Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

SKU: 9781453384893-TEST-BANK

COPYRIGHT PAGE

Published by:
FlatWorld

© 2017 by FlatWorld. All rights reserved. Your use of this work is subject to the License Agreement available here http://www.flatworldknowledge.com/legal. No part of this work may be used, modified, or reproduced in any form or by any means except as expressly permitted under the License Agreement.

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

Chapter 2
Culture and Society

True/False Questions

1. Human behavior is more the result of biology than it is of culture.
   False; Moderate

2. Differences between societies in various behaviors underscore the importance of cultural differences for behavioral differences.
   True; Easy

3. The view that genes and other aspects of human biology influence human behavior and values is termed as sociobiology.
   True; Easy

4. The view that certain categories of people were biologically inferior and hence should be sterilized was emphasized by the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis.
   False; Easy

5. Sociologists sometimes prefer biology over culture, as culture cannot easily account for why groups and locations differ in their rates of committing certain behaviors.
   False; Moderate

6. Many sociologists are wary of biological explanations of behavior, in part because these explanations implicitly support the status quo and may be used to justify claims of biological inferiority.
   True; Moderate

7. Biology can easily account for why groups and locations differ in their rates of committing certain behaviors.
   False; Moderate

8. Nonmaterial culture includes the values, beliefs, and all the physical objects in a society.
   False; Moderate

9. The meaning of a gesture may differ from one society to another.
   True; Easy

10. The Standard Cross-Cultural Sample is a data set compiled a few decades ago from information that had been gathered on hundreds of preindustrial societies around the world.
    True; Moderate

11. One of the most important developments in the evolution of society was the creation of pictorial language.
    False; Easy

12. The use of racist language illustrates the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis.
    True; Easy

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

13. Formal norms are also called folkways and customs.
False; Easy

14. How we ride in an elevator is an example of a formal norm.
False; Easy

15. In Latin America, the three to four feet distance people maintain while conversing with each other indicates respect for each other's feelings.
False; Moderate

16. Rituals are not limited to preindustrial societies.
True; Moderate

17. Rituals are established procedures and ceremonies that often mark transitions in the life course.
True; Easy

18. Some norms may change over time within a given culture.
True; Moderate

19. Values involve judgments of what is good or bad and desirable or undesirable.
True; Easy

20. In America, lawsuits over the most frivolous of issues are quite common and even expected. This is due to the American values and culture which promotes individualism.
True; Moderate

21. A culture's norms shape its values.
False; Moderate

22. In modern society, people are a valuable resource and the interrelations between them are carefully tended.
False; Moderate

23. In the traditional society, people were too often treated as disposable.
False; Moderate

24. Major values that distinguish the United States from Japan include group harmony and commitment to work ethics.
False; Easy

25. Artifacts are an element of culture.
True; Easy

26. Because of technological advances during the past two decades, many societies may be said to have a wireless culture.
True; Moderate

27. Cultural diversity does not occur within a single society where both subcultures and countercultures exist.
False; Moderate

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

28. A counterculture refers to a group that shares the central values of the larger culture but still retains certain values that make it distinct from the larger culture.
False; Easy

29. A subculture is a group whose values and beliefs directly oppose those of the larger culture and even reject it.
False; Easy

30. Cultural relativism refers to the tendency to judge another culture by the standards of our own and the belief that our own culture is indeed superior to another culture.
False; Easy

31. Ethnocentrism refers to the belief that no culture's norms, values, or practices are superior or inferior to those of any other culture.
False; Easy

32. According to scholars, cultural relativism is an absolute.
True; Moderate

33. People in hunting-and-gathering societies have more inequality and greater conflict than horticultural and pastoral societies.
False; Moderate

34. Because they are nomadic, hunting-and-gathering societies tend to be quite small.
True; Easy

35. Because hunting-and-gathering societies have few possessions, their members are also fairly equal in terms of wealth and power, as virtually no wealth exists.
True; Moderate

36. In horticultural societies, people use domesticated animals as their major source of food and also as a means of transportation.
False; Moderate

37. Pastoral societies tend to be somewhat nomadic, as they often have to move to find better grazing land for their animals.
True; Moderate

38. Agricultural societies have less inequality and conflict than horticultural and pastoral societies.
False; Easy

39. Written language and numbers began to be used at the time when agricultural societies developed.
True; Moderate

40. Industrial societies feature information technology and service jobs.
False; Moderate

41. Urbanization changed the character of social life by creating a less impersonal society.
False; Easy

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which of the following views held that certain categories of people were biologically inferior and hence should be sterilized?
   a. Nacirema
   b. Key intelligence theory
   c. The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis
   d. Eugenics
   e. Sociobiology
   d; Easy

2. Which of the following is an example of nonmaterial culture?
   a. Paintings
   b. Values
   c. Clothing
   d. Utensils
   e. Manuscripts
   b; Easy

3. Which of the following is an example of material culture?
   a. Values
   b. Language
   c. Beliefs
   d. Norms
   e. Clothing
   e; Easy

4. Which of the following about symbols is true?
   a. Not every culture is filled with symbols.
   b. Symbols are always communicated verbally.
   c. Gestures cannot be considered as symbols.
   d. Some symbols are material objects.
   e. All symbols evoke similar reactions and emotions in any culture.
   d; Moderate

5. Which of the following about nonverbal symbols is true?
   a. Nonverbal symbols and gestures are dissimilar.
   b. Shaking hands is a nonverbal symbol and is done in all societies.
   c. A nonverbal symbol can be interpreted differently by different societies.
   d. Objects cannot be nonverbal symbols.
   e. Nonverbal symbols help prevent hostility.
   c; Moderate

6. The two basic components of culture are:
   a. verstehen and wissenschaft.
   b. language and norms.
   c. ideas and symbols, and artifacts.
   d. anomie and subculture.
   e. formal norms and informal norms.

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

c; Easy

7. There are two basic components of culture: ideas and symbol and _____.
   a. artifacts
   b. values
   c. ideas
   d. beliefs
   e. norms
   a; Easy

8. Shaking hands is a common _____, which is done in some societies and not in others.
   a. artifact
   b. material culture
   c. value
   d. anomie
   e. gesture
   e; Easy

9. In United States, if we make an "O" by putting out thumb and forefinger together, it means _____.
   a. maybe
   b. ok
   c. I love you
   d. no
   e. an obscenity
   b; Easy

10. The famous data set compiled several decades ago, by anthropologist George Murdock and colleagues, from information that had been gathered on hundreds of pre-industrial societies around the world is the:
    a. General Social Survey.
    b. Gallup Poll.
    c. International Survey of Societies.
    d. Standard Cross-Cultural Sample.
    e. United Nations Annual Survey.
    d; Moderate

11. The _____ argues that people cannot easily understand concepts and objects unless their language contains words for these items. Language thus influences how we understand the world around us.
    a. Sapir-Whorf hypothesis
    b. debunking motif
    c. disengagement theory
    d. contact theory
    e. Standard Cross-Cultural Sample (SCCS)
    a; Easy

12. The _____ is the view that language influences the thoughts and perceptions of people in a society.
    a. debunking motif
    b. SCCS theory

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

c. relational frame theory
d. contact theory
e. Sapir-Whorf hypothesis
e; Moderate

13. "Every student should submit his homework in time." The use of sexist language in the preceding sentence illustrates the _____.
a. Standard Cross-Cultural Sample (SCCS)
b. moral development theory
c. debunking motif
d. disengagement theory
e. Sapir-Whorf hypothesis
e; Hard

14. _____ refer to the standards of behavior that are considered less important, but still influence how we behave.
a. Reserved norms
b. Written norms
c. Mores norms
d. Informal norms
e. Formal norms
d; Easy

15. _____ refer to the standards of behavior that are considered the most important in any society.
a. Casual norms
b. Customs norms
c. Folkway norms
d. Informal norms
e. Formal norms
e; Easy

16. Formal norms are also known as _____.
a. artifacts and anomies
b. mores and laws
c. smack and soul
d. gestures and values
e. folkways and customs
b; Easy

17. Informal norms are also referred to as _____.
a. artifacts
b. mores and laws
c. folkways and customs
d. buss and peck
e. material values
c; Easy

18. Which of the following is an example of an informal norm?
a. Traffic laws
b. Student behavior codes
c. Misdemeanor laws

