

Chapter One: What is Sociology?

Multiple Choice

- 1.0. Sociology can best be characterized as the study of:
- people and their personalities.
 - societies and human social behavior.
 - economics and politics.
 - science and the scientific method.

Page-Reference: 5

Answer : b.societies and human social behavior.

- 2.0. The basic premise of sociology is that human behavior:
- is largely determined by our biological heritage.
 - is largely determined by our personalities, which are fully formed early in life.
 - is a product of many unrelated decisions, making human life largely unpredictable.
 - is unrelated to the kind of society in which a person lives.
 - is largely determined by the groups to which people belong and by the societies in which they live.

Page-Reference: 5

Answer : e.is largely determined by the groups to which people belong and by the societies in which they live.

- 3.0. The sociological perspective emphasizes the extent to which:
- group memberships and social forces can shape human behavior.
 - individuals can act independently of one another and achieve their goals.
 - experiments are to be preferred as a research method over surveys or participant observation.
 - ethical considerations sometimes have to be ignored in order to conduct valid research.

Page-Reference: 5

Answer : a.group memberships and social forces can shape human behavior.

- 4.0. "The powerful role that group membership and social forces play in shaping human behavior" is a definition of:
- science.
 - the functionalist perspective.
 - the sociological perspective.
 - the interactionist perspective.

Page-Reference: 5

Answer : c.the sociological perspective.

- 5.0. A key element of the sociological perspective is the recognition that beliefs, values, and behaviors are relative to particular groups or societies. This means that:
- a central concern of sociology is on understanding kinship and the family.
 - some forms of behavior are found in some societies but not in others.
 - social practices can be understood only in the context of a shared view of reality found in a particular group or culture.
 - people in more primitive societies are not capable of the range of behaviors and practices that people in modern societies are capable of.

Page-Reference: 5

Answer : c.social practices can be understood only in the context of a shared view of reality found in a particular group or culture.

- 6.0. The text draws which of the following conclusions regarding the convergence of cultures in the world today?
- The values and aspirations found commonly in the United States are spreading around the world.
 - Less convergence is occurring today than in the last century.
 - Much of the cultural convergence today is limited to material technology.
 - The world is becoming a more diverse, rather than less diverse, place.

Page-Reference: 6

Answer : c.Much of the cultural convergence today is limited to material technology.

- 7.0. Which of the following would NOT be accurate regarding the impact of globalization on social and cultural life?
- It produces greater uniformity in social and cultural life around the world.
 - It produces greater interconnectedness between different peoples around the world.
 - It produces more social and cultural diversity in societies around the world.
 - It results in a growing unification in social and cultural life around the world.

Page-Reference: 7

Answer : c.It produces more social and cultural diversity in societies around the world.

- 8.0. The "sociological imagination" is best described as:
- the creative use of sociological perspectives by sociologists.
 - the creative use of sociological perspectives by non-sociologists.
 - the imagination required of sociologists to develop accurate theories of human social behavior.
 - the ability of people to understand the relationship between what is happening in their personal lives and the social forces that surround them.
 - both A and B.

Page-Reference: 8

Answer : d.the ability of people to understand the relationship between what is happening in their personal lives and the social forces that surround them.

- 9.0. Which sociologist coined the term "sociological imagination"?
- C. Wright Mills
 - Robert K. Merton
 - Karl Marx
 - Laud Humphreys

Page-Reference: 8

Answer : a.C. Wright Mills

- 10.0. _____ refers to the process of repeating a scientific investigation that has already been completed.
- Replication
 - Redundancy
 - Objectivity
 - Reactivity
 - Hypothesizing

Page-Reference: 8

Answer : a.Replication

- 11.0. Although Cesare Lombroso once claimed that some people are genetically inclined to commit crimes, social scientists today no longer accept his findings in this area. The text uses this example to illustrate that:
- scientists typically disagree with one another about how to interpret research findings.
 - science is provisional, with no ultimate or unchangeable truths.
 - it is probably impossible to achieve objectivity in the study of crime.
 - common sense knowledge is sometimes superior to scientific knowledge.

Page-Reference: 9

Answer : b.science is provisional, with no ultimate or unchangeable truths.

- 12.0. To say that science is objective means that:
- scientists have no personal values.
 - scientists can set aside their personal values in order to discover the truth.
 - replication is no longer necessary in science.
 - science is a foolproof way to achieve knowledge.
 - scientists strive to prevent their personal values from affecting their investigations.

Page-Reference: 9

Answer : e.scientists strive to prevent their personal values from affecting their investigations.

- 13.0. Which of the following sets of terms best describes science as a method of obtaining knowledge?
- intuitive, objective, and random
 - empirical, intuitive, and imaginative
 - empirical, systematic, and objective
 - systematic, objective, and intuitive
 - empirical, intuitive, and systematic

Page-Reference: 8-9

Answer : c.empirical, systematic, and objective

- 14.0. According to the text, it is most common for sociological research to:
- confirm our common sense assumptions.
 - directly contradict our common sense assumptions.
 - find that the truth is more complicated than our common sense would suggest.
 - assume that common sense assumptions are wrong and not study them.

Page-Reference: 9-10

Answer : c.find that the truth is more complicated than our common sense would suggest.

- 15.0. Which of the following disciplines is NOT considered a social science?
- psychology
 - geology
 - economics
 - anthropology
 - political science

Page-Reference: 10

Answer : b.geology

- 16.0. Which of the following disciplines is the most encompassing, studying all of human social behavior?
- sociology
 - economics
 - political sociology
 - social psychology

Page-Reference: 10

Answer : a.sociology

- 17.0. According to the text, sociology involves a continual interplay between:
- reactivity and research.
 - research and theory.
 - hypotheses and objectivity.
 - participant observation and surveys.
 - theories and common sense.

Page-Reference: 11

Answer : b.research and theory.

- 18.0. A theory is best defined as:
- speculation that sociologists make regarding human behavior and social phenomena.
 - a tentative statement that can be tested regarding the relationship between two or more variables.
 - a set of statements that explain the relationship among phenomena.
 - the untested assumptions that underlie theoretical perspectives.

Page-Reference: 11

Answer : c.a set of statements that explain the relationship among phenomena.