Chapter 1: The Sociological Imagination

Test Bank

# Multiple Choice

1. Who coined the term "sociology" as the systematic study of society?

a. Socrates

b. Garfinkel

c. Comte

d. Plato

Ans: C

Learning Objective:1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. In the United States, the Southeast and Midwest are two examples of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. cultures

b. societies

c. subgroups

d. countercultures

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Which group features shared land area, social interaction, and a common justice system?

a. Dominant culture

b. Culture

c. Society

d. Association

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Which individual demonstrates the best example of a breaching experiment?

a. Bill is walking his dog and crosses the street to avoid the neighbor’s cat.

b. Kim wears a traditional Korean dress to her sister’s wedding ceremony.

c. Elwood helps himself to a handful of fries from the plate of a stranger.

d. Carlos uses a hand signal while riding his motorcycle to indicate he is turning right.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. White people in the United States are members of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the dominant culture

b. a subculture

c. a counterculture

d. the minority culture

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. Amish communities in the United States reject certain forms of technology and modes of dress. These choices would place them in a \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. minority culture

b. counterculture

c. subculture

d. dominant culture

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Moderate members of different political parties would fall into which group?

a. Counterculture

b. Dominant culture

c. Minority culture

d. Subculture

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Hard

8. If Beyoncé gave up pop music and instead became a world-famous opera singer, she would have moved from \_\_\_\_\_\_ culture to \_\_\_\_\_\_ culture.

a. high; popular

b. high; high

c. popular; popular

d. popular; high

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Medium

9. A political cartoon is an example of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. popular culture

b. high culture

c. a subculture

d. a counterculture

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. While talking with his friends over dinner, David realizes he is NOT the only one who feels tense when interacting with police. David has used his sociological imagination to connect his \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. high culture; low culture

b. personal troubles; public issues

c. subculture; counterculture

d. minority culture; dominant culture

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.2: Understand and apply the concept of the sociological imagination, particularly the connection between personal troubles and public issues.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Sociological Imagination

Difficulty Level: Medium

11. Rachel is allowed to take extra time on exams due to her dyslexia. This is an example of the sociological concept of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. public issue

b. assimilation

c. personal trouble

d. subculture

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.2: Understand and apply the concept of the sociological imagination, particularly the connection between personal troubles and public issues.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Sociological Imagination

Difficulty Level: Medium

12. Federal investigations showed a pattern of discrimination in the Ferguson, Missouri police department in the way African Americans were treated. This is an example of which sociological concept?

a. Personal trouble

b. Public issue

c. Police brutality

d. Public relations

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.2: Understand and apply the concept of the sociological imagination, particularly the connection between personal troubles and public issues.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Sociological Imagination

Difficulty Level: Medium

13. Tarana shared her survival story on social media, using her \_\_\_\_\_\_ to inspire others to help hold sex offenders accountable.

a. public issue

b. sociological imagination

c. historical context

d. media savvy

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.2: Understand and apply the concept of the sociological imagination, particularly the connection between personal troubles and public issues.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Sociological Imagination

Difficulty Level: Medium

14. After borrowing funds from the government to pay for college, Jon awakens to the reality that he benefits from the structure of society. He is using his \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. sociological imagination

b. historical context

c. public issue

d. individual constraints

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.2: Understand and apply the concept of the sociological imagination, particularly the connection between personal troubles and public issues.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Sociological Imagination

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. The core focus of sociology that studies the differences between people that influence life outcomes is social \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. institutions

b. change

c. inequality

d. secularization

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Inequality

Difficulty Level: Easy

16. The family is one example of which core focus of sociology?

a. Social institutions

b. Social change

c. Social inequality

d. Social secularization

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Institutions

Difficulty Level: Easy

17. What is the best example of social inequality?

a. Tonya prefers English bulldogs over poodles, but her partner does not.

b. Pham works very hard to earn his promotion.

c. Leroy earns a stipend for coaching tennis at his school.

d. Frank cannot register to vote because he keeps moving from shelter to shelter.

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Social Inequality

Difficulty Level: Medium

18. Jack and Diane are arrested for armed robbery. Diane’s parents hire an attorney to handle her defense, but Jack must rely on a public defender. This is an example of which focus of sociology?

a. Social change

b. Social fact

c. Social inequality

d. Social institution

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Social Inequality

Difficulty Level: Medium

19. In the United States, which group earns the highest average income?

a. White

b. Black

c. Asian-American

d. Hispanic

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Inequality

Difficulty Level: Easy

20. Our behavior is structured by various shared social arrangements, norms, values and standards of conduct, known as social \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. change

b. religiosity

c. inequality

d. institutions

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Institutions

Difficulty Level: Easy

21. The process of a religion losing its authority over the lives of followers is known as \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. religiosity

b. secularization

c. conversion

d. losing faith

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Change

Difficulty Level: Easy

22. Ben prays three times a day, and carefully monitors the food he chooses for his family. He would rank highly in which measure of piety?

a. High culture

b. Modernization

c. Religiosity

d. Faithfulness

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Social Change

Difficulty Level: Hard

23. The legalization of marijuana is an example of the aim of sociology called social \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. institution

b. inequality

c. fact

d. change

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Social Change

Difficulty Level: Medium

24. Why did Karl Marx consider religion the opiate of the masses?

a. He was jealous of the influence religion has on behavior norms in society.

b. He felt that religion distracts people from their own suffering, by focusing on salvation.

c. The Catholic church excommunicated (shunned) him, and he was bitter about it.

d. Religion lends itself to communism, and Marx was an avowed capitalist.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Social Change

Difficulty Level: Medium

25. What is the purpose of looking for the general in the particular?

a. Observational learning helps us avoid punishment.

b. Identifying behavior patterns can indicate areas for further study.

c. Examining common sense systematically proves what we already know.

d. Studying individual behavior guides changes in society.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.4: Explain and give examples of the three core aims of sociology.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Three Core Aims of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Medium

26. Why is it hard to study society?

a. It surrounds us all and is taken for granted by most people.

b. People are discouraged from discussing society by unwritten rules.

c. Most people will exaggerate their good qualities when interviewed.

d. Society changes at such a fast pace that studies are quickly obsolete.

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.4: Explain and give examples of the three core aims of sociology.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Three Core Aims of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Medium

27. Why do sociologists use systematic methods to study familiar things that seem like common sense?

a. It supports confirmation bias among sociologists.

b. Systematic study shows how causation and correlation are similar.

c. It proves that “old wives tales” are based in reality.

d. The process can convert anecdotal stories into hard scientific evidence.

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.4: Explain and give examples of the three core aims of sociology.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Three Core Aims of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Medium

28. According to Durkheim, what distinguishes sociology from philosophy?

a. Sociology focuses on theory; philosophy only uses empirical research.

b. Sociology is interested in individuals; philosophy considers group dynamics.

c. Philosophy relies on theories and logic; sociology focuses on empirical research.

d. Philosophy is about how individuals feel; sociology focuses on consciousness.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Émile Durkheim and Social Facts

Difficulty Level: Hard

29. Durkheim felt that values, norms, and social structures are all \_\_\_\_\_\_ that shape individual behavior.

a. cultural artifacts

b. social facts

c. sociological constructs

d. anecdotal evidence

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Émile Durkheim and Social Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

30. Les did not feel connected to society in any meaningful way. If he decided to take his own life, which of Durkheim’s types of suicide would apply?

a. Altruistic

b. Anomic

c. Egoistic

d. Fatalistic

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Study of Suicide

Difficulty Level: Medium

31. When Katniss volunteered as tribute to save her little sister, which of Durkheim’s types of suicide did she think she was committing?

a. Fatalistic

b. Egoistic

c. Anomic

d. Altruistic

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Study of Suicide

Difficulty Level: Medium

32. To what did Durkheim attribute the much lower suicide rate among Catholics as compared to the rate among Protestants?

a. Catholics are encouraged to interpret scriptures on their own, so they feel less connected to others.

b. Protestants feel overregulated and programmed when in church, so their connections are superficial.

c. Catholics are urged to seek counsel with priests who can explain scripture, giving them someone with whom to discuss problems.

d. Protestants place a higher value on rugged individualism, so much so that any perceived failures are magnified.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Study of Suicide

Difficulty Level: Medium

33. A person who feels rootless or without norms to guide them due to little or no regulation may commit which type of suicide?

a. Egoistic

b. Altruistic

c. Anomic

d. Fatalistic

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Study of Suicide

Difficulty Level: Medium

34. Solomon Northup did not resort to \_\_\_\_\_\_ suicide, despite being kidnapped and sold into slavery for twelve years.

a. fatalistic

b. altruistic

c. egoistic

d. anomic

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Study of Suicide

Difficulty Level: Hard

35. According to Durkheim, why are single men more likely to commit suicide than other groups?

a. They feel like they have failed to secure the social institution of marriage.