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

d. Safety codes
e. Table manners

e; Easy

19. Rituals:
    a. help to disconfirm stereotypes that people may hold of those from different backgrounds.
    b. are standards and expectations for behaving.
    c. are the most important set of symbols.
    d. reflect and transmit a culture's norms and other elements from one generation to the next.
    e. are limited to preindustrial societies.

    d; Moderate

20. The criteria of what is desirable or undesirable and right or wrong are termed as _____.
    a. values
    b. rituals
    c. norms
    d. habit
    e. culture

    a; Easy

21. According to Maybury-Lewis, in traditional societies, _____.
    a. people are a valuable resource
    b. things are the valuables
    c. people are all too often treated as disposable
    d. individualism and the rights of the individual are celebrated
    e. any one person's obligations to the larger community are weakened

    a; Moderate

22. According to Maybury-Lewis, in modern societies, _____.
    a. people are a valuable resource
    b. people are all too often treated as disposable
    c. the interrelations between people are carefully tended
    d. kindness takes priority over individual achievement
    e. compassion and generosity are more important than individual achievement

    b; Moderate

23. Cultural _____ refers to variation in the elements of culture from one society to the next.
    a. stratification
    b. diversity
    c. disintegration
    d. relativism
    e. cohesion

    b; Easy

24. A(n) _____ refers to a group that shares the central values and beliefs of the larger culture but still retains certain values, beliefs, and norms that make it distinct from the larger culture.
    a. counterculture
    b. pop culture
    c. mainstream culture
    d. urban culture
    e. subculture

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

e; Easy

25. A(n) _____ is a group whose values and beliefs directly oppose those of the larger culture and even reject it.
    a. mainstream culture
    b. urban culture
    c. counterculture
    d. subculture
    e. pop culture
    c; Easy

26. A(n) _____ is a smaller culture within a larger culture with distinctive ways of thinking, feeling, and acting.
    a. pop culture
    b. subculture
    c. urban culture
    d. counterculture
    e. mainstream culture
    b; Easy

27. _____ is the belief that no culture's norms, values, or practices are superior or inferior to those of any other culture.
    a. Emotivism
    b. Ethnocentrism
    c. Moral relativism
    d. Cultural relativism
    e. Factual relativism
    d; Easy

28. _____ refers to the tendency to judge another culture by the standards of our own and the belief that our own culture is indeed superior to another culture.
    a. Ethnocentrism
    b. Moral relativism
    c. Factual relativism
    d. Emotivism
    e. Cultural relativism
    a; Easy

29. Which of the following societies have very few possessions, are fairly egalitarian, and has a very low degree of inequality?
    a. Gemeinschaft
    b. Horticultural and pastoral
    c. Agricultural
    d. Hunting-and-gathering
    e. Gesellschaft
    d; Easy

30. Which of the following societies, as compared to horticultural and pastoral societies, are wealthier and have a higher degree of conflict and inequality?
    a. Agricultural

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

b. Gemeinschaft
c. Gesellschaft
d. Horticultural and pastoral
e. Hunting-and-gathering
a**; Moderate**

31. _____ societies have a greater sense of individualism and a lower degree of inequality than agricultural societies.
a. Gemeinschaft
b. Industrial
c. Postindustrial
d. Horticultural and pastoral
e. Hunting-and-gathering
b; Moderate

32. In _____ societies, information technology and service jobs have replaced machines and manufacturing jobs as the primary dimension of the economy.
a. gemeinschaft
b. industrial
c. postindustrial
d. horticultural and pastoral
e. hunting-and-gathering
b; Moderate

33. Which of the following is true about hunting-and-gathering societies?
a. Only men are expected to help find food.
b. These societies tend to be quite big.
c. People use domesticated animals as a means of transportation.
d. They have many possessions.
e. These societies are fairly egalitarian.
e; Moderate

34. Which of the following is true about horticultural and pastoral societies?
a. Horticultural and pastoral societies both developed about 2000 years ago.
b. Pastoral societies are less nomadic as compared to horticultural societies.
c. Pastoral societies primarily grew crops.
d. They have a smaller population size than hunting-and-gathering societies.
e. These societies managed to trade with other societies owing to a surplus produce.
e; Moderate

