Introduction to Sociology 4th edition Ritzer Test Bank

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Chapter 2: Thinking Sociologically

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. _____ help sociologists make sense of social phenomena and understand important social issues.
A. Hypotheses
B. Theories
C. Critiques
D. Systems
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: How Do Theories Help Us Understand Politics and Other Social Institutions?
Difficulty Level: Easy

2. _____ are sets of interrelated ideas that have a wide range of applications, deal with centrally important issues, and have stood the test of time.
A. Social laws
B. Hypotheses
C Theories
D. Causes
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: How Do Theories Help Us Understand Politics and Other Social Institutions?
Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Sociologist Randall Collins developed a theory of violence. It applies to _____.
A. state-sanctioned violence such as war
B. only domestic forms of violence
C. only major criminal acts such as murder or rape
D. all types of violence
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: How Do Theories Help Us Understand Politics and Other Social Institutions?
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. When applying theories to a certain issue, sociologists differ from the average person by being _____ in their approach.
A. systematic
B. casual
C. cursory
D. quantitative
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: How Do Theories Help Us Understand Politics and Other Social Institutions?
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Which of the following represents an important difference between a theory of dating generated by a professional sociologist and one proposed by an average person?
A. Sociologists will examine more statistical data than the average person.
B. Sociologists read the theories already in the scientific literature.
C. Sociologists know formulas for generating new theories.
D. Sociologists are less aware of biases than the average person.
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: How Do Theories Help Us Understand Politics and Other Social Institutions?
Difficulty Level: Hard

6. Sociological theory emerged during the _____ century in Europe.
A. 18th
B. 16th
C. 19th
D. 17th
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Giants of Classical Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

7. The most important early sociological theorists included all EXCEPT which of the following?

A. Randall Collins
B. Auguste Comte
C. Harriet Martineau
D. Herbert Spencer
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Giants of Classical Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

8. _____ coined the term *sociology* and was key in the development of a general theory of the social world.
A. Émile Durkheim
B. August Comte
C. Karl Marx
D. Max Weber
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Giants of Classical Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

9. _____ is best known for her sociological works that pertained to women and feminism.
A. Jane Addams
B. Harriet Tubman
C. Harriet Martineau
D. Karl Marx
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Giants of Classical Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

10. _____ focused on the exploitation of workers in capitalist systems.
A. Émile Durkheim
B. Karl Marx
C. Herbert Spencer
D. W. E. B. DuBois
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Giants of Classical Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

Introduction to Sociology 4th edition Ritzer Test Bank

11. _____ is a term that refers to the awareness that the proletariat has about the features of capitalism and their relationship to one another as well as to the capitalists.
A. False consciousness
B. Class consciousness
C. Sociological consciousness
D. Collective consciousness
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Karl Marx
Difficulty Level: Medium

12. Karl Marx believed that workers in the factories experienced _____ as the owners of the factories reaped the vast majority of the rewards.
A. alienation
B. exploitation
C. victimization
D. estrangement
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Karl Marx
Difficulty Level: Medium

13. Karl Marx believed that over time the situation of capitalism would _____.
A. improve greatly for the workers until society reached full equality
B. improve slightly so long as workers unionized
C. get worse until the inequality gap led to workers overthrowing the system
D. get worse until technology could replace workers, freeing them for other pursuits
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Karl Marx
Difficulty Level: Medium

14. One of the main objectives of Max Weber's works was _____.
A. to analyze the relationship between workers and the owners
B. to develop theories for further study
C. to analyze the relationship between the economy and religion
D. to focus on the elements of Social Darwinism
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Max Weber
Difficulty Level: Medium

15. Max Weber's best-known piece of work is titled _____.
A. *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*
B. *The Communist Manifesto*
C. *The Origin of the Species*
D. *Society in America*
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Max Weber
Difficulty Level: Easy

16. Max Weber analyzed capitalism, but his real interest was in the increase of _____.
A. religion
B. suicide
C. rationalization
D. alienation
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Max Weber
Difficulty Level: Easy

17. Émile Durkheim was concerned with macro-level phenomena, which he referred to as _____.
A. bureaucracy
B. anomie
C. social facts
D. collective conscience
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Émile Durkheim
Difficulty Level: Easy

18. When individuals are confused and unsure of the norms to follow, they fit with Émile Durkheim's definition of _____.
A. exploitation
B. anomie
C. rationalization

