citizen or a citizen of another country.

d. People entering a store are asked whether they plan to vote for or against a certain city council candidate.

108. The research method that relies on personal and group interviews and observation is using a(n) _____ approach.

a. experimental

b. sampling

c. quantitative

d. qualitative

109. Reilly, a sociology master's student, wants to do research on the homeless in her city. She would like to provide a rich, detailed, inside view of being homeless. What research method should she choose?

a. comparative research

b. ethnography

c. experiment

d. survey

110. If a researcher would like to get in-depth information based on interviews and firsthand observations, she should use the methodological approach known as a(n) _____.

a. survey

b. pilot study

c. ethnography

d. experiment

111. Using participant observation in the sociological research process requires

a. establishing a formal relationship with the leaders and members of the group.

b. creating a formal boundary between the researcher and the group.

c. great skill in gaining the confidence of the individuals being studied.

d. having little interaction with the group members or leaders but just the observation group.

112. Which research method would be best to use if you wanted a large, representative sample of people's attitudes toward married women, with children, working outside the home?

a. survey

b. life history

c. experiment

d. ethnography

113. A standardized question, by definition

a. is one that can be posed either in person or by electronic means.

b. is posed with identical wording to every respondent.

c. has a fixed range of possible responses.

d. has only one possible answer.

114. Tom develops a questionnaire for his study on Facebook usage that allows users to indicate whether they strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with various statements. These types of questions are known as

a. experimental.

b. fieldwork.

c. open-ended.

d. standardized.

115. Frank develops a questionnaire for his study on online dating. One of his questions asks, "How do you feel about online dating?" What type of question is this?

a. contingency

b. experimental

c. fieldwork

d. open-ended

116. Kelly is testing her questionnaire on a few subjects to find potential problems with it before conducting the full study. What is this trial run called?

a. population study

b. pilot study

c. empirical study

d. developmental study

117. Kevin is interested in doing a study on student attitudes toward the general education requirements on his campus. He surveys 50 students. This small group of students he surveyed is known as the

a. population.

b. control group.

c. experimental group.

d. sample.

118. Compared to 1984, Americans responding to the 2004 General Social Survey

a. reported discussing important matters with fewer people.

b. reported a greater number of casual friendships.

c. were more likely to report feeling isolated and lonely.

d. reported greater reliance on the Internet to stay in touch with friends.

119. For a sample to accurately reflect the characteristics of the study population, it must be

a. very large.

b. public.

c. representative.

d. standardized.

120. The main purpose of sampling is to

a. enhance the quality of your observations.

b. select cases that will support your research hypotheses.

c. select cases that are the most willing to participate in your study.

d. select a set of people who are representative of the population.

121. In order for a sample to be representative, it must be selected through

a. randomization.

b. ethnography.

c. census-based data.

d. standardization.

122. Random sampling makes a sample representative by ensuring that

a. the choice of the population being studied is arbitrary.

b. the questions have been standardized regardless of who is answering them.

c. everyone in the population has an equal probability of getting into the sample.

d. the questions people in the sample are asked varies in a random pattern.

123. Which of the following describes an advantage of survey research?

a. It allows us to see a situation from inside a particular group.

b. It provides richer detail about a population than other methods.

c. The response rates are usually high.

d. Results can easily be quantified and analyzed.

124. Which of the following describes a disadvantage of survey research?

a. The method can be used only to study relatively small groups or communities.

b. Responses may be what people only profess to think, not what they really think.

c. Surveys are harder for other researchers to repeat than experiments are.

d. Surveys are useful only for collecting quantitative data, not qualitative.

125. Why are experiments much less common in sociology than in the natural sciences?

a. It is too difficult to find willing participants who meet the criteria of sociological studies.

b. Sociological researchers must control all of the conditions, making experiments more laborious for them.

c. Sociological researchers can bring only small groups into a laboratory setting where people may behave unnaturally because they are being watched.

d. Sociological researchers exercise unconscious prejudices when choosing experiment subjects.