35. In which of the following societies did people primarily raise and herd sheep, goats, camels, and other domesticated animals and use them as their major source of food and also, depending on the animal, as a means of transportation?
a. Horticultural societies
b. Agricultural societies
c. Hunting-and-gathering societies
d. Egalitarian societies
e. Pastoral societies
e; Moderate

36. Which of the following is a downside of horticultural and pastoral societies?

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

a. There is greater conflict compared to hunting-and-gathering societies.
b. They have a very small population size.
c. They have few possessions.
d. Men do the majority of the work.
e. They have less trade compared to other societies.

a; Moderate

37. Which of the following is true about agricultural societies?
a. Agricultural societies developed some 10,000 years ago in the Middle East.
b. The wheel was still not discovered during this period.
c. In the SCCS, gender inequality in agricultural societies is much lesser than hunting-and-gathering societies.
d. Compared to pastoral societies, agricultural societies tend to be larger and to have more inequality.
e. These societies were smaller compared to the pastoral societies.

d; Moderate

38. Which of the following is true about industrial societies?
a. People in these societies enjoy lesser political freedom than those in older societies.
b. There is a smaller emphasis on individualism in industrial societies.
c. Compared to agricultural societies, industrial societies have higher economic and gender inequality.
d. Industrial societies developed some 5,000 years ago where machines and factories became the primary mode of production.
e. Urbanization changed the character of social life by creating a more impersonal and less traditional Gesellschaft society.

e; Moderate

39. Societies in which information technology and service jobs have replaced machines and manufacturing jobs as the primary dimension of the economy are called:
a. industrial societies.
b. postindustrial societies.
c. agricultural societies.
d. Gemeinschaft societies.
e. formal societies.

b; Easy

Short Answer Questions

1. Explain why sociologists usually favor culture over biology.
There are two reasons why sociologists usually favor culture over biology. First, differences from one society to the next in various behaviors underscore the importance of cultural differences for behavioral differences. Second, biology cannot easily account for why groups and locations differ in their rates of committing certain behaviors.
Moderate

2. Why are many sociologists wary of biological explanations of behavior?
Many sociologists warn of certain implications of biological explanations. First, these explanations implicitly support the status quo. Because it is difficult to change biology, any

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

problem with biological causes cannot be easily fixed. A second possible implication of biological explanations that concerns some sociologists is that it may be used to justify claims of biological inferiority.
Moderate

3. What is the difference between sociobiology and eugenics?
Sociobiology: The view that genes and other aspects of human biology influence human behavior and values.
Eugenics: The view, popular in the early 20th century, that certain categories of people were biologically inferior and hence should be sterilized.
Moderate

4. Define material culture and nonmaterial culture.
There are two basic components of culture. The first type is called nonmaterial culture, which includes the values, beliefs, symbols, and language that define a society. The second type is called material culture, which includes all the physical objects in a society, such as its tools and technology, clothing, eating utensils, and means of transportation.
Easy

5. Give one example of a gesture which can mean different things in different societies.
The same gesture can mean one thing in one society and something quite different in another society. In the United States, if we nod our head up and down, we mean yes, and if we shake it back and forth, we mean no. In Bulgaria, however, nodding means no, while shaking our head back and forth means yes.
Moderate

6. What are gestures? Explain, with examples, how interpretations of gestures vary across societies.
Gestures can be defined as movements of the hand, arm, head, and other parts of the body that are meant to convey ideas or emotions nonverbally. However, the same gesture can mean one thing in one society and something quite different in another society. In the United States, if we make an "O" by putting our thumb and forefinger together, we mean "OK," but the same gesture in certain parts of Europe signifies an obscenity.
Easy

7. Describe why language is perhaps the most important set of symbols with an example.
Perhaps our most important set of symbols is language. In English, the sound "chair" stands for a word that means something we sit in. In Spanish, the word "silla" stands for the same thing. As long as we agree how to interpret these sounds, a shared language and thus society are possible. Similarly, differences in languages can make it quite difficult to communicate. Imagine you are in a foreign country where you do not know their language and they do not know yours. You forgot to bring your dictionary that translates their language into yours. You become lost. Is there any way to communicate your plight? As this scenario suggests, language is crucial to communication and thus to any society's culture. Humans' capacity for language helps make our complex culture possible.
Moderate