D. disorientation
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Émile Durkheim
Difficulty Level: Medium

19. According to Émile Durkheim, early forms of society were held together by _____, in which people were connected because they performed similar types of work and shared similar beliefs and values.
A. organic solidarity
B. mechanical solidarity
C. automatic solidarity
D. structured solidarity
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Émile Durkheim
Difficulty Level: Easy

20. Today, if John's computer stops operating correctly, he probably calls a computer repair technician to fix it. The computer repair technician depends on people like John who need computers to help earn a livelihood. This is an example of _____.
A. mechanical solidarity
B. organic solidarity
C. structured solidarity
D. integrated solidarity
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Émile Durkheim
Difficulty Level: Hard

21. An example of _____ is the importance most Americans place on certain freedoms, such as freedom of speech and freedom of religion.
A. mutuality
B. organic solidarity
C. collective conscience
D. collective norms
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Application

Introduction to Sociology 4th edition Ritzer Test Bank

Answer Location: Émile Durkheim
Difficulty Level: Hard

22. The work of social theorist _____ would be the most useful in trying to explain how a grocery store employee interacts with his boss.
A. Max Weber
B. Émile Durkheim
C. Karl Marx
D. Georg Simmel
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Georg Simmel
Difficulty Level: Hard

23. Early social theorist Georg Simmel described interactions in his theories by conceptualizing the dimensions of interactions as _____ and _____.
A. forms; types
B. forms; functions
C. social class; race
D. types; social facts
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Georg Simmel
Difficulty Level: Easy

24. The early sociologist who is best known for his studies pertaining to race, specifically the divisions that existed between blacks and whites, is _____.
A. Émile Durkheim
B. Max Weber
C. Karl Marx
D. W. E. B. Du Bois
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: W. E. B. Du Bois
Difficulty Level: Easy

25. _____ refers to the sense of “two-ness” that arises from being both American and African American, a sense that affects many black Americans according to W. E. B. Du Bois.
A. Double consciousness
B. Double awareness
C. Color line
D. Dual conscience

Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: W. E. B. Du Bois
Difficulty Level: Medium

26. Thorstein Veblen coined the term _____, which refers to the fact that the wealthy enjoy showing off their wealth, such as driving around their neighborhood in luxury automobiles.
A. conspicuous consumption
B. conspicuous leisure
C. hyperconsumption
D. conscious consumerism
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Thorstein Veblen
Difficulty Level: Easy

27. When a wealthy person's Facebook page is filled with photos of the many weekdays he or she spends playing golf at expensive golf courses as a hobby instead of in the office, it exemplifies Thorstein Veblen's concept of _____.
A. extravagance
B. conspicuous consumption
C. class egotism
D. conspicuous leisure
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Thorstein Veblen
Difficulty Level: Hard

28. Sociologists who use the _____ framework focus on how societal institutions, such as our governmental system and health-care system, are necessary and essential components to any society.
A. conflict
B. interactionist
C. structural-functional
D. institutional
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Structural-Functionalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

29. Structural-functionalism focuses its theories at the _____ level of analysis.
A. micro
B. macro
C. dual
D. ethnographic
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Structural-Functionalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

30. In structural functionalism, an example of a _____ within the family structure is domestic violence.
A. function
B. dysfunction
C. structure
D. conflict
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Structural-Functionalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

31. A _____ of our educational system would be that students learn valuable skills, such as learning to schedule their time and the significance of deadlines.
A. manifest function
B. latent function
C. dysfunction
D. intentional purpose
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Structural-Functionalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

32. As more states legalize same-sex marriage, laws that pertain to adoption rights for same-sex parents may change as well. This is an example of a(n) _____.
A. latent function
B. manifest function
C. unanticipated consequence
D. adaptive function
Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Structural-Functionalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

33. _____ theorists focus on underlying structures with the idea that what transpires below the surface is highly consequential to the shape of society.
A. Conflict
B. Rational choice
C. Structuralist
D. Critical
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Structuralism
Difficulty Level: Medium

34. Friedrich Engels, a frequent collaborator with Karl Marx, believed that female oppression was rooted in an unlikely and hidden place: the private property rights in capitalism. Because he drew connections between underlying systems of gender inequality and private property, Engels could be considered a _____ theorist.
A. conflict
B. structuralist
C. communist
D. postmodern
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Structuralism
Difficulty Level: Medium

