Fundamentals of Criminal Justice Version 3 3rd edition Barkan Test Bank

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Chapter 2
Understanding and Measuring Crime

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which of the following distinguishes violent crime from other types of crime?
a. Actual or threatened physical injury
b. The death of a victim
c. The use of a weapon
d. The number of victims
e. The number of laws that are broken
a; Easy

2. What percentage of rapes and sexual assaults are experienced by women and girls?
a. 55%
b. 70%
c. 78%
d. 85%
e. 90%
e; Moderate

3. Which of the following is a type of homicide?
a. First degree murder
b. Felony murder
c. Involuntary manslaughter
d. Voluntary manslaughter
e. All of the above
e; Easy

4. What is a difference between aggravated assault and simple assault?
a. Aggravated assault is an intentional crime
b. Simple assault does not involve the use of a weapon
c. Simple assault leads to injury
d. Males commit the majority of aggravated assaults
e. Young people commit the majority of simple assaults
b; Difficult

5. Which of the following is NOT an example of larceny?
a. Bicycle theft
b. Shoplifting
c. The theft of motor vehicle parts
d. Theft of objects inside a motor vehicle
e. Motor vehicle theft
e; Moderate

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6. What do social ecology explanations of crime focus on?
a. The weather in the area where the crime took place
b. The social status of the perpetrators
c. The physical and social characteristics of neighborhoods
d. The economic status of the victims
e. The economic status of the perpetrators
c; Difficult

7. Which of these is considered a violent crime?
a. Larceny
b. Motor vehicle theft
c. Terrorism
d. Robbery
e. Arson
d; Moderate

8. About how many police departments currently submit data to the NIBRS?
a. 1/5
b. 1/4
c. 1/3
d. 1/2
e. 2/3
c; Moderate

9. Which of the following crimes is NOT excluded from the NCVS?
a. Homicide
b. Arson
c. Shoplifting
d. Sexual assault
e. Rape
d; Difficult

10. What is the best definition of deterrence theory?
a. The threat of punishment will prevent crime
b. Poverty leads to higher levels of crime
c. Individuals commit crime from their own free will
d. Crime is more likely when there is an attractive target
e. A lack of potential witnesses motivates crime
a; Moderate

11. Which of the following is a strength of self-report surveys mentioned in your textbook?
a. They are cheap to administer
b. They can be given to large populations easily
c. They provide a lot of information about the background of offenders
d. They ask questions on paper that are hard to ask face-to-face
e. People tend to tell the truth on self-report surveys

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c; Moderate

12. _____ is a crime without unwilling victims.
a. Petty crime
b. Nonviolent crime
c. Willing crime
d. Consensual crime
e. None of the above
d; Easy

13. Which of the following groups commits the most crimes?
a. Young adults
b. Women
c. Men
d. a and b
e. a and c
e; Easy

14. Which of the following is one explanation given by criminologists for the higher crime rates seen in African Americans and Latinos?
a. higher poverty levels
b. lower education levels
c. single parent homes
d. living in rural areas
e. none of the above
a; Moderate

15. What is the illegal entry of a house, store, or other building to commit a theft?
a. Robbery
b. Burglary
c. Larceny
d. Theft
e. Shoplifting
b; Moderate

16. Which of the following factors do researchers link to increased criminal activity later in life?
a. complications during childbirth
b. extreme childhood stress
c. maternal stress during pregnancy
d. hormone levels
e. all of the above
e; Easy

17. What is the most valuable contribution of psychoanalytic explanations for crime?
a. They discuss the impact of an individual's instincts
b. They talk about the harmful impact of society's expectations

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c. They emphasize the influence of early childhood experiences
d. All of the above
e. None of the above
c; Hard

18. What distinguishes sexual assault from rape?
a. Sexual assault is not a violent crime
b. Rape involves penetration; sexual assault does not
c. Rape is a form of sexual assault
d. Sexual assault isn't reportable to the police
e. Rape involves a physical injury to the victim
b; Moderate

19. What is the prevalence of a crime as measured on a self-report survey?
a. The percentage of respondents who have offended
b. The number of offenses committed in total
c. The percentage of total reported offenses that fall under that crime
d. The number of offenses per respondent
e. None of these
a; Moderate

20. What is the incidence of a crime as measured on a self-report survey?
a. The percentage of respondents who have offended
b. The number of offenses committed in total
c. The percentage of total reported offenses that fall under that crime
d. The number of offenses per respondent
e. None of these
d; Moderate

21. Which of the following are weaknesses of the self-report survey method?
a. Respondents do not always tell the truth
b. Hard to reach certain segments of the adolescent population who may be at higher risk of offending
c. Hard to get high enough rates of response on serious crime to use the data
d. All of these
e. None of these
d; Easy

22. Which of the following do feminist theorists mention as a possible cause for criminal behavior?
a. The inequality of females in society
b. Pregnancy and childbirth complications
c. Differences in access to education
d. Divorce rates
e. Male socialization
e; Hard

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23. What policy changes are the most supported by research into the causes of criminal behavior?
a. Access to good prenatal care and support during childbirth
b. Equal opportunities for women in education
c. Support for teens during high school to reduce stress
d. Changes in sentencing requirements for nonviolent crime
e. Universal early childhood education
a; Moderate

24. What is the best way to view terrorism, according to our textbook?
a. A violent crime meant to cause destruction
b. A rational strategy for achieving political goals
c. An irrational attempt to get attention for a cause
d. An impulsive act that has a large impact
e. An illegal activity done by extremists
b; Easy

25. Which method for measuring crime rates tends to show the highest rates of crime?
a. UCR
b. NIBRS
c. NCVS
d. Self-report surveys
e. Rates are similar across measures
c; Easy

True/False Questions

1. Crime rates allow us to determine whether one location has a larger crime problem than another location.
True; Easy

2. Manslaughter generally refers to premeditated crimes.
False; Easy

3. Although people ages 15 to 24 represent about 14% of the U.S. population, they account for about 42% of homicide arrests.
True; Hard

4. Females are more likely than males to be victimized by rape, sexual assault, and domestic violence.
True; Easy

5. Involuntary manslaughter refers to an unintentional killing out of intense emotion such as anger or jealousy
False; Moderate

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6. Data on hate crimes are woefully incomplete, because most such crimes go unreported by victims, and many police precincts do not report the hate crimes they hear about to the FBI
True; Moderate

7. Only about 13% of motor vehicle thefts end in an arrest.
True; Moderate

8. Youths under age 15 account for a full 18% of arson arrests, and young people ages 15 to 24 account for another 30% of arson arrests.
True; Hard

9. Political crime is done for ideological reasons and is intended to change or preserve social conditions or policies.
True; Moderate

10. Crime rates are steadily increasing and have been since 1990.
False; Easy

11. Most counterterrorism experts favor fighting terrorism with immediate military strikes and harsh legal punishment.
False; Moderate

12. UCR data are based on crimes reported to the police, and therefore are the most accurate option.
False; Moderate

13. Police clear only about 15-20% of Part 1 crimes.
True; Hard

14. The NIBRS is the most commonly used database for crime statistics nationwide.
False; Easy

15. Individuals are more likely to be truthful on self-report surveys due to their confidential nature.
False; Moderate

Fill in the Blanks

1. _____ is a homicide that occurs during the commission of a felony such as a robbery.
Felony murder; Easy

2. Self-report surveys allow researchers to get data on both _____ (percentage of respondents who have offended) and _____ (number of offenses per respondent) of crime.
prevalence, incidence; Hard

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3. African Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans are all _____ in the criminal justice system as arrestees and prisoners.
overrepresented; Easy

4. _____ views criminals as committing crime from their own free will by carefully weighing the potential rewards and risks before deciding to break the law.
Rational choice theory; Moderate

5. _____ suggest the need to focus on certain physical and social characteristics of communities, including residential density, as a public policy measure to decrease crime rates.
Ecological explanations; Hard

6. Women are _____ likely to be arrested as adolescents; _____ likely as adults.
more, less; Moderate

7. _____ involves actual or threatened physical injury by one or more offenders against one or more victims.
Violent crime; easy

8. Males account for approximately _____ of homicide arrests.
90%; Moderate

9. _____ refers to killing a person because the offender acted negligently or recklessly.
Involuntary manslaughter; Moderate

10. _____ involves a killing that is willful and premeditated.
First-degree murder; Easy

11. A significant factor in many assaults and homicides is _____.
alcohol use; Hard

12. A major difference between homicide and aggravated assault is the use of a _____.
weapon; Moderate

13. _____ is the unlawful taking of property from the possession of another that does not involve force or fraud.
Larceny; Easy

14. Crime rates _____ in the early 1990s and have _____ ever since.
soared, leveled off; Moderate

15. _____ assumes that the threat of arrest and punishment will prompt potential offenders to refrain from committing crime.

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Deterrence theory; Moderate

16. In terms of hormones, _____ levels tend to be higher with aggressive and violent behavior.
testosterone; Moderate

17. **_____ states that** deviance among the poor results in part from frustration over failure to become economically successful through working.
Anomie theory; Hard

18. Females commit _____ crimes than males.
less serious; Moderate

19. _____ is done for ideological reasons and is intended to change or preserve social conditions or policies
Political crime; Easy

20. _____ is the use of unexpected violence to intimidate the public and government in order to achieve political and social objectives.
Terrorism; Easy

Short Answer Questions

1. Why does organized crime remain popular in the United States?
(a) Many people desire the things that organized crime provides: illegal drugs, some types of gambling, pornography, and prostitution.
Easy

2. What are two possible reasons for the drop in the crime rate in the United States since the 1980s?
There are four possible answers:
(a) The get-tough approach; (b) A drop in birth rates in the years previous leading to a lower number of young people; (c) A decline in crack cocaine gang wars as the market stabilized; or (d) A decline in the levels of lead contamination that can impair brain development.
Moderate

3. What are the differences between amateur burglars and professional burglars?
Amateur burglars are typically young males who engage in only a few burglaries and then abandon this criminal activity; Professional burglars tend to be older and very skilled, and the value of their stolen items easily surpasses what amateurs steal
Moderate

4. What is one major strength of self-report surveys? What is one major weakness?
Self-report surveys allow researchers to get information about criminal behavior by simply asking, which is the easiest way to get hard-to-access information. Weaknesses of self-report surveys include that respondents do not always tell the truth, hard to reach certain segments

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of the adolescent population who may be at higher risk of offending; hard to get high enough rates of response on serious crime to use the data
Moderate

5. How do peers influence criminal behavior during adolescence?
Adolescent friendships are extremely important, but juveniles tend to learn criminal behavior from their peers.
Easy

6. What distinguishes violent crime from other types of criminal behavior?
Violent crime involves actual or threatened physical injury by one or more offenders against one or more victims.
Easy

7. What are the demographic characteristics of the majority of offenders?
Most offenders are young, male, and live in major cities as opposed to urban areas.
Easy

8. What is the main difference between sexual assault and rape?
Rape involves the penetration of a victim with a body part or other object without consent
Sexual assault involves unwanted sexual contact that does not constitute rape.
Moderate

9. According to national survey evidence, who are the most common victims of sexual assault and rape? Who are the most common perpetrators?
Women and girls experience about 90% of all rapes and sexual assaults. National survey evidence finds that about 18% of women have been raped and that 27% have been sexually assaulted. Nonstrangers commit about four-fifths of rapes according to this evidence, with male intimates (current and former husbands and partners) committing half of the rapes suffered by women and one-fourth of the sexual assaults
Hard

10. What are the major differences between simple assault and aggravated assault?
Aggravated assault is the intentional causing of serious physical injury with or without a deadly weapon or the intentional attempt or threat of serious bodily harm with a deadly weapon. Simple assault involves only minor injuries and does not involve the use of a weapon.
Moderate

11. Why are the data on hate crimes considered to be incomplete?
Most hate crimes go unreported by victims, and many police precincts do not report the hate crimes they hear about to the FBI.
Moderate

12. List at least two examples of consensual crime.
Consensual crime includes illegal drug use, prostitution, and some forms of gambling.

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Easy

13. Why is terrorism a type of crime that is particularly hard to prevent?
Terrorists are highly motivated, and as long as they perceive that their cruel acts may help achieve their goals, they will continue to perform them.
Moderate

14. List one major strength and one major weakness of the National Crime Victimization Survey.
Possible strengths include the large, random sample used by the NCVS, and the likelihood that it reports more accurate crime rates. Possible weaknesses include that there are no measurements of victimization for children under 12, or that respondents may not be answering questions accurately.
Moderate

15. What is the difference between robbery and burglary?
Robbery refers to the taking of someone's possession(s) by using physical force or the threat of physical force; burglary is the illegal entry into a home, store or other building to commit a theft, but does not use physical force or the threat of force.
Moderate

Essay Questions

1. Views on consensual crime laws are mixed. Briefly describe both sides of the issue of whether or not laws should regulate consensual crime, making sure to include information supporting those laws along with information refuting them.
Strong answers will mention the following:
    - *Many activities can be very dangerous, but they are entirely legal (downhill skiing); others have age limits or other restrictions (alcohol use)*
    - *Not the job of the government to regulate actions that individuals are willing to do*
    - *Laws regulating consensual crime sometimes lead to an uptick, like Prohibition era alcohol laws*
    - *Some argue that these activities should be decriminalized; no evidence that doing this would increase levels of the behavior*

Moderate

2. Describe the different types of homicide, making sure to distinguish between all five different types used in most states.
    - *first-degree murder involves a killing that is willful and premeditated.*
    - *second-degree murder an intentional killing that is not premeditated or a killing stemming from an offender's blatant disregard for human life*
    - *voluntary manslaughter refers to an unintentional killing out of intense emotion such as anger or jealousy*
    - *involuntary manslaughter refers to killing a person because the offender acted negligently or recklessly*
    - *felony murder. is a homicide that occurs during the commission of a felony such as a robbery*

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Easy

3. What are the two categories of crime described by the UCR reports? Make sure that you include a description of each category, and those categories break down further into specific crimes.
   - *Part 1 Offenses (violent crimes and property crimes)*
     - *The Part I violent crimes include homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, while the Part I property crimes include burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson*
   - *Part 2 Offenses (less serious crimes)*
     - *simple assault, forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, and gambling)*

   Easy

4. What are the problems with crime recording rates for the UCR discussed in your textbook?
   Answers will vary, but will include some key information. Things to look for:
   - *UCR data are based on crimes known to the police -- The UCR's term for the*
     - *official number of crimes that the police report to the UCR and that the UCR, in turn, reports to the public*
     - *Based on citizens' complaints to the police, which are very low*
     - *Also based on police recording those crimes, which means that Police determine that a crime did occur (founding stage).*
     - *Police will only report the most serious crime if 2 or more offenses occur*
     - *Some police departments underreport crime to make rates look lower*

   Moderate

5. List and describe two of the sociological models used to explain the causes of criminal behavior.
   Answers will include two of the following:
   - ***Social ecology explanations*** *say that certain physical and social characteristics of neighborhoods affect the amount of crime and victimization found in these neighborhoods*
   - ***Blocked opportunity****: poverty leads individuals to be unable to move up in terms of economic status, leading to "angry aggression" and criminal behavior*
   - ***Anomie theory:*** *deviance among the poor results from frustration over failure to become economically successful through working*

   Hard

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