8. What were the findings of the anthropologists who studied the preindustrial societies with respect to their development and use of language?
One of the most important developments in the evolution of society was the creation of written language. Some of the preindustrial societies that anthropologists have studied have written

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

language, while others do not, and in the remaining societies the "written" language consists mainly of pictures, not words.
Moderate

9. List some objects which can be used as symbols conveying religious and other important values.
Some of our most important symbols are objects. The U.S. flag is a prime example. For most Americans, the flag is not just a piece of cloth with red and white stripes and white stars against a field of blue. Instead, it is a symbol of freedom, democracy, and other American values and, accordingly, inspires pride and patriotism. Other objects have symbolic value for religious reasons. Three of the most familiar religious symbols in many nations are the cross, the Star of David, and the crescent moon, which are widely understood to represent Christianity, Judaism, and Islam respectively.
Moderate

10. Explain the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis with an example.
The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis argues that people cannot easily understand concepts and objects unless their language contains words for these items. Language thus influences how we understand the world around us. The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis is seen in sexist language, in which the use of male nouns and pronouns shapes how we think about the world. In children's books, words like fireman and mailman are common, along with pictures of men in these jobs, and critics say they send a message to children that these are male jobs, not female jobs. If a teacher tells a second-grade class, "Every student should put his books under his desk," the teacher obviously means students of both sexes but may be sending a subtle message that boys matter more than girls. For these reasons, several guidebooks promote the use of nonsexist language. Americans. Other examples are possible.
Hard

11. Differentiate between formal norms and informal norms. Give examples of each.
Norms are often divided into two types, formal norms and informal norms. Formal norms, also called mores and laws, refer to the standards of behavior considered the most important in any society. Examples in the United States include traffic laws, criminal codes, and, in a college context, student behavior codes addressing such things as cheating and hate speech. Informal norms, also called folkways and customs, refer to standards of behavior that are considered less important but still influence how we behave. Table manners are a common example of informal norms, as are such everyday behaviors as how we interact with a cashier and how we ride in an elevator.
Moderate

12. List few subjects where norms differ from culture to culture?
Many norms differ dramatically from one culture to the next. Some of the best evidence for cultural variation in norms comes from the study of sexual behavior. While many societies frown on homosexuality, others accept it. Cultural variation in norms also comes from the study of how men and women are expected to behave in various societies. Some of the most interesting norms that differ by culture govern how people stand apart when they talk with each other.
Moderate

13. Describe rituals.
Different cultures have different rituals, or established procedures and ceremonies that often mark transitions in the life course. Rituals both reflect and transmit a culture's norms and other elements from one generation to the next. In many societies, rituals help signify one's gender identity.

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

Moderate

14. Explain with examples differences in cultural norms with respect to how people stand apart when they talk with each other.
Some of the most interesting norms that differ by culture govern how people stand apart when they talk with each other. In the United States, people who are not intimates usually stand about three to four feet apart when they talk. If someone stands more closely to us, especially if we are of northern European heritage, we feel uncomfortable. Yet people in other countries—especially Italy, France, Spain, and many of the nations of Latin America and the Middle East—would feel uncomfortable if they were standing three to four feet apart. To them, this distance is too great and indicates that the people talking dislike each other. If a U.S. native of British or Scandinavian heritage were talking with a member of one of these societies, they might well have trouble interacting, because at least one of them will be uncomfortable with the physical distance separating them.
Moderate

15. List few themes where norms and beliefs have changed over time within a given culture.
Different cultures have different norms, even if they share other types of practices and beliefs. It is also true that norms change over time within a given culture. Two obvious examples here are hairstyles and clothing styles. When the Beatles first became popular in the early 1960s, their hair barely covered their ears, but parents of teenagers back then were aghast at how they looked. Clothing styles change even more often than hairstyles. Norms have also changed with respect to abortion, birth control, and racial and gender issues.
Moderate

16. What are values?
Values are an important element of culture and involve judgments of what is good or bad and desirable or undesirable. A culture's values shape its norms.
Easy

17. How are American values different from the Japanese values?
The American culture extols the rights of the individual and promotes competition in the sports and business worlds and in other spheres of life. Lawsuits over frivolous reasons are common and even expected. Americans value competition and individualism. Because Americans value and even thrive on competition, our norms promote assertion in relationships and certainly promote the use of the law to address all kinds of problems. The Japanese value system is a bit of an anomaly, because Japan is an industrial nation with very traditional influences. Its emphasis on group harmony and community is more usually thought of as a value found in traditional societies, while the U.S. emphasis on individuality is more usually thought of as a value found in industrial cultures.
Moderate