35. Sociologist Peter Berger developed the concept of _____ to describe the task of looking beneath and beyond facades to identify important underlying factors that have enormous effects on human behavior.
A. debunking
B. piggybacking
C. methodizing
D. spelunking
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Structuralism

Difficulty Level: Medium

36. _____ sees society as held together by power and coercion.
A. Structuralism
B. Rational choice theory
C. Conflict theory
D. Exchange theory
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Conflict Theory
Difficulty Level: Hard

37. Theorist Ralf Dahrendorf describes two basic sides to society: conflict and _____.
A. power
B. agreement
C. consensus
D. change
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Conflict Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

38. According to Ralf Dahrendorf, authority resides in _____, not _____.
A. the past; the present
B. the societal level; the individual level
C. functions; structures
D. positions; specific individuals
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Conflict Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

39. _____ believe that culture has become more important than the economic system.
A. Feminists
B. Queer theorists
C. Structural-functionalist theorists
D. Critical theorists
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Critical Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

40. _____ is a term for the creation of movies, TV shows, and Internet content by organizations that are inauthentic, phony, predictable, and uncritical art intended for mass consumption.
A. Art world
B. Culture industry
C. Artificial culture
D. Commercialism
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Critical Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

41. Proponents of the feminist theory focus on how ideas pertaining to gender have been _____, rather than _____.
A. biologically determined; socially constructed
B. socially constructed; biologically determined
C. adaptively constructed; socially constructed
D. naturally constructed; biologically constructed
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Feminist Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

42. _____ is based on the idea that there are no fixed and stable identities that determine who we are.
A. Structural theory
B. Conflict theory
C. Interactionist theory
D. Queer theory
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Queer Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

Introduction to Sociology 4th edition Ritzer Test Bank

43. According to the concept of _____, we can't understand the plight of a black woman based on race alone; we must focus on other factors, such as gender, age, and occupation.
A. intersectionality
B. functionalism
C. convergence
D. divergence
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Critical Theories of Race and Racism
Difficulty Level: Medium

44. Critical theories of race and racism argue that color blindness is _____.
A. a good goal for the future
B. already the norm among most people in the developed world
C. little more than a new form of racism
D. a two-way street that must be practiced equally
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Critical Theories of Race and Racism
Difficulty Level: Medium

45. Modernity can be described in terms of _____, but postmodernity cannot.
A. the economy
B. rationality
C. exploitation
D. solidarity
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Postmodern Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

46. What is the relationship of postmodern theory to modern theory?
A. Postmodern theory deconstructs grand narratives of modern theory.
B. Postmodern theory expands upon grand narratives of modern theory.
C. Postmodern theory largely agrees with grand narratives of modern theory.
D. Postmodern theory has no comment on grand narratives of modern theory.
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Postmodern Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

47. Proponents of the postmodern theory focus on _____.
A. scientific approaches to the social world
B. limited and unrelated snapshots of the social world
C. grand narratives
D. responding to theories from classical sociology
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Postmodern Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

48. An example of a _____ would be going to Las Vegas and visiting the Eiffel Tower at the Paris Las Vegas hotel and casino.
A. simulation
B. exposition
C. pastiche
D. grand narrative
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Postmodern Theory
Difficulty Level: Hard

49. Given a chance to study the homeless population in Chicago, symbolic interactionists would focus primarily on _____.
A. the struggles that exist between the different social classes
B. the societal institutions that play a role in homelessness
C. the daily interactions between the homeless
D. the role of the economy on the rates of homelessness
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Symbolic Interactionism
Difficulty Level: Hard

50. Which statement about *symbols* is true for a symbolic interactionist?
A. Symbols are set in stone and everyone understands them, which makes interaction predictable.
B. Symbols can be interpreted in many different ways, which makes interaction fluid.

C. Symbols are used by individuals but are not used by groups.
D. Most people prefer to not use symbols in interaction.
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Symbolic Interactionism
Difficulty Level: Medium

51. Words, gestures, and even objects that stand in for things are called _____.
A. signs
B. signals
C. symbols
D. representations
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Symbolic Interactionism
Difficulty Level: Easy

52. An ethnomethodologist argues that structures such as courtrooms and hospitals _____.
A. are settings that individuals negotiate using common sense rules
B. are really abstract and irrelevant to interactions
C. are highly constraining of people and their actions
D. are features of a patriarchal system that should be dismantled
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Ethnomethodology
Difficulty Level: Medium

53. Many ethnomethodologists study _____.
A. institutions
B. individuals
C. conversations
D. global cultures
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethnomethodology
Difficulty Level: Easy

