

Chapter 1

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Families
 - a. Are universal
 - b. Are unique
 - c. Cannot remain static
 - d. All of the above

D page 4

2. The U.S. Census Bureau (2016) defines a family as
 - a. A group of two or more people (one of whom is the householder)
 - b. People who are related by birth
 - c. People who are married
 - d. Children who are adopted
 - e. All of the above

E page 4

3. A family consisting of mother, father, and their children is a
 - a. Stepfamily
 - b. Nuclear family
 - c. Family of origin
 - d. Patriarchal family

B page 5

4. A couple who made the decision not to have children is a
 - a. Voluntarily childless family
 - b. Couple with fertilization issues
 - c. Couple with financial problems
 - d. Dual-career couple

A page 5

5. A blended or reconstituted family
 - a. Is formed when a person is widowed or divorced
 - b. May or may not have children
 - c. Includes someone who may or may not have been married before
 - d. All of the above

D page 5

6. According to your text, a polygamous family is
 - a. A woman married to more than one man
 - b. A man married to more than one woman
 - c. A single family unit based on the marriage of one person to two or more mates
 - d. None of the above

C page 7

7. Which of the following is a characteristic of the traditional patriarchal family?
- a. Clearly defined husband/wife roles
 - b. Women were to be submissive to the husband
 - c. Considered the ideal family
 - d. All of the above

D page 8

8. According to your text, which of the following is true of the 1960s and 1970s?
- a. There were decreasing educational opportunities for women.
 - b. Increasing numbers of women worked outside of the house.
 - c. Families had more children than in the 50s
 - d. Increasing numbers of men worked outside of the house.

B page 9

9. The child study movement after World War II
- a. Helped authors to write parenting books
 - b. Started play groups
 - c. Catalyzed the development of the child-centered family
 - d. None of the above

C page 9

10. The marriage rate is the number of people who marry in the
- a. Preceding 12 months per 1,000 population
 - b. Preceding 10 months per 1,000 population
 - c. Preceding 24 months per 1,000 population
 - d. Preceding 12 months per 2,000 population

A page 10

11. The marriage rate depends on
- a. Economic factors
 - b. Political factors
 - c. The percentage of persons of marriageable age in the population
 - d. All of the above

D page 10

12. When did the U.S. Supreme Court rule that the U.S. Constitution guarantees same-sex couples the right to marry?
- a. 2005
 - b. 2010
 - c. 2015
 - d. 2016

C. page 10

13. One of the dramatic trends in marriage patterns over the decades is
- a. High cost of weddings

- b. Postponement of marriage to a later age
- c. Men becoming more involved with planning the wedding
- d. No dramatic trends

B. page 10

14. One of the reasons for delaying marriage mentioned in the text is
- a. Online dating
 - b. Fear of commitment
 - c. Decline in negative attitudes toward remaining single
 - d. Financial

C page 10

15. Fertility rate is
- a. The number of live births per 1,000 population
 - b. The number of live births per 1,000 women 15–44 years of age
 - c. Two children per family
 - d. The number of individuals who have seen fertility doctors

B page 12

16. In some states, same-sex couples can enter into a _____ that gives them nearly all the rights and privileges of married couples.
- a. Domestic partnership
 - b. Cohabitation
 - c. Civil union
 - d. Church marriage

C page 17

17. A legal or personal relationship between two people who live together and share a common domestic life but are not joined in marriage is known as
- a. Cohabitation
 - b. Roommates
 - c. Domestic partnership
 - d. Civil union

C. page 17

18. Although there are racial and gender differences in life expectancy,
- a. Americans are living longer
 - b. 2013 data showed men living to 76.4 years
 - c. 2013 data showed women living to 81.2 years
 - d. Americans are healthier in later life because they lead healthier lifestyles
 - e. All of the above

E page 18

19. Another dramatic trend in family life over the past decades has been the increase in
- a. Divorce

- b. Remarriage
- c. Stepfamilies
- d. A, B and C

D page 19

20. Ethnicity is defined as

- a. Differences in skin color
- b. Values and beliefs
- c. The way individuals define themselves as a group with similarities in ancestry and cultural heritage
- d. All of the above

C page 21

21. The following is a characteristic of familism:

- a. Emphasis on the importance of the family group over individual interests
- b. Top priority on loyalty to the family
- c. Personal desires are subordinated for the good of the group
- d. All of the above

D page 23

22. Structural-functional theory

- a. Looks at the family as an institution
- b. Refers to the nuclear family
- c. Questions family organization
- d. All of the above

D page 25

23. Murdock's (1949) concept of sexuality

- a. Was synonymous with heterosexual relationships within the family
- b. Was synonymous with homosexual relationships within the family
- c. Said that sexual expression may take place outside of the family unit
- d. All of the above

D page 27

24. Social learning theory is

- a. The theory that people choose relationships in which they can maximize their benefits and minimize their costs
- b. A theory that family conflict is normal and the task is not to eliminate conflict but to learn to control it so that it becomes constructive
- c. A theory suggesting that children learn how to behave in relationships by modeling their parents' behaviors and attitudes
- d. None of the above

C page 31

25. Feminist theory is often called a(n) _____ rather than a theory.

- a. Definition

- b. Perspective
- c. Term
- d. Ideal

B page 31

26. This model proposes that all families around the world have basic qualities that make them strong and that can be used to promote success in relationships:
- a. Conflict theory
 - b. Exchange theory
 - c. International family strengths model
 - d. Equity theory

C page 31

27. New family theories that are introduced
- a. Further our understanding of families
 - