

# Chapter 1 The Essence of Sociology

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## 1.1 Multiple Choice Questions

- 1) Sociology is the
- A) study of other cultures and preliterate societies.
  - B) study of human economic decisions and the creation of economies.
  - C) systematic, scientific study of human society.
  - D) science of helping others and solving social problems.

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 2

Topic: The Study of Social Life

Skill: Interpretive

- 2) The text states that, by studying and appreciating social diversity, we ultimately
- A) develop prejudices toward other ethnic groups.
  - B) discover ways to make others more like ourselves.
  - C) develop a better understanding of ourselves.
  - D) can solve the problems of racial and ethnic tensions.

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 4

Topic: The Study of Social Life

Skill: Factual

- 3) Sociology can help us understand events such as the terrorist attacks on the U.S. on September 11, 2001 because it
- A) studies human society scientifically
  - B) probes the causes of human motivations
  - C) focuses on one type of economic behavior
  - D) studies a variety of historical and prehistorical events

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 2

Topic: The Study of Social Life

Skill: Interpretive

- 4) Economic globalization is
- A) a place in Europe where many of the world's leaders regularly meet to discuss the world's problems.
  - B) the spread of U.S. goods around the world.
  - C) a term used to describe the spread of technology and communication around the world.
  - D) the interrelationships among the world economies.

Answer: D

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 4

Topic: The Study of Social Life

Skill: Factual

## Test Bank

- 5) Edna is a sociologist. She is organizing a study of young people who join cults because she believes that they mostly come from broken homes. Her belief is called her
- A) theory.
  - B) research result.
  - C) perspective.
  - D) hypothesis.

Answer: D

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 4

Topic: *The Study of Social Life*

Skill: *Applied*

- 6) A scientific theory is
- A) beyond the research of most sociologists because their data is too subjective and soft.
  - B) too abstract to be very useful.
  - C) always open to revision, but only after a major shift in scientific thinking.
  - D) always open to revision in the light of new evidence.

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 5

Topic: *The Study of Social Life*

Skill: *Factual*

- 7) Emile Durkheim's classic study of suicide makes the sociological point that
- A) divorced and widowed people have the same rate of suicide as married people.
  - B) social facts are unrelated to the rates of suicide.
  - C) suicide rates can increase as a result of excessive isolation from people.
  - D) high suicide rates are caused by poor mental health.

Answer: C

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 6

Topic: *The Study of Social Life*

Skill: *Factual*

- 8) Nineteenth century social philosophers were influenced by the natural sciences because those sciences
- A) served as a model to understand and control the social world.
  - B) had more prestige and rewards than the social sciences.
  - C) were more keyed to the Industrial Revolution.
  - D) were properly grounded in philosophy.

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 8

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Interpretive*

- 9) Auguste Comte sought to develop a science of society by focusing on the interplay between
- A) biology and society.
  - B) religion and science.
  - C) conflict and consensus.
  - D) social statics and social dynamics.

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 8

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 10) Karl Marx argued that the difference between owners and workers is rooted in  
A) the economic system. B) economic globalization.  
C) social stability. D) social evolution.

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 9

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 11) The first sociologist to use formal scientific methods and observations was  
A) Max Weber. B) Karl Marx.  
C) Auguste Comte. D) Emile Durkheim.

Answer: D

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 9

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 12) When people in a society perform a variety of specialized jobs and depend on one another, Durkheim called this social cohesion  
A) organic solidarity. B) primary solidarity.  
C) mechanical solidarity. D) secondary solidarity.

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 12

Topic: *Major Perspectives in Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 13) U.S. sociology was reshaped during the 1960s by renewed awareness of  
A) poverty and other social ills. B) religion and out-of-body experiences.  
C) health and physical fitness. D) children's learning disabilities.

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 10

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 14) Sociologists take a \_\_\_\_\_ view when they focus on how people interact with each other.  
A) macro B) historical C) micro D) psychological

Answer: C

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 11

Topic: *Major Perspectives in Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 15) According to the functionalist perspective, each part of society  
A) contributes something to the society as a whole.  
B) may or may not help society to properly function.  
C) is in conflict with other parts of society.  
D) is symbolically represented in language.

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 11

Topic: *Major Perspectives in Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

## Test Bank

- 16) A condition in which most members of society agree on what would be good for everyone and cooperate to achieve it is called
- A) social change.
  - B) social function.
  - C) social consensus.
  - D) social conflict.

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 11

Topic: Major Perspectives in Sociology

Skill: Interpretive

- 17) Participation in war often promotes social solidarity and stimulates scientific development. These outcomes are examples of \_\_\_\_\_ functions of war.
- A) manifest
  - B) latent
  - C) contradictory
  - D) symbolic

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 12

Topic: Major Perspectives in Sociology

Skill: Applied

- 18) Critics of the feminist theory criticize the theory because it
- A) does not take a critical approach to society.
  - B) overemphasizes the oppressiveness of patriarchy.
  - C) overemphasizes the positive aspects of society.
  - D) does not really show much interest in the nature of society.

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 14

Topic: Major Perspectives in Sociology

Skill: Factual

- 19) A system of domination with men exercising power over women is called
- A) patriarchy.
  - B) matriarchy.
  - C) class conflict.
  - D) social consensus.

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 14

Topic: Major Perspectives in Sociology

Skill: Factual

- 20) Symbolic Interaction theory has been criticized for ignoring macro issues and
- A) being more objective than other theories.
  - B) viewing humans as more than complex animals.
  - C) for being a uniquely American perspective.
  - D) the influence of groups and institutions.

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 14

Topic: Major Perspectives in Sociology

Skill: Interpretive

- 21) According to symbolic interactionists,
- A) people respond directly to physical things.
  - B) people respond to their interpretations of symbols and experiences.
  - C) people respond only to concrete experiences and signs.
  - D) people are studied in order to develop large-scale theories of social behavior.

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 14

Topic: Major Perspectives in Sociology

Skill: Interpretive

- 22) By using each of the three sociological perspectives, researchers can
- A) achieve a total theory of society.
  - B) become more confused than those who use only one perspective.
  - C) avoid most forms of research bias.
  - D) bring more aspects of society into a sharper focus.

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 15

Topic: Major Perspectives in Sociology

Skill: Interpretive

- 23) Which of the following statements reflects the conflict perspective on sport?
- A) Sport is an integrating force for society.
  - B) Due to its competitive nature, sport inspires individuals to do their best to succeed.
  - C) Sport teaches values and norms that contribute to success in other parts of society.
  - D) Sport acts as an opiate that numbs the masses' sense of dissatisfaction.

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 16

Topic: Sports: Illustrating the Three Perspectives

Skill: Applied

- 24) If you wanted to determine whether there is a gender difference in how often people think about sex, the best research method would be
- A) the survey.
  - B) participant observation.
  - C) content analysis.
  - D) interviewing.

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 19

Topic: Major research Methods

Skill: Applied

- 25) Sociologist Jane Johnson lived with the Kickapoo Indians and studied the tribal members' beliefs. This type of research is called
- A) interviewing.
  - B) ethnography.
  - C) survey.
  - D) content analysis.

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 22

Topic: Major research Methods

Skill: Applied

## Test Bank

- 26) A sample is representative, or random, when all members of the population
- A) give identical answers to survey questions.
  - B) are paid to answer survey questions.
  - C) volunteer, or self-select, to participate.
  - D) have the same chance of being selected for the sample.

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 20

Topic: Major research Methods

Skill: Factual

- 27) Personal interviews may use standard questions or open-ended questions. These types of interviews are called
- A) structured interviews or self-administered questionnaires.
  - B) structured interviews or unstructured interviews.
  - C) unstructured interviews or telephone interviews.
  - D) computer-assisted interviews or survey interviews.

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 21

Topic: Major research Methods

Skill: Factual

- 28) To test a hypothesis, researchers must first identify what they assume to be affected (dependent variable) and the cause, or \_\_\_\_\_ variable.
- A) secondary
  - B) primary
  - C) independent
  - D) control

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 23

Topic: Major research Methods

Skill: Factual

- 29) During an experiment, the group that is not exposed to the independent variable or cause is called the \_\_\_\_\_ group.
- A) spurious
  - B) experimental
  - C) control
  - D) field

Answer: C

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 23

Topic: Major research Methods

Skill: Factual

- 30) Sociologists study human behavior through books, magazines, letters, songs, etc. This type of research is called
- A) observation.
  - B) interviews.
  - C) content analysis.
  - D) applied sociology.