54. Peter and Mary have been married for several years. Peter has been unhappy for several months and is thinking about initiating a divorce. He decides to make a list of the benefits and costs of the relationship. Peter is using a form of which theory?
A. conflict theory
B. exchange theory
C. symbolic interactionist theory
D. structural-functional theory
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Exchange Theory
Difficulty Level: Hard

55. Exchange theorists focus their study on social behavior between people in which people are seen as _____.
A. acting out their social roles
B. rational profit seekers
C. basically altruistic and kind
D. emotionally driven
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Exchange Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

56. According to exchange theory, “hooking up” _____.
A. shows how emotions and drives are the basis of interactions
B. is only likely among those who have not yet taken on adult roles
C. rarely develops in isolation from other exchange relationships
D. is a deviant type of exchange in a relationship
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/ functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Exchange Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

57. Which of the following is the premise of the rational choice theory?
A. There are rewards and costs that determine a person’s choices.
B. People act intentionally in order to achieve goals.
C. Coercion is the driving force behind all decisions.
D. Individual choices are only limited by self-generated constraints
Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Rational Choice Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

True/False

1. All sociologists theorize.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: How Do Theories Help Us Understand Politics and Other Social Institutions?
Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Once sociological theories have been created, they can be broadly applied to many different subjects, such as religion, economy, or organizations.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: How Do Theories Help Us Understand Politics and Other Social Institutions?
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. Sociological theories, once created, usually only apply to a specific subject area such as religion, sports, or work.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: How Do Theories Help Us Understand Politics and Other Social Institutions?
Difficulty Level: Easy

4. When Randall Collins developed his theory about the causes of violence, it really could only be applied to serious criminal acts and did not relate to common, minor acts of violence that go unreported.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: How Do Theories Help Us Understand Politics and Other Social Institutions?

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Because it only studies modern society, earlier theories from other fields had little relevance for sociology.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Giants of Classical Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

6. Karl Marx created communism as it was practiced by the Soviet Union and other countries in the twentieth century.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Karl Marx
Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Max Weber focused on the intersection between religion and the family.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Max Weber
Difficulty Level: Easy

8. Conflict theorists focus on the power struggles that exist between different groups in society.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Conflict Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

9. W. E. B. Du Bois is best known for his studies that focused on race relations and double consciousness.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: W. E. B Du Bois
Difficulty Level: Easy

10. Émile Durkheim focused on the patterns of consumption and how the wealthy display their wealth.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Thorstein Veblen
Difficulty Level: Easy

11. George Homans was the main figure in exchange theory.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Exchange Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Rational choice theorists believe that institutions act rationally, but people rarely do.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Rational Choice Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

13. Feminist theorists focus on issues pertaining to women, especially in societies where a patriarchal system is present.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Feminist Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

14. Ethnomethodologists are concerned with how people think, not what people do.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethnomethodology
Difficulty Level: Easy

15. According to rational choice theory, people act *intentionally* to achieve their goals.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Rational Choice Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

Essay

1. Karl Marx describes capitalist systems as "exploitive." Briefly describe the main feature of capitalism that Marx uses to explains this--who exploits whom, and how?
Ans: In Marx's explanation, capitalists exploit the proletariat. The capitalists are the owners of the means of production and they exploit the proletariat, who are the workers. The proletariat don't own anything except their own labor, which they sell to the capitalists. Basically, the workers make everything, but the capitalists reap all the rewards, a/k/a make all the profits, even though they barely do anything.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Karl Marx
Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Consider the current state of the United States in light of Karl Marx's theories. What is one way that Marx's predictions hold when looking at current behaviors in the U.S. economic system? What is one way that they failed to predict what would happen?
Ans: Varies, but examples for each could include: Marx was right about the growing income gap between the top of the economic system--the "capitalists"--and everyone else--the "proletariat." Marx was also right about the need for capitalists to find the cheapest sources of labor and resources around the world. However, Marx was wrong about the proletarian revolution, which hasn't happened and seems very unlikely to happen, and he was wrong about the evolution of systems from capitalism to communism. Capitalism continues to exist and shows no sign of ending anytime soon.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Karl Marx
Difficulty Level: Hard

3. According to Ritzer's description of Marx, Durkheim, and Weber, what level of society did all three major early social theorists focus on in their works? Of the three, which were critical and which were positive in their views?
Ans: Marx, Weber, and Durkheim had in common a focus on the macro structures of society. Marx and Weber were both critical of these macro structures. Marx criticized capitalism while Weber was critical of the rationalization of society in capitalist systems. Durkheim was not like Marx and Weber. He had a mostly positive view of macro structures, feeling that they were not only necessary but highly desirable. Marx and Weber worried about too much control over the individual by society, but Durkheim worried more about too little control or guidance to help the individual function well in society and control his or her passions.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.