18. According to anthropologist David Maybury-Lewis, what are the differences in values between the modern world and the traditional societies?
The difference between the modern world and the traditional one is that in traditional societies, people are a valuable resource and the interrelations between them are carefully tended; in modern society, things are the valuables and people are all too often treated as disposable. In modern societies, individualism and the rights of the individual are celebrated and any one person's obligations to the larger community are weakened. Individual achievement becomes more important than values such as kindness, compassion, and generosity.
Moderate

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

19. Describe American culture's attitude toward work ethics.
An important value in the American culture is the work ethic. By the nineteenth century, Americans had come to view hard work not just as a something that had to be done, but as something that was morally good to do. The commitment to the work ethic remains strong today. Closely related to the work ethic is the belief that if people work hard enough, they will be successful. Here again the American culture is especially thought to promote the idea that people can pull themselves up by their "bootstraps" if they work hard enough.
Moderate

20. What are artifacts?
Artifacts, or material objects, constitute a society's material culture. In the simplest societies, artifacts are largely limited to a few tools, the huts people live in, and the clothing they wear. Artifacts are much more numerous and complex in industrial societies.
Easy

21. "Societies today may be said to have a wireless culture." Explain.
Artifacts are numerous and complex in modern industrial societies. Because of technological advances during the past two decades, many such societies may be said to have a wireless culture, as smart phones, tablets and laptops, and GPS devices now dominate so much of modern life. The artifacts associated with this culture were unknown a generation ago. Technological development created these artifacts and also new language to describe them and the functions they perform.
Moderate

22. Define cultural diversity.
Material and nonmaterial cultures often make sense only in the context of a given society. If that is true, then it is important for outsiders to become familiar with other societies and to appreciate their cultural differences. These differences are often referred to as cultural diversity.
Easy

23. Discuss subculture using an example.
A subculture refers to a group that shares the central values and beliefs of the larger culture but still retains certain values, beliefs, and norms that make it distinct from the larger culture. An often cited example of a U.S. subculture is the Amish, who live primarily in central Pennsylvania and parts of Ohio and shun electricity and other modern conveniences, including cars, tractors, and telephones. Despite some concessions to modern development, for the most part the Amish live the way they always have. Most still do not drive cars or even ride bikes. The case of the Amish dramatically illustrates the persistence of an old-fashioned subculture and its uneasy fit with the larger, dominant culture.
Moderate

24. Briefly define counterculture with an example.
A counterculture is a group whose values and beliefs directly oppose those of the larger culture and even reject it. A contemporary example of a U.S. counterculture is the survivalists, whose extreme antigovernment views and hoarding of weapons fit them into the counterculture category.
Moderate

25. Define cultural relativism.

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

Cultural relativism refers to the belief that we should not judge any culture as superior or inferior to another culture. In this view, all cultures have their benefits and disadvantages, and we should not automatically assume that our own culture is better and "their" culture is worse. Some scholars think cultural relativism is an absolute, that we should never judge another culture's beliefs and practices as inferior to our own.
Easy

26. Define ethnocentrism.
Ethnocentrism refers to the tendency to judge another culture by the standards of our own and to the belief that our own culture is indeed superior to another culture.
Easy

27. What do scholars think about cultural relativism?
Some scholars think cultural relativism is an absolute, that we should never judge another culture's beliefs and practices as inferior to our own. Other scholars think cultural relativism makes sense up to a point, but that there are some practices that should be condemned, even if they are an important part of another culture, because they violate the most basic standards of humanity.
Easy

28. List the six types of societies that have been distinguished according to their economy and technology.
The six types of societies based on their economy and technology are hunting-and-gathering, horticultural, pastoral, agricultural, industrial, and postindustrial.
Easy

29. What are the key characteristics of the hunting-and-gathering societies?
Hunting-and-gathering societies are small, simple societies in which people hunt and/or gather food. Because all people in these societies have few possessions, the societies are fairly egalitarian, and the degree of inequality is very low. Members are also fairly equal in terms of wealth and power, as virtually no power exists.
Easy

30. What are the differences in characteristics of the horticultural and pastoral societies as compared to the hunting-and-gathering societies?
Horticultural and pastoral societies are larger than hunting-and-gathering societies. Horticultural societies grow crops with simple tools, while pastoral societies raise livestock. Both types of societies are wealthier than hunting-and-gathering societies, and they also have more inequality and greater conflict than hunting-and-gathering societies. Whereas hunting-and-gathering peoples tend to be very peaceful, horticultural and pastoral peoples tend to be more aggressive.
Moderate

31. What are the key characteristics of agricultural societies?
These societies grow great numbers of crops. Compared to horticultural and pastoral societies, they are wealthier and have a higher degree of conflict and of inequality.
Easy

32. List the key characteristics of industrial societies.
Industrial societies feature factories and machines. They are wealthier than agricultural societies and have a greater sense of individualism and a somewhat lower degree of inequality.

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

Easy

33. List the key characteristics of postindustrial societies.
These societies feature information technology and service jobs. Higher education is especially important in these societies for economic success.
Easy

34. What are the consequences of greater wealth in horticultural and pastoral societies?
In pastoral societies, wealth stems from the number of animals a family owns, and families with more animals are wealthier and more powerful than families with fewer animals. In horticultural societies, wealth stems from the amount of land a family owns, and families with more land are wealthier and more powerful. The greater wealth of horticultural and pastoral societies leads to greater conflict. In horticultural and pastoral societies, their wealth, and more specifically their differences in wealth, leads to disputes and even fighting over land and animals. Horticultural and pastoral peoples tend to be very aggressive.
Moderate

35. What are the reasons for the greater inequality and conflict in agricultural societies?
Agricultural societies produce so much more food than horticultural and pastoral societies that they often become quite large, with their numbers sometimes reaching into the millions. Their huge food surpluses lead to extensive trade, both within the society itself and with other societies. The surpluses and trade lead to degrees of wealth and thus to unprecedented inequality. Gender inequality is also very pronounced in this society. Agricultural societies' greater size and inequality also lead to more conflict. Some of this conflict is internal, as rich landowners struggle with each other for even greater wealth and power and peasants sometimes engage in revolts. Other conflict is external, as the governments of these societies seek other markets for trade and greater wealth.
Moderate

36. What are the drawbacks of industrialization?
Industrialization meant the rise and growth of large cities and concentrated poverty and degrading conditions in these cities. This urbanization changed the character of social life by creating a more impersonal and less traditional Gesellschaft society. It also led to riots and other urban violence that helped fuel the rise of the modern police force and forced factory owners to improve workplace conditions. Today industrial societies consume most of the world's resources, pollute its environment to an unprecedented degree, and have compiled nuclear arsenals that could undo thousands of years of human society in an instant.
Moderate

37. How has the Information Revolution replaced the Industrial Revolution?
We are increasingly living in what has been called the "information technology age" as wireless technology vies with machines and factories as the basis for our economy. We are moving into postindustrial societies where information technology and service jobs have replaced machines and manufacturing jobs as the primary dimension of the economy. Technology has caused the Industrial Revolution to give way to the Information Revolution, and we now have an "information society."
Moderate

38. How has industrialization benefited the society?
Industrialization brought about technological advances that improved people's health and expanded their life spans. People in these societies typically enjoy greater political freedom than

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

those in older societies. Compared to agricultural societies, industrial societies also have lowered economic and gender inequality. In industrial societies, people have a greater chance to "pull themselves up by their bootstraps" than was true in earlier societies.
Moderate

39. What are the negative consequences of the post industrialization era?
As part of post-industrialization era, in the United States many manufacturing companies have moved their operations from U.S. cities to overseas sites. Since the 1980s, this process has raised unemployment in cities, many of whose residents lack the college education and other training needed in the information sector. Partly for this reason, some scholars fear that the information age will aggravate the disparities we already have between the "haves" and "have-nots" of society, as people lacking a college education will have even more trouble finding gainful employment than they do now.
Moderate

Fill in the Blanks

1. _____ refers to the artifacts and ways of thinking, feeling, and acting that are part of any society.
Culture; Easy