Answer: C

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 24

Topic: Major research Methods

Skill: Factual

- 31) Sociology can help us enjoy a successful and happy life in at least three ways except:
- A) It can be used as an intellectual exercise that's pursued for its own sake, for the pleasure of tickling our curiosity, or for producing scientific knowledge.
  - B) It can be used to pursue a specific career in government or in the private sector.
  - C) It can be used as a general guide for understanding our social world so that we can function more successfully in it.
  - D) It can be used to give us familiar and untested ideas.

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 24

Topic: Major research Methods

Skill: Factual

- 32) Emile Durkheim is associated with the \_\_\_\_\_ perspective.
- A) functionalist
  - B) conflict
  - C) symbolic interactionist
  - D) feminist

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 11

Topic: Major Perspectives in Sociology

Skill: Factual

- 33) The Industrial Revolution was a major factor in converting some philosophers into sociologists because the rise of industrialization led to
- A) the creation of the field of psychology
  - B) new types of wealth
  - C) the development of religious beliefs
  - D) widespread social upheaval and change

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 8

Topic: The Development of Sociology

Skill: Factual

- 34) John did not join groups and felt very different from other students. His separation help him examine and better understand other s on campus. His condition, which can help promote sociological understanding, is called
- A) social integration
  - B) social fragmentation
  - C) social marginality
  - D) reality construction

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 3

Topic: The Study of Social Life

Skill: Applied

- 35) Jane was able to understand that her friend's suicide had to do with isolation from pressures created by family and friends. This understanding shows that Jane probably possesses
- A) psychological insight
  - B) inaccurate ideas about human behavior
  - C) sociological imagination
  - D) social work skills

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 6

Topic: The Study of Social Life

Skill: Applied

## Test Bank

- 36) Auguste Comte is sometimes called the father of sociology because he
- A) created the word sociology
  - B) studied suicide and social isolation
  - C) created the concept of "verstehen."
  - D) argued for programs to help the poor.

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 8

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 37) A theoretical perspective that focuses on change and conflict is the \_\_\_\_\_ perspective.
- A) functionalist
  - B) symbolic interactionist
  - C) conflict
  - D) feminist

Answer: C

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 12

Topic: *Major Perspectives in Sociology*

Skill: *Applied*

- 38) Which of the following statements is most clearly linked with Herbert Spencer's view of society?
- A) The primary feature of society is conflict.
  - B) The primary feature of society is interaction based on symbols.
  - C) The primary feature of society is its interactive parts that contribute to the function of the whole.
  - D) The primary feature of society is competition.

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 8

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 39) A research method that involves asking questions about opinions, beliefs, or behaviors is a(n)\_\_\_\_\_.
- A) survey
  - B) participant observation
  - C) detached observation
  - D) experiment

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 19

Topic: *Major research Methods*

Skill: *Factual*

- 40) A view that focuses on the large social phenomena of society, such as social institutions and inequality is the \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) latent view
  - B) macro view
  - C) micro view
  - D) manifest view

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 11

Topic: *Major Perspectives in Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*



- 41) Not interested in developing large-scale social theories, early sociologists concentrated on
- A) developing a basic science unifying psychology, anthropology, and sociology
  - B) solving their country's social problems
  - C) forming a professionally recognized discipline
  - D) more historical studies of past societies.

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 9-10

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Interpretive*

- 42) A major contributor to the establishment of such governmental programs as Social Security and Workers Compensation was U.S. Sociologists
- A) W.E.B. DuBois
  - B) Herbert Spencer
  - C) Jane Adams
  - D) Max Weber

Answer: C

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 10

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 43) A method of observation in which the researcher takes part in the activities if the group being studied is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) detached observation
  - B) survey
  - C) participant observation
  - D) experiment

Answer: C

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 21

Topic: *Major research Methods*

Skill: *Factual*

- 44) The early sociologist who focused on the improvement of society and the racial problems of the United States was
- A) W.E.B. DuBois
  - B) Jane Addams
  - C) Max Weber
  - D) C. Wright Mills

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 10

Topic: *The Development of Sociology*

Skill: *Factual*

- 45) \_\_\_\_\_ is a research operation in which the researcher manipulates variables so that their influence can be determined
- A) Experiment
  - B) Participant observation
  - C) Detached observation
  - D) survey

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 22

Topic: *Major research Methods*

Skill: *Factual*



3) Latent function is unintended and often unrecognized.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 12

4) Participant observation is a research method that involves asking questions about opinions, beliefs, or behaviors.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 21

5) Patriarchy is a system of domination in which women exercise power over women.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 14

6) Sociology is the systematic, scientific study of human society.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 2

7) Class conflict is Durkheim's terms for the struggle between the capitalists, who own the means of production, and the proletariat, who do not.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 9

8) Content analysis is searching for specific words or ideas and then turning them into numbers.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 24

9) Feminist theory is a form of conflict theory that explains human life in terms of the experiences of women

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 13

10) Economic globalization is a closely knit community of all the world's societies.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 4

11) A macro view focuses on the immediate social situations in which people interact with one another.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 11

12) Scientific findings are always subject to verification or refutation by other scientists.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 5

13) According to the text, Postmodernist theory looks like a hybrid of the conflict and the symbolic interactionist perspectives.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 7

## Test Bank

14) Detached observation is one method of gathering data.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 22

15) To functionalists, sports help athletes develop such qualities as skill and ability, diligence and self-discipline, mental alertness, and physical fitness which in turn help athletes be successful in the larger society.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 12

### 1.3 Fill-in-the-Blank Questions

1) \_\_\_\_\_ is the systematic, mostly scientific study of human social behavior.

Answer: Sociology

Page Ref: 2

2) In \_\_\_\_\_, the sociologists searches for new knowledge in the data collected earlier by another researcher.

Answer: secondary analysis

Page Ref: 23

3) C. Wright Mills called the ability to see the impact of social forces on individuals the \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: sociological imagination

Page Ref: 5

4) Today, the world has become a community of all societies, also called a \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: global village

Page Ref: 4

5) Social cohesion that develops when people have similar beliefs and values is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: mechanical solidarity

Page Ref: 12

6) \_\_\_\_\_ is Max Weber's term for the subjective method that requires sociologists to practice empathy toward their subjects.

Answer: Verstehen

Page Ref: 9

7) The perspective that views society as a set of interdependent parts working together to provide social order is known as the \_\_\_\_\_ perspective.

Answer: functionalist

Page Ref: 11

8) Feminist theory suggests that \_\_\_\_\_ differences shape our lives.

Answer: gender

Page Ref: 13

- 9) The degree to which people are tied to a social group is called social \_\_\_\_\_.  
Answer: integration  
*Page Ref: 6*
- 10) With \_\_\_\_\_, the researcher analyzes people's lives from their own perspective.  
Answer: ethnography  
*Page Ref: 21*
- 11) W.E.B. DuBois was the first African American to receive a doctorate from \_\_\_\_\_.  
Answer: Harvard University  
*Page Ref: 11*
- 12) \_\_\_\_\_ is the only sociologist ever to have received a Nobel prize.  
Answer: Jane Adams  
*Page Ref: 10*
- 13) According to the text, \_\_\_\_\_ can help us enjoy a successful and happy life in at least three ways.  
Answer: sociology  
*Page Ref: 24*
- 14) \_\_\_\_\_ is regarded as the "father of sociology."  
Answer: Auguste Comte  
*Page Ref: 8*
- 15) Functionalist perspective emphasizes society's stability, the \_\_\_\_\_ perspective portrays society as always changing and always marked by conflict.  
Answer: Conflict  
*Page Ref: 12*

#### 1.4 Essay Questions

- 1) How can sports be used to explain the conflict, functionalists and symbolic interactionist perspective?  
*Page Ref: 15-19*
- 2) Identify and discuss the three American Sociological Association's ethical guidelines for research.  
*Page Ref: 4-5*
- 3) Define and explain the four basic social research methods.  
*Page Ref: 19-24*
- 4) Using the work of Michael Schwartz (2005) and Jeff Weintraub (2005), determine if "the ragtag Iraqi insurgents could bring the larger, better trained and better equipped U.S. army to its knees."  
*Page Ref: 24*
- 5) How can sociology help us understand why athletes fight with fans?  
*Page Ref: 19*

Test Bank

6) What were the contributions of Addams, DuBois, Spencer and Marx to the development of sociology?

*Page Ref: 8-11*

7) How does the micro view differ from the macro view?

*Page Ref: 11*

8) Define sociology and how it differs from common sense.

*Page Ref: 2-3*

9) How did Karl Marx contribute to the conflict perspective ?

*Page Ref: 12-13*

10) Define and explain deconstructionism.

*Page Ref: 7*