b. Single men are less integrated into society due to their gender and relationship status.

c. They have few limits on their tendency toward risky behaviors that may look like suicide if fatal.

d. Some single men feel high levels of stress from their inability to pass on their genes by starting a family.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Society Shapes How We Live

Difficulty Level: Medium

36. What is the main criticism of Durkheim’s study of suicide?

a. His sample size was too small to prove his hypothesis.

b. Only Catholics and Protestants were studied, not other religions.

c. Studies of countrywide suicide rates are hard to apply to individual behavior.

d. He failed to take into account the possibility that homicide might seem like suicide.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Society Shapes How We Live

Difficulty Level: Hard

37. Durkheim’s study of suicide contributed which finding to the field of sociology?

a. The negative stigma attached to suicide was removed.

b. Many Protestants converted to Catholicism.

c. Suicide rates in Switzerland were reduced.

d. It showed a connection between individuals and society.

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Society Shapes How We Live

Difficulty Level: Easy

38. Suicide rates are higher among Native Americans on isolated reservations than other demographic groups in the United States. How might Durkheim explain this?

a. These are anomic suicides, since Native Americans are NOT required to follow American laws.

b. Since Native Americans on reservations are not integrated into society, most of these are likely egoistic.

c. Native Americans may martyr themselves in a form of altruistic suicide to protect the tribe.

d. The freedom of living on reservations may lead to fatalistic suicides in this group.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: The Study of Suicide

Difficulty Level: Hard

39. In Japan, a businessman sometimes commit suicide by ritual disembowelment, or seppuku, as a result of bringing shame on his family name after committing financial crimes. Durkheim would most likely categorize this as which type of suicide?

a. Seppuku is a way to sacrifice oneself to restore honor to the family, so it is altruistic.

b. This form of suicide is a way to escape the oppression of society, or fatalistic.

c. It is anomic because the man thinks his suicide is not as shameful as living.

d. Japan is traditionally under-regulated and diverse, so this must be an egoistic suicide.

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: The Study of Suicide

Difficulty Level: Hard

40. Why is sociology considered different from common sense?

a. Sociology is more superficial than common sense that has been handed down for generations.

b. Common sense goes deeper into the causes and effects of a selected behavior.

c. Sociology uses scientific study to test common sense and dispel misconceptions.

d. Common sense is essentially informal sociology engaged in by amateur scientists.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.6: Understand the main ways that sociologists study society and the parts of the research process.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Is Sociology Just Common Sense?

Difficulty Level: Medium

41. Sociologist Randall Collins asserted that sociology's greatest strength is its ability to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. reveal fundamental social processes

b. assess the good from the bad

c. quantify the trivial details of existence

d. point out how much we differ from each other

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.6: Understand the main ways that sociologists study society and the parts of the research process.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Is Sociology Just Common Sense?

Difficulty Level: Easy

42. Most people have social networks populated by people much like themselves, illustrating the concept of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. homophily

b. heterophily

c. diversity

d. multiplicity

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.6: Understand the main ways that sociologists study society and the parts of the research process.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Is Sociology Just Common Sense?

Difficulty Level: Easy

43. According to sociological research, do “opposites attract” or do “birds of a feather flock together?”

a. Most people are attracted to others with traits that fill their own perceived deficits.

b. Geographical location limits many people to those that share location, values, and traits.

c. Studies show a person is equally likely to choose an opposite or similar partner.

d. Sexual orientation is a larger determining factor than similarity in attraction.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.6: Understand the main ways that sociologists study society and the parts of the research process.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Is Sociology Just Common Sense?

Difficulty Level: Easy

44. Why do most people marry someone of a similar age?

a. Religious traditions encourage people to spend time with their age group.

b. Societal expectations place stigmas on couples with large age differences.

c. Schools group people by age, causing them to have the most interactions together.

d. Most officiants will only agree to marry couples of comparable ages.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.6: Understand the main ways that sociologists study society and the parts of the research process.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Is Sociology Just Common Sense?

Difficulty Level: Easy

45. What is a potential drawback of homophily?

a. People who only spend time with those like them may be less tolerant of those who are different.

b. Boredom with being around like-minded people encourages experimentation and acceptance of diversity.

c. Being attracted to similar others may lead to an increase in the rate of homosexuality.

d. Spending time around people similar to oneself eventually removes all stimuli for conversation.

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.6: Understand the main ways that sociologists study society and the parts of the research process.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Is Sociology Just Common Sense?

