

Chapter 1: Growing Old in Today's World

1. Cohort effects refer to:
 - a. The number of friends and coworkers an older adult has
 - b. Camaraderie among younger and older family members
 - c. Shared experiences of a particular generation of older adults
 - d. Number of peer-to-peer interactions using a sociogram

ANS: C

2. Which of the following is NOT an explanation for increased longevity in modern times?
 - a. Improved medical care
 - b. Reduced infant mortality
 - c. Fewer infectious disease mortalities
 - d. Greater social acceptance of older adults

ANS: D

3. Which of the following individuals has the longest life expectancy?
 - a. A white female in the United States
 - b. A black male in Canada
 - c. An individual in South America, regardless of gender or ethnicity
 - d. A Hispanic female in a large U.S. city

ANS: A

4. Which of the following would be considered an environmental determinant of health and longevity?
 - a. Public policy emphasizing availability of public pensions
 - b. Levels of asbestos in homes and apartments in a neighborhood
 - c. An individual's level of educational achievement
 - d. Attitudes toward older adults in a given society

ANS: B

5. According to the World Health Organization, which country or countries are experiencing the most rapid proportional increase in older population?
- a. Developed Asian countries like Japan
 - b. The United States
 - c. High-income countries
 - d. Low- and middle-income countries

ANS: D

6. Which of the following is the most accurate statement about retirement as a phenomenon of later life?
- a. This is a relatively new expectation, dating to the mid-20th century.
 - b. Retirement has existed for as long as societies have identified a group of individuals as aged.
 - c. For the most part, retirement is expected only among individuals in developing nations.
 - d. Women expect to retire, but most men believe they will work for as long as possible.

ANS: A

7. Attitudes toward aging are most likely to be positive in societies where:
- a. Older adults constitute a large proportion of the society.
 - b. Activities of elders emphasize primarily leisure and enjoyment.
 - c. There are very few older adults.
 - d. Older adults have a specific role as wise elders.

ANS: D

8. Age 65 has come to be considered the onset of old age in the United States because:
- a. This is when most older adults find their abilities diminishing.
 - b. At age 65, physical appearance makes it evident that a person is old.
 - c. This is the age initially identified in public policy such as Social Security and Medicare.

- d. This is the age at which life expectancy diminishes most rapidly.

ANS: C

9. A criticism of Rowe and Kahn's (1998) factors for successful aging is that:
- a. Individuals have no control over any of the factors identified.
 - b. It is possible to have disease and disability and still have a positive late-life experience.
 - c. Few people age successfully, so the construct is not helpful.
 - d. It is not possible to accurately identify factors that contribute to a good experience of late life.

ANS: B

10. The concept of dependency ratios has been criticized because:
- a. Individual differences in needs and in aging and activity make it difficult to ascertain which generation depends on others for help.
 - b. Very few older adults ever rely on younger individuals for support and assistance.
 - c. The most dependent generation may well be young adults.
 - d. It is common knowledge that older adults are dependent on younger individuals.

ANS: A