Introduction to Sociology 4th edition Ritzer Test Bank

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Émile Durkheim
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. An important part of Karl Marx's theories on capitalism relate to consciousness--how people think about things. In this essay, please name and define the two main roles that people hold in a capitalist economy. How do these roles interact in the capitalist economy to produce false consciousness? Who holds what Marx calls "false consciousness"? How are they led to believe this? What did Marx propose to replace false consciousness, and how did he suggest it would affect society?
Ans: The two main roles that people hold in capitalism are **capitalists**--the owners of the means of production--and the **proletariat**--the workers. Marx suggests that false consciousness is produced in capitalism because capitalists receive most of the rewards, through profits, of the work of the proletariat. The proletariat have a false consciousness when they fail to understand how capitalism works, or they incorrectly believe that capitalism benefits them. Workers may believe this because they do not see their own exploitation. They are **alienated** from the products of their labor, so they do not see how their own work is claimed and earns a profit for someone else, or they don't believe that this is wrong due to **ideology** produced by the capitalists, which supports the capitalist system as good. Marx proposed that **class consciousness** would develop among workers to replace false consciousness, in which workers would truly see the way the system works. This would lead to uprising and revolution. Capitalists would never gain class consciousness because it was not in their interest to see it another way—they benefit too much from the existing system.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Karl Marx
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Max Weber is a very important social theorist in sociology. One of his major works tied religious beliefs to economic systems. Briefly describe the relationship he found that connected Protestants and Calvinist beliefs to a capitalist economy.
Ans: In *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism,* Weber looked at societies around the world and analyzed the relationship between religion and economy, in particular the rise of capitalism in the West. He found unique beliefs held by Calvinists and Protestants who believed whether a person went to heaven or hell was already set and unchangeable, but one might be able to detect whether he or she was destined for heaven or hell by success on earth, especially financial success. This created an unexpected incentive for succeeding financially. However, religious beliefs also required frugality, leading to accumulation for accumulation's sake. Weber showed the relationship between this set of religious ideas and success in a specific economic system (capitalism). Eventually the religious ideas had led to a cultural and economic change that influenced social behavior and the economic system that had now become separated from its religious moorings.

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Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Max Weber
Difficulty Level: Medium

6. Émile Durkheim described two types of solidarity. Briefly compare these two forms of solidarity, using concrete examples to illustrate how they differ. What type of society is associated with each solidarity type? How much power does collective conscience have in each type of solidarity, and why is a weaker collective conscience a problem?
Ans: Varies, but should include a description of **mechanical solidarity** and **organic solidarity.** Mechanical solidarity has a low division of labor while organic solidarity has a high division of labor. This means that people do many jobs and each person's job is similar to others in mechanical solidarity. In organic solidarity, this means people are specialized and have jobs that differ from one another. An example of mechanical solidarity might be that everyone in the group farms, cooks, and parents children. An example of organic solidarity would include that only some people specialize in farming while others do not at all, and some people can become chefs while others can simply purchase prepared food and never learn to farm or cook. Mechanical solidarity is associated with simpler and earlier societies, while organic solidarity is associated with modern and larger societies. Earlier, simpler societies with mechanical solidarity tend to have higher collective conscience, which weakens as they move to a larger, more diversified organic solidarity model of society. This is bad, according to Durkheim, because when the collective conscience weakens, people are more likely to feel anomie, or a sense of confusion about their place and what is expected of them in society, and this can lead to feelings of meaninglessness, despair, and raise suicide rates.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Identify the most important classical sociologists and their major contributions to the field.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Émile Durkheim
Difficulty Level: Medium