Difficulty Level: Hard

46. A sociologist studying your classroom would be most interested in exploring which question?

a. Does the layout of the classroom support optimum learning?

b. What bacteria are common to all people entering the classroom?

c. Who decides what material is covered in your education?

d. How does your university rank compared to others of similar size?

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.6: Understand the main ways that sociologists study society and the parts of the research process.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: How Would Different Disciplines Study Your Classroom?

Difficulty Level: Medium

47. In an experiment, the condition that is manipulated by the researcher to examine its effect on another condition is called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. dependent variable

b. operational definition

c. independent variable

d. population

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Research Methods: How Do Sociologists Study Society?

Difficulty Level: Easy

48. Researchers evaluate how \_\_\_\_\_\_ are affected during experiments.

a. statistics

b. dependent variables

c. independent variables

d. research questions

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Research Methods: How Do Sociologists Study Society?

Difficulty Level: Easy

49. A researcher will begin a study by posing a \_\_\_\_\_\_, which states the relationship between variables.

a. research question

b. micro-analysis

c. correlational study

d. meta-analysis

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Research Methods: How Do Sociologists Study Society?

Difficulty Level: Easy

50. A sociologist believes that older people are more likely to perceive faces from races different from their own as threats. When he or she asks why this relationship exists, this is an example of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. a statistical model

b. a research question

c. an independent variable

d. an experiment

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Research Methods: How Do Sociologists Study Society?

Difficulty Level: Hard

51. Which statement best explains the difference between qualitative and quantitative research?

a. Qualitative research is better for larger amounts of data.

b. Only quantitative research uses content analysis.

c. Qualitative research goes into more depth on its topic.

d. Quantitative research relies on participant observation.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Research Methods: How Do Sociologists Study Society?

Difficulty Level: Hard

52. What approach is most suited to gathering and analyzing large amounts of data from multiple people?

a. Qualitative research

b. Experiments

c. Quantitative research

d. Interviews

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Quantitative Research

Difficulty Level: Medium

53. Which quantitative method is used to inexpensively and quickly gather large amounts of data?

a. Ethnography

b. Interview

c. Survey

d. Experiment

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Quantitative Research

Difficulty Level: Medium

54. Constance is interested in how traditional Chinese families react to newcomers who may offend social behavior expectations. What method is the best choice for gathering this quantitative data?

a. Breaching experiments

b. Surveys

c. Participant observations

d. Content analyses

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Quantitative Research

Difficulty Level: Hard

55. Which research method is best for demonstrating a relationship between two variables?

a. Survey

b. Interview

c. Experiment

d. Participant observation

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Quantitative Research

Difficulty Level: Medium

56. Rashida wants to compare responses from several people to in-depth questions. Which research method is her best choice?

a. Survey

b. Experiment

c. Content analysis

d. Interview

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Qualitative Research

Difficulty Level: Medium

57. Howard needs to categorize social media posts to measure public response to his research question. Which research method should he choose?

a. Interview

b. Content analysis

c. Participant observation

d. Experiment

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Qualitative Research

Difficulty Level: Medium

58. Juana is conducting long-term participant observation of a group of preschoolers from Flint, Michigan to determine what, if any, effects of increased lead levels in drinking water have on their behavior. Which type of research is Juana conducting?

a. Qualitative

b. Quantitative

c. Content analysis

d. Experimentation

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Qualitative Research

Difficulty Level: Hard

59. Matt frequently grows very angry when driving in traffic. Which method would provide the best data to answer the research question, “What triggers Matt’s road rage?”

a. An interview with Matt to find a pattern to what sets him off.

b. An experiment to force a traffic problem on Matt's path to work.

c. Instructing Matt to take a survey of common road rage triggers.

d. Using traffic cameras to observe Matt during his commute to look for patterns.

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Qualitative Research

Difficulty Level: Hard

60. What statement best contrasts differences between surveys and interviewing?

a. Surveys are used for qualitative research and interviews are used for quantitative research.

b. Interviews have more closed-ended questions, surveys use more open-ended questions.

c. Interviews are more time-consuming and in-depth than surveys, which gather data quickly.

d. Surveys must be given by highly trained staff, interview questions can be read by anyone.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Doing Sociology: Making Use of Sociological Methods

Difficulty Level: Hard

# True/False

1. A culture can have more than one society.

Ans: F

Learning Objective:1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Culture refers to the artifacts that indicate how a society values ideas, goods, and social roles.

Ans: T

Learning Objective:1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Society refers to the people in a culture and their behavior.