2. Culture involves the symbols, language, norms, values, and _____ that shape the thoughts, behaviors, and attitudes of the members of the society.
artifacts; Easy

3. _____ is the view that genes and other aspects of human biology influence human behavior and values.
Sociobiology; Easy

4. _____ is a view that certain categories of people were biologically inferior and hence should be sterilized.
Eugenics; Easy

5. Every culture is filled with _____, or things that stand for something else and that often evokes various reactions and emotions.
symbols; Easy

6. _____ include both objects and nonverbal means of communication.
Symbols; Easy

7. _____ culture includes the symbols, language, norms, and values that constitute a major part of a society's culture.
Nonmaterial; Easy

8. _____ culture includes all the society's physical objects.
Material; Easy

9. Tools and technology are examples of _____ culture.
material; Easy

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

10. _____ are movements of the hand, arm, head, and other parts of the body that are meant to convey ideas or emotions nonverbally.
Gestures; Easy

11. Three of the most familiar religious symbols in many nations are the cross, the Star of David, and the _____.
crescent moon; Easy

12. _____ is a famous data set compiled several decades ago by anthropologist George Murdock and colleagues from information that had been gathered on hundreds of preindustrial societies around the world.
Standard Cross-Cultural Sample (SCCS); Moderate

13. SCCS stands for _____.
Standard Cross-Cultural Sample; Easy

14. The famous but controversial _____ hypothesis argues that people cannot easily understand concepts and objects unless their language contains words for these items.
Sapir-Whorf; Moderate

15. If the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis is correct, _____ shapes the thoughts and perceptions of society's members.
language; Moderate

16. Cultures differ widely in their _____, or standards and expectations for behaving.
norms; Easy

17. Formal norms are also called _____ and laws.
mores; Moderate

18. Informal norms are also called _____ and customs.
folkways; Moderate

19. _____ norms refer to the standards of behavior considered the most important in any society.
Formal; Easy

20. _____ norms refer to the standards of behavior that are considered less important but still influence how we behave.
Informal; Easy

21. Table manners are an example of _____ norms.
informal; Easy

22. Different cultures have different _____, or established procedures and ceremonies that often mark transitions in the life course.
rituals; Easy

23. _____ are an important element of culture and involve judgments of what is good or bad and desirable or undesirable.
Values; Easy

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

24. A culture's values shape its _____.
norms; Easy

25. _____ are the material objects that constitute a society's material culture.
Artifacts; Moderate

26. _____ is the variation in the elements of culture from one society to the next.
Cultural diversity; Easy

27. _____ can occur within a single society, where subcultures and countercultures can both exist.
Cultural diversity; Easy

28. A _____ is a smaller culture within a larger culture with distinctive ways of thinking, feeling, and acting.
subculture; Easy

29. A _____ is a subculture whose norms and values directly oppose those of the larger culture.
counterculture; Easy

30. Subcultures and _____ are two types of alternative cultures that may exist amid the dominant culture.
countercultures; Easy

31. _____ refers to the belief that we should not judge any culture as superior or inferior to another culture.
Cultural relativism; Easy

32. _____ refers to the tendency to judge another culture by the standards of our own, and the belief that our own culture is superior to another culture.
Ethnocentrism; Easy

33. Because all people in _____ societies have few possessions, the societies are fairly egalitarian, and the degree of inequality is very low.
hunting-and-gathering; Moderate

34. _____ societies feature information technology and service jobs.
Postindustrial; Easy

35. Because they are nomadic, _____ societies tend to be quite small, often consisting of only a few dozen people.
hunting-and-gathering; Easy

36. In _____ societies, people use hoes and other simple hand tools to raise crops. These societies developed about 10,000–12,000 years ago.
horticultural; Moderate

37. In _____societies, people raise and herd sheep, goats, camels, and other domesticated animals and use them as their major source of food and also, depending on the animal, as a means of transportation.
pastoral; Moderate

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank

38. The growth of industrial societies marked such a great transformation in many of the world's societies that the period from about 1750 to the late 1800s is called the _____.
Industrial Revolution; Moderate

39. In _____ societies, information technology and service jobs have replaced machines and manufacturing jobs as the primary dimension of the economy.
postindustrial; Easy

Sociology Understanding and Changing the Social World Brief Edition Version 2 0 2nd edition Barkan Test Bank