7. The black sociologist W. E. B. Du Bois was an early contributor to sociology on theories related to race and the effects of racial discrimination. He is well known for several important works and theories, including his theory of double consciousness. In this essay, please explain the concept of double consciousness. What are some of the consequences of people who possess double consciousness? How might this be applied to race relations today?
Ans: Varies, but should include an explanation of **double consciousness**: the sense of "two-ness" of belonging to two categories simultaneously that are not completely in agreement with one another, where one places the person within the dominant group and the other category places him or her outside of it. Being an American and being an African American in the case of black people in the United States is the primary example, but this could be applied to other groups or countries where one identity is considered a dominant category and the other is a minority category. A potential

negative consequence of a double consciousness is a sense of tension for the individual between two thoughts or two ideas. However, a positive outcome is that this can produce unique insights about being in either the marginal or the dominant category, or about society in general.
Learning Objective: 2-2: Identify other influential early figures in classical sociology.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: W. E. B. Du Bois
Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Select any two sociological theories and discuss each theory in depth. How does each theory help us understand society?
Ans: Varies.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Contemporary Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

9. Discuss the differences and similarities between the structural-functionalist theoretical perspective and the conflict perspective.
Ans: Varies, but should include that **structural-functionalism** focuses on social structures and their functions. Structural-functionalist theorists start out with a positive view of social structures and believe that current social structures exist because they are necessary and desirable. This gives them a conservative view--if it exists, it must need to exist to perform specific functions. Figures include classical theorist Émile Durkheim and contemporary theorist Robert Merton. Book example given describes national borders and passport controls from a structural-functionalist perspective as a necessary function. The theory later also included dysfunctions, where the consequences may be negative. Merton also added the concepts of manifest (conscious and purposeful) functions and latent (unintended positive) functions. Unintended consequences may also result that are either positive or negative. By contrast **conflict theory** deriving from Marx can be seen as “an inversion” of structural functionalism. It focuses more on the negative than the positive. Society is held together not by the necessity of functions and consensus or agreement with social structures but by power relations and coercion--specifically, the power of some to determine the rules for all. Ralf Dahrendorf is used as a contemporary example of a conflict theorist. Interests are worked out between groups, often in a way that favors one group or class over the other.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Contemporary Sociological Theory
Difficulty Level: Hard

10. How does the exchange theory help us understand how people choose a college? Compare this to how rational choice theory would explain the same thing.

Ans: Exchange theory focuses on exchange, rewards, and costs while rational choice focuses on intentionality to achieve goals. So this answer will vary but should include for **exchange theory** the idea that people continue in courses of action when the rewards outweigh the costs and discontinue when the costs are greater than the rewards. When searching for a college program, a person might make the choice based on the program with the lowest tuition or the best scholarship, or they might choose to live closest to home so that costs are lowered by living with family. **Rational choice theory,** on the other hand, would see the desire to graduate from college as a goal someone has, and that people act intentionally to achieve their goals. So looking for a college would be based on the means most likely to best satisfy their needs and wants, such as having the best program in one's field to allow them to reach their career goals. However, they have to believe they can get "access to scarce resources"--in this case, be accepted into the program. They would also have to meet "the requirements of social structures"--in this case, to be able to take on the role of full-time student.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Exchange Theory
Difficulty Level: Hard

11. Use what you know about critical theory to discuss Facebook and the culture industry. According to Ritzer, what is mass culture, and what is the culture industry? Would Facebook be considered a part of the culture industry? Having considered these arguments, do you agree or disagree that Facebook is a part of the "culture industry"?
Ans: Varies, but should include a definition of **culture industry** as the creator of **mass culture**--culture created by organizations or corporations intended for mass consumption that falsify reality, present themselves as authentic but are not authentically created art created by people, and that presents unchallenging messages that repress and mollify people rather than presenting challenging or upsetting messages that might result in social action or support for social change. Mass culture also ingrains certain brands as a part of creating a consumer culture that connects consumption to social class identities. Ritzer argues that Facebook does contain some mass culture, advertisements, and inauthentic content from companies and organizations, but it also contains content that is generated by people for people, and is arguably spontaneous and authentic. Aside from some basic obscenity rules, Facebook exercises little control over the content, so perhaps it is not a part of the culture industry. However, another argument is that even if the content is not part of the culture industry, Facebook as a platform is a "culture industry" medium that makes billions of dollars for its owners. It also can be seen as repressing and pacifying people so they don't act for social change or spend their time on more meaningful forms of social activism. Finally, it may be a more subtle, personalized, and possibly effective way to target market to individuals toward consumption of specific brands. The respondent can use these points however they like to argue that Facebook is a stronger culture industry or a weakening of culture industry.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Compare and contrast structural/functional, conflict/critical, and inter/actionist theories.

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Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Critical Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

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