Ans: T

Learning Objective:1.1: Identify and understand the difference between society and culture.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Society and Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. When a person sees a public issue as a personal trouble, she is using her sociological imagination.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.2: Understand and apply the concept of the sociological imagination, particularly the connection between personal troubles and public issues.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Sociological Imagination

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. The study of social inequality is one of the three core aims of sociology.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Inequality

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. The interdependence of society and the behavior of people is one of the three core foci of sociology.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.4: Explain and give examples of the three core aims of sociology.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: The Three Core Aims of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Anomic suicide occurs in societies with little or no regulation, leaving a person to think they do not matter.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Study of Suicide

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. A society’s justice system is an example of a social institution.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.3: Explain the three core foci of sociology: social inequality, social institutions and social change.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Institutions

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. Durkheim was the first person to suggest formal study of sociology.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Émile Durkheim and Social Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

10. Durkheim felt that psychological factors were more important than sociological factors contributing to suicide.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.5: Assess how Durkheim’s study of suicide illustrates the connection between the individual and society.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Study of Suicide

Difficulty Level: Medium

11. An interview with follow-up questions is an example of a qualitative research method.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Qualitative Research

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. A dependent variable is the one a researcher measures to determine if and how much it has been affected by other variables.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Research Methods: How Do Sociologists Study Society?

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. Content analysis is only used for qualitative research.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Qualitative Research

Difficulty Level: Easy

14. Experiments test the effect of one variable on another.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Quantitative Research

Difficulty Level: Easy

15. Breaching experiments involve breaking social norms and measuring reactions.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Quantitative Research

Difficulty Level: Easy

# Essay

1. Minh is studying the #MeToo movement and its influence on the behavior of men.

A. Describe and provide examples of the three sorts of questions she should investigate.

B. Explain how a personal trouble can become a public issue in this context.

Ans: A. The three sorts of questions: structure of society and how its parts relate; historical context of society; changes or potential changes to the power dynamic between men and women in society. B. When women began to share their #MeToo stories, the pervasive nature of the issue became apparent, so that it could no longer be brushed aside by society. Answers will vary.

Learning Objective: 1.2: Understand and apply the concept of the sociological imagination, particularly the connection between personal troubles and public issues.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: The Sociological Imagination

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Compare and contrast the core foci and core aims of sociology using examples of each to support your answer.

Ans: The three core foci of sociology include the study of social inequality, social institutions, and social change. The three core aims include trying to see general themes in everyday life, seeking to assess critically what seems familiar and common sense, and examining how individuals both shape society and are shaped by society. Answers will vary.

Learning Objective: 1.4: Explain and give examples of the three core aims of sociology.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis.

Answer Location: Three Core Aims of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Imagine you are a sociologist planning to study the phenomenon of people dressing up as fictional characters while attending science fiction conventions. Make a list of questions a sociologist might ask, provide some sample answers, and formulate a possible hypothesis to explain this behavior.

Ans: The answer should reference the core foci of sociology and questions to establish demographic parameters as well as plausible responses and a testable hypothesis. Answers will vary.

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Research Methods: How Do Sociologists Study Society?

Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Describe how the homophily principle might influence relationships in the life of a typical high school student in your community. How would you gather information and measure the strength of the effect? Be sure to evaluate the effects on at least three types of relationships.

Ans: Responses should indicate that students understand how sociological studies are conducted and provide examples related to the homophily principle. The homophily principle structures social relationships of every type, including marriage, friendship, and work relationships: friends and romantic partners tend to have similar interests and to come from similar backgrounds. Answers will vary.

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Research Methods: How Do Sociologists Study Society?

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. Dr. Fuchs set up an experiment to measure how people react to violations of social norms. He instructed participants to remember a series of words. Each person in one group was asked to recall the words while Dr. Fuchs stood three feet away from them. Each person in the other group was asked to recall the list of words while Dr. Fuchs stood one foot away from them.

1. Identify the independent variable and dependent variable.
2. Describe the type of experiment administered by Dr. Fuchs.
3. Evaluate this experimental design in terms of how likely it is to succeed, and how it might affect participants.

Ans: Responses should identify the distance between Dr. Fuchs and the participant as the independent variable, and the number of correctly recalled words as the dependent variable. This is a breaching experiment. To be successful, the experiment should be repeated with a representative sample, or at least more subjects to make it more likely to be generalizable.

Learning Objective: 1.7: Compare qualitative and quantitative research methods, highlighting the benefits and challenges of each approach.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Research Methods: How Do Sociologists Study Society?

Difficulty Level: Hard