126. Wesley conducts research that involves meeting with subjects in a controlled setting. He treats some subjects kindly but behaves rudely to others. He notes how the different groups react to his behavior to make inferences about how people react to kindness and rudeness in certain situations. His research would best be described as

a. random sampling.

b. an experiment.

c. participant observation.

d. comparative research.

127. Philip Zimbardo's prison experiment involved setting up a make-believe jail and randomly assigning male student volunteers to the roles of guards and prisoners. The researcher concluded that

a. existing personal relationships interfered with students' ability to assume their assigned roles.

b. behavior in prisons reflects individual personality characteristics of guards and prisoners.

c. behavior in prisons is strongly influenced by the nature of the prison setting.

d. students who were assigned to be guards developed leadership skills.

128. A classic social science research study involved setting up a make-believe jail and randomly assigning male student volunteers to the roles of guards and prisoners. Which research method did this study use?

a. survey

b. participant observation

c. historical analysis

d. experiment

129. Which research method would best address the following research question: How much does participation in one session of an SAT preparation course affect students' SAT scores?

a. survey

b. participant observation

c. historical analysis

d. experiment

130. In an experiment on the effects of caffeine on the alertness of college students, student volunteers are randomly assigned to two groups. One group is given caffeinated coffee while the other group is given decaffeinated coffee. All participants then play a video game to assess their mental acuity, measured as

their final score on the video game. In this study, the group that is given caffeinated coffee is called the

a. control group.

b. experimental group.

c. focus group.

d. population.

131. The mean, median, and mode are all

a. measures of central tendency.

b. correlations.

c. degree of dispersal.

d. ranges.

132. What calculation gives a researcher a good idea of how spread out a series of numbers is?

a. mean

b. median

c. mode

d. standard deviation

133. When two variables are analyzed and the correlation coefficient is calculated to be –0.9, what does this mean?

a. The data set is defective.

b. There has been an error in the calculation.

c. The correlation between the two variables is extremely weak.

d. The correlation between the two variables is extremely strong.

134. If two variables had a perfect positive correlation, their correlation coefficient would be

a. 0.

b. 1.

c. 10.

d. 100.

135. What should be your first step when reading a table?

a. Scan all of the information on the page to try to summarize the data provided.

b. Read the headings on the table; they will provide information about the content.

c. Read the full title; it is the researcher's attempt to describe the data in the table.

d. Read the footnotes; they contain the most important information.

136. In Jeff's sample, the number of siblings each person has is as follows: one, two, three, four, and ten. What is the mean number of siblings in his sample?

a. three

b. four

c. five

d. six

137. In Jeff's sample, the number of siblings each person has is as follows: one, two, three, four, and ten. What is the median number of siblings in his sample?

a. three

b. four

c. five

d. six

138. What is the most frequent figure in a series of numbers called?

a. mean

b. median

c. mode

d. standard deviation

139. Laud Humphreys' studies on tearooms were controversial because he

a. was completely honest with his research subjects.

b. studied society to make it better.

c. used deception in his research.

d. focused on gay men.

140. _____ is when the research study ends, and the investigator discusses with the subjects their concerns and acknowledges whether strategies such as deception were used.

a. Informed consent

b. Debriefing

c. IRB review

d. Triangulation

Answer Key

Chapter 1

1. Answer: A

2. Answer: The four question types are: factual, comparative, developmental, and theoretical. Examples may vary.

3. Answer: A

4. Answer: Aspects of social life that shape our actions as individuals and aspects of social life that could be studied scientifically; examples can include the state of the economy or influence of religion.

5. Answer: D

6. Answer: A

7. Answer: Anomie is a feeling of aimlessness or despair, provoked by modern social life with its rapid pace change and the loss of traditional moral controls and standards. According Durkheim, anomie is the sociological explanation for year-to-year patterns in suicide rates.

8. Answer: Microsociology is the study of human behavior in face-to-face interaction in daily life; macrosociology is the study of large-scale groups and organizations as well as social systems.

9. Answer: C

10. Answer: A

11. Answer: Answers may vary.

12. Answer: Ethnography, survey, experiment, and comparative research

Essentials of Sociology 8th edition Giddens Test Bank

13. Answer: B

14. Answer: A

15. Answer: Fairly small groups or communities

16. Answer: Answers may vary.

17. Answer: C

18. Answer: Researchers can control particular variables, and experiments are usually easier for subsequent researchers to repeat.

19. Answer: B

20. Answer: Defining research problem, reviewing the evidence, developing hypotheses, designing the research, carrying out research, performing data analysis, and reporting results.

21. Answer: D

22. Answer: The researcher has less control over conditions of experiments, but a field experiment is more likely to replicate real life than would a laboratory setting.

23. Answer: Ethnography. Strengths: insider perspective, in-depth observations. Weaknesses: findings not generalizable, researcher effects on observed.

24. Answer: B

25. Answer: C

26. Answer: The median is a better measure of central tendency because, unlike the mean, outliers don't affect the median.

27. Answer: Survey. Strengths: large, nationally representative sample possible; relatively quick and inexpensive. Weaknesses: difficult to infer causality if cross-sectional; superficial information; difficult to control for outside influences.

28. Answer: B

29. Answer: A

30. Answer: Answers may vary.

31. Answer: The correlation coefficient would be 0.

32. Answer: C

33. Answer: The median is the midpoint in a range of values; the mean is the average. Wealth is highly skewed, with most families having little (or negative) wealth, whereas some families are extremely wealthy. Therefore, median is preferred as a measure of the typical wealth.

34. Answer: The more we know about our own behavior and how our society works, the better chance we have to influence our future.

35. Answer: A

36. Answer: Ethical considerations, exploitation, impact of context, impact of researcher on observations, issues related to human subjects, and causal complexity.

37. Answer: B

38. Answer: D

39. Answer: A

40. Answer: C

41. Answer: B

42. Answer: C

43. Answer: D

44. Answer: A

45. Answer: D

46. Answer: B

47. Answer: A

48. Answer: C

49. Answer: C

50. Answer: B

51. Answer: B

52. Answer: C

53. Answer: D

54. Answer: B

55. Answer: A

56. Answer: C

57. Answer: D

58. Answer: D

59. Answer: D

60. Answer: D

61. Answer: B

62. Answer: C

63. Answer: C

64. Answer: D

65. Answer: D

66. Answer: D

67. Answer: C

68. Answer: B

69. Answer: D

70. Answer: B

71. Answer: D

72. Answer: B

73. Answer: D

74. Answer: C

75. Answer: A

76. Answer: C

77. Answer: B

78. Answer: D

79. Answer: D

80. Answer: A

81. Answer: A

82. Answer: B

83. Answer: C

84. Answer: D

85. Answer: A

86. Answer: D

87. Answer: A

88. Answer: B

89. Answer: A

90. Answer: A

91. Answer: B

92. Answer: B

93. Answer: C

94. Answer: B

95. Answer: C

96. Answer: B

97. Answer: C

98. Answer: B

99. Answer: B

100. Answer: C

101. Answer: D

102. Answer: D

103. Answer: A

104. Answer: C

105. Answer: A

106. Answer: C

107. Answer: A

108. Answer: D

109. Answer: B

110. Answer: C

111. Answer: C

112. Answer: A

113. Answer: C

114. Answer: D

115. Answer: D

116. Answer: B

117. Answer: D

118. Answer: A

119. Answer: C

120. Answer: D

121. Answer: A

122. Answer: C

123. Answer: D

124. Answer: B

125. Answer: C

126. Answer: B

127. Answer: C

128. Answer: D

129. Answer: D

130. Answer: B

131. Answer: A

132. Answer: D

133. Answer: D

134. Answer: B

135. Answer: C

136. Answer: B

137. Answer: A

138. Answer: C

139. Answer: C

140. Answer: B