

CHAPTER 1: What Is Sociology?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES (OBJ):

- I. Learn what sociology covers as a field and how everyday topics are shaped by social and historical forces. Recognize that sociology involves not only acquiring knowledge but also developing a sociological imagination.
- II. Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists.
- III. Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology. Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
- IV. Understand how adopting a sociological perspective allows us to develop a richer understanding of ourselves and the world.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. According to the sociological perspective, people's behavior is:
 - a. mostly a result of their personality
 - b. entirely determined by the social context
 - c. mostly a result of their genes
 - d. influenced by the social context

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Recognize that sociology involves not only acquiring knowledge but also developing a sociological imagination. MSC: Applying

2. The idea of a sociological imagination originated with:
 - a. Anthony Giddens
 - b. C. Wright Mills
 - c. Émile Durkheim
 - d. Karl Marx

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Recognize that sociology involves not only acquiring knowledge but also developing a sociological imagination. MSC: Remembering

3. The significance of a sociological imagination is that:
 - a. sociology should be considered a philosophy rather than a science
 - b. sociologists are primarily interested in predicting the unobservable
 - c. sociology attempts to connect individual experiences to a conception of a larger social structure
 - d. sociology is rarely concerned with empirical verification of theories

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Recognize that sociology involves not only acquiring knowledge but also developing a sociological imagination. MSC: Remembering

4. When sociologists visit college campuses, they witness a variety of behaviors and social relationships that are not necessarily immediately apparent to the members of the college community because this community is unlikely to be focusing on how the college context connects to the larger social framework. The ability to interpret all the events taking place within the campus context is referred to as:
- theory
 - macrosociology
 - feminism
 - sociological imagination

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Recognize that sociology involves not only acquiring knowledge but also developing a sociological imagination. MSC: Applying

5. Sociologists often observe individual people's behavior, even though they are typically analyzing these observations for how they reveal patterns or regularities of social behaviors beyond the individuals themselves. This relates to sociology's focus on _____.
- socialization
 - anomie
 - bureaucracy
 - social structure

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Learn what sociology covers as a field and how everyday topics are shaped by social and historical forces. MSC: Understanding

6. The norms, beliefs, and values that we learn through socialization make _____ possible.
- agency
 - power struggles
 - social order
 - bureaucracy

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Learn what sociology covers as a field and how everyday topics are shaped by social and historical forces. MSC: Understanding

7. Sociologists recognize that when a group of people agree on an idea or practice, it becomes a taken-for-granted reality. This is called _____.
- rationalization
 - social construction
 - social constraint
 - latent function

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Learn what sociology covers as a field and how everyday topics are shaped by social and historical forces. MSC: Remembering

8. A child's father is likely to tell the child to "say thank-you" when the child receives a gift. This is an example of:
- social construction
 - rationalization
 - socialization
 - social structure

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Learn what sociology covers as a field and how everyday topics are shaped by social and historical forces. MSC: Applying

9. We can say that something is socially constructed when it occurs through:
- anomie
 - rationalization
 - social intelligence
 - social interactions

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Learn what sociology covers as a field and how everyday topics are shaped by social and historical forces. MSC: Remembering

10. In their 2002 study comparing the average yearly income of students who had been admitted to and attended an Ivy League college with the average yearly income of students who had been admitted to but did not attend an Ivy League college, Alan Krueger and Stacy Dale found that:
- the individual matters despite an apparent disparity in opportunities between Ivy League and non-Ivy League colleges
 - highly motivated students are far less likely to succeed if they attend a non-Ivy League college
 - institutional structures are always a greater determinant of success than personal ambition
 - non-Ivy League college graduates have a significantly higher average income than graduates of Ivy League colleges

ANS: A DIF: Difficult REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Recognize that sociology involves not only acquiring knowledge but also developing a sociological imagination. MSC: Understanding

11. Early sociological theorists often differed in their analyses of social behavior and social institutions. Nevertheless, Auguste Comte, Émile Durkheim, Karl Marx, and Max Weber strove to explain the new relationships that emerged as an outgrowth of the:
- American Revolution
 - French Revolution
 - Russian Revolution
 - Industrial Revolution

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking

OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Understanding

12. Which sociological theorist first used the word *sociology* to describe the science that seeks to understand human behavior?
- Auguste Comte
 - Émile Durkheim
 - Karl Marx
 - Max Weber

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

13. What should knowledge of society be based on, according to Auguste Comte?
- authority
 - imagination
 - scientific evidence
 - tradition

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

14. Which of the following social thinkers argued that it is preferable for social development to come from individual achievement rather than assistance from the state?
- Herbert Spencer
 - Karl Marx
 - Émile Durkheim
 - George Herbert Mead

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

15. Which sociologist argued that social factors exert a fundamental influence on suicidal behavior?
- Anthony Giddens
 - Émile Durkheim
 - George Herbert Mead
 - Robert K. Merton

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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16. According to Émile Durkheim, sociologists must study social facts, which are:
- the ways in which people cooperate
 - what people report as the reasons for their behavior
 - aspects of social life that shape our individual actions
 - individual opinions

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

17. Organic solidarity is:
- how society operates naturally
 - when people disagree on basic values and customs but work together anyway
 - a source of social conflict in society
 - when the institutions of society function together as a whole

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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18. According to Émile Durkheim, societies must have organic solidarity based on cooperation and a general agreement on basic values and customs in order to:
- persist over time
 - survive in the face of globalization
 - have a functional division of labor
 - limit social conflict

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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19. The way in which social structure limits the range of activities and opportunities in individuals' lives is called:
- division of labor
 - anomie
 - rationalization
 - social constraint

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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20. Consider a society in which anyone is allowed to go to any school they can qualify and pay for. A young adult wishes to go to a costly private university but cannot afford the cost of tuition. This would be an example of the concept of _____.
- anomie
 - social constraint
 - capitalism
 - division of labor

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Applying

21. According to Émile Durkheim, the following would gradually replace religion as the source of social cohesion in society:
- science
 - love
 - the division of labor
 - capitalism

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

22. Émile Durkheim analyzed the social changes transforming society in his lifetime in terms of:
- “social physics”
 - the materialist conception of history
 - the rationalization of social and economic life
 - the division of labor

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Understanding

23. According to Émile Durkheim, the rapid process of social change gives rise to many social difficulties that he linked to:
- anomie
 - social conflict
 - increased social constraint
 - the economy

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

24. Which early theorist saw class conflict as the main source of social change?
- Émile Durkheim
 - Harriet Martineau
 - Karl Marx
 - Max Weber

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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25. In Marxian analysis, which group makes up the largest component of society?
- the ruling class
 - capitalists
 - wage workers
 - the aristocracy

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

26. Karl Marx differs from Émile Durkheim in that Marx:
- concentrated on postindustrial society as opposed to industrial society
 - argued that social change is caused by economic influences as opposed to values and ideas
 - argued for a social physics and scientific understanding
 - argued that social change causes anomie

ANS: B DIF: Difficult REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Understanding

27. According to Karl Marx's materialist conception of history, which of the following would be considered a source of social change in society?
- democratic political movements
 - the conflict between the working class and the ruling class
 - acceptance of new religions
 - changes in family structure

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Understanding

28. According to Karl Marx, the modern era is shaped primarily by:
- anomie
 - bureaucracy
 - division of labor
 - capitalism

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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29. The economic system in which conflict is inevitable because it is in the interest of the ruling class to exploit the working class and in the interest of workers to overcome that exploitation is called:
- socialism
 - Marxism
 - communism
 - capitalism

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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30. Which of the following was a focus of Max Weber's research?
- class struggles
 - the influence of cultural ideas and values on social change and individual behavior
 - a belief in the superiority of Western culture
 - the sense of aimlessness provoked by modern social life

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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31. According to Max Weber, economic factors are important to social change in society. However, he also argued that _____ is/are just as important for social change.
- ideas and values
 - cohesion
 - government
 - the ability to accept social change

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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32. What played the fundamental role in developing the capitalistic outlook, according to Max Weber?
- organic solidarity
 - specialization
 - religious values
 - symbolic interaction

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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33. Max Weber contended that a bureaucratic structure is the most efficient organizational type. Which of the following best exemplifies a bureaucratic organization?
- the Beta chapter of Delta Gamma sorority
 - a block party in celebration of Independence Day
 - an introductory sociology class
 - the college or university you attend

ANS: D DIF: Difficult REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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34. Minzee has just been promoted to head assistant of Technology Innovations for the Department of Sociology. She now reports directly to the chairperson of the Technology Committee. Minzee is in charge of digitizing movie clips and sending them to the chairperson, who then loads the clips onto the department website. This chain of command is an example of:
- capitalism
 - social structure
 - socialization
 - bureaucracy

ANS: D DIF: Difficult REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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35. Which type of organization causes problems for effective democratic participation, according to Max Weber?
- government
 - capitalism
 - rationalization
 - bureaucracy

ANS: D DIF: Difficult REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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36. In the classical period of sociology, _____ were rarely allowed to hold academic positions or to do sociological research, so their contributions have been neglected.
- men
 - Frenchmen
 - Germans
 - women and minorities

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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37. The foundational figures in sociology developed theories to address social inequality, exploitation, and stratification, but at the same time they:
- neglected to examine industrialization
 - ignored women and minorities
 - forgot to examine values and beliefs
 - ignored the role of religion in society

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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38. Who was the first sociologist to look at previously ignored issues, such as domestic life and race relations?
- Émile Durkheim
 - Emily Dickinson
 - Harriet Martineau
 - Jean Baudrillard

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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39. Harriet Martineau is significant to sociologists today for insisting that an analysis of society must include:
- a focus on culture
 - an examination of economic factors
 - all of society's members, including women
 - the most powerful figures in a society

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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40. According to W. E. B. Du Bois, African Americans' sense of self and identity are greatly influenced by the experiences of slavery and, after emancipation, segregation. Du Bois labeled this idea:
- organic solidarity
 - rationalization
 - dialectical materialism
 - double consciousness

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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41. Who said about American society, "The problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the color line"?
- Émile Durkheim
 - George Herbert Mead
 - Harriet Martineau
 - W. E. B. Du Bois

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
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42. Having a _____ allows one to understand the centrality of gender in analyzing the social world.
- sociological imagination
 - rational choice perspective
 - global perspective
 - feminist perspective

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field
MSC: Remembering

43. With the use of Internet technology, college students are able to more efficiently register for classes, check their grades, and access course material on class websites. Max Weber would say that this is an example of:
- agency
 - capitalism
 - rationalization
 - division of labor

ANS: C DIF: Difficult REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology.
MSC: Applying

44. The concept of rationalization, the process by which the social world becomes more precise, efficiently organized, and involves more abstract rules was developed by _____.
- Max Weber
 - Émile Durkheim
 - Herbert Spencer
 - Karl Marx

ANS: A DIF: Difficult REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology.
MSC: Applying

45. A neighborhood has an annual food drive for the purpose of collecting food for disadvantaged families. However, this event also has the effect of creating a stronger sense of community in this neighborhood. The stronger sense of community would be an example of Robert K. Merton's concept of _____.
- manifest functions
 - latent functions
 - microsociology
 - functionalism

ANS: B DIF: Medium REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology.
MSC: Applying

46. Who had the greatest influence on the theoretical approach known as *symbolic interactionism*?
- Auguste Comte
 - Émile Durkheim
 - Talcott Parsons
 - George Herbert Mead

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology. MSC: Remembering

47. What would a symbolic interactionist say is involved in nearly all social interactions?
- a conflict
 - an exchange of functions
 - an exchange of symbols
 - a rational choice

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

48. A variety of interpretations can be made of a scene at a restaurant where two men are having lunch together, laughing, and being playful with each other. Who among the following would most likely interpret their behavior by watching for subtle signs of affection and eye contact?
- a structural-functionalist
 - a Marxist
 - a rational choice theorist
 - a symbolic interactionist

ANS: D DIF: Difficult REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Analyzing

49. According to George Herbert Mead, what separates human society from the animal kingdom?
- the ability to interpret the natural world
 - the ability to interpret and understand symbols
 - latent functions
 - organic solidarity

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology. MSC: Remembering

50. When one item is used to represent another, it is labeled a(n):
- concept
 - theory
 - interpretation
 - symbol

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

51. In daily life, people rely on cues to determine which behaviors are appropriate or inappropriate in each particular context. Which of the following theories does this statement best represent?
- functionalism
 - rational choice theory
 - symbolic interactionism
 - Marxism

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Understanding

52. Which theoretical perspective perceives moral consensus within society as imperative for social integration?
- functionalism
 - Marxism
 - symbolic interactionism
 - rational choice theory

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Understanding

53. Drug trafficking and other illegal activities produce jobs and income for some Americans. Illegal activity in turn produces jobs in law enforcement, corrections, and the legal system. Who might say that drug trafficking has a useful place in society?
- capitalists
 - postmodernists
 - functionalists
 - rational choice theorists

ANS: C DIF: Difficult REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Applying

54. According to Robert K. Merton, the intended consequences of a social activity or institution are called:
- latent functions
 - manifest functions
 - desired functions
 - organic solidarity

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology. MSC: Remembering

55. Which of the following is an example of a latent function of education?
- learn basic skills such as reading and writing
 - learn the skills needed to get a job
 - learn analytical skills such as critical thinking
 - learn to obey authority figures

ANS: D DIF: Difficult REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Applying

56. The social cohesion that fans feel at a baseball game when their team wins is an example of a(n) _____ function.
- intended
 - manifest
 - symbolic
 - latent

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Applying

57. When sociological research and analysis are framed in the context of power and inequality, the reader can assume that the research and analysis are variations of what type of theory?
- symbolic interactionism
 - Marxism
 - functionalism
 - rationality theory

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

58. In addition to sociological analysis, Marxist sociologists believe that sociology should also include:
- political reform
 - focus on individual behavior
 - religious analysis
 - moral analysis

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

59. If a person or group is able to make their own concerns or interests count, even if others resist, that individual or group has:
- power
 - privilege
 - prestige
 - feminism

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

60. According to Marxist sociologists, ideologies are used to _____.
- create social cohesion
 - justify the actions of those with power
 - help the disadvantaged
 - reduce cultural inequality

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Understanding

61. Feminist theory notes the systematic inequality in social life by gender and seeks political reform to overcome this inequality. These features of feminist theory illustrate its connection to _____.
- functionalism
 - symbolic interactionism
 - conflict theory
 - rational choice theory

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Understanding

62. An ideology is a:
- set of laws that enforce the power of one group in society
 - set of moral codes that form social cohesion in society
 - political system that governs in the interest of dominant groups
 - shared set of ideas or beliefs that justify the interest of dominant groups

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

63. What do Marxism and feminism have in common?
- Both focus on inequalities and conflict as central features of modern societies.
 - Neither sees advocating social change as an appropriate activity for sociologists.
 - Both reject the idea that subordinate groups are important to study.
 - Marxism and feminism deemphasize political reform.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Understanding

64. Rational choice theorists would define the behavior of corporate executives who outsource many jobs to countries where the cost of labor is substantially less than in the United States as being:
- instrumental
 - expressive
 - habitual
 - affective

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Applying

65. Behavior that is oriented toward self-interest is often called:
- organic solidarity
 - social structure
 - feminism
 - rational action

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

66. Approaching marriage as a way to maximize self-interest is an example of analysis that uses what type of theoretical understanding?
- Marxism
 - feminist theory
 - rational choice approach
 - functionalism

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Applying

67. According to postmodernist theory:
- history is leading us inevitably toward socialism
 - society is becoming increasingly homogenized
 - the nation-state is growing stronger
 - society is highly pluralistic and diverse

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Understanding

68. What is the main source of meaning in the postmodern world, according to Jean Baudrillard?
- images in the media
 - religion
 - habit
 - anomie

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology.
MSC: Remembering

69. Which of the following statements most closely resembles the ideas of a postmodernist?
- Sociology is a field that produces knowledge of society based on scientific evidence.
 - Sociologists should understand that our subjectivities are being transformed and that we are in transition to a new era.
 - The goal of sociology should be to study the class conflicts between the workers and the owners of the means of production.
 - The goal of sociology should be to examine inequalities in race, class, and gender.

ANS: B DIF: Difficult REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Understanding

70. Robert K. Merton advocated that sociologists should develop more modest theories that would not attempt to encompass all of society. He termed these types of theories:
- micro-level theories
 - theories of the middle range
 - rational theories
 - manifest theories

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

71. The study of everyday life and face-to-face interaction is called:
- microsociology
 - macrosociology
 - biosociology
 - psychosociology

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

72. Which of the following is an example of microsociology?
- studying the social interactions in a coffee shop
 - defining the organizational chart for a large corporation
 - studying the positions of responsibility in a school system
 - observing the hierarchical structures within a university

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Applying

73. Analysis of large-scale systems and long-term processes is known as:
- microsociology
 - macrosociology
 - biosociology
 - psychosociology

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

TRUE/FALSE

1. With a sociological imagination, one sees personal troubles, such as divorce, in terms of larger public issues.

ANS: T DIF: Easy REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts
OBJ: Recognize that sociology involves not only acquiring knowledge but also developing a sociological imagination. MSC: Remembering

2. Sociologists believe that the lives of individuals are completely determined by their class, race, and gender.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts
OBJ: Recognize that sociology involves not only acquiring knowledge but also developing a sociological imagination. MSC: Understanding

3. The specialization of tasks within a system of production is referred to as the division of labor.

ANS: T DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

4. One of the latent functions of marriage is to reproduce the class structure of society.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Applying

5. Feminism is a major influential movement within sociology today.

ANS: T DIF: Easy REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches
OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.
MSC: Remembering

SHORT ANSWER

1. Explain the concept of social structure in one or two sentences, and give one example of a social structure.

ANS:
The underlying regularities or patterns in how people behave in their relationships with one another. Examples may vary.

DIF: Moderate REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts
OBJ: Learn what sociology covers as a field and how everyday topics are shaped by social and historical forces. MSC: Applying

2. What role do sociologists believe biology has in explaining human behavior?

ANS:
Answers may vary but include: Sociologists do not dismiss the role of biology in explaining human behavior. Rather, they attempt to disentangle its role from that of society.

DIF: Moderate REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts
OBJ: Learn what sociology covers as a field and how everyday topics are shaped by social and historical forces. MSC: Understanding

3. In one or two sentences, explain Émile Durkheim's idea of social facts, and give one example of a social fact.

ANS:
Answers may vary but include: Aspects of social life that shape our actions as individuals and aspects of social life that could be studied scientifically; examples can include the state of the economy or influence of religion.

DIF: Easy REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Applying

4. In one or two sentences, please explain the difference between microsociology and macrosociology.

ANS:

Answers may vary but include: Microsociology as study of human behavior in face-to-face interaction in daily life; macrosociology as study of large-scale groups and organizations as well as social systems.

DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches

OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology. Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.

MSC: Applying

5. How can sociology help us understand ourselves?

ANS:

Answers may vary but include: The more we know about our own behavior and how our society works, the better chance we have to influence our futures.

DIF: Easy REF: 1.4 How Can Sociology Help Us?

OBJ: Understand how adopting a sociological perspective allows us to develop a richer understanding of ourselves and the world. MSC: Understanding

MATCHING

- a. Karl Marx
- b. Harriet Martineau
- c. Émile Durkheim
- d. W. E. B. Du Bois
- e. Auguste Comte
- f. Max Weber

1. Invented the word “sociology”
2. Believed the conflicts between the classes provide the motivation for historical development
3. Drew attention to the conspicuous absence of women’s lives from sociology
4. Well known for studying bureaucracy
5. Said, “The problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the color line”
6. Saw society as a set of independent parts, each of which could be studied separately

1. ANS: E DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering
2. ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering
3. ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering
4. ANS: F DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

5. ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering
6. ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 1.2 The Development of Sociological Thinking
OBJ: Learn how sociology originated and understand the significance of the intellectual contributions of early sociologists. MSC: Remembering

ESSAY

1. What are the four questions that sociologists generally ask themselves when examining a social phenomenon? Using the example of romantic love, explain how these four questions help one to focus his or her sociological imagination.

ANS:

Answers may vary.

DIF: Difficult REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Recognize that sociology involves not only acquiring knowledge but also developing a sociological imagination. MSC: Applying

2. "Sociology is not simply a restatement of the obvious." Explain this statement using examples from the text to demonstrate how sociological study helps us look beyond individual explanations for behavior.

ANS:

Answers may vary.

DIF: Difficult REF: 1.1 Basic Concepts

OBJ: Learn what sociology covers as a field and how everyday topics are shaped by social and historical forces. MSC: Evaluating

3. What is a theoretical approach? What is the role of the theoretical approach in the development of sociological knowledge?

ANS:

Answers may vary.

DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches

OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology. Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.

MSC: Understanding

4. Consider the phenomenon of divorce. Please briefly discuss a likely focus of the study of divorce from the approach known as symbolic interactionism.

ANS:

Answers may vary.

DIF: Difficult REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches

OBJ: Be able to identify some of the leading theorists and the concepts they contributed to sociology. Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.

MSC: Applying

5. Compare and contrast how macrosociology and microsociology would examine romantic love. Explain why we need both perspectives to understand romantic love.

ANS:

Answers may vary.

DIF: Moderate REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches

OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.

MSC: Analyzing

6. Consider the income and wealth gap in the United States. Compare how functionalism and conflict theory view income and wealth inequality.

ANS:

Answers may vary.

DIF: Difficult REF: 1.3 Modern Theoretical Approaches

OBJ: Learn the different theoretical approaches modern sociologists bring to the field.

MSC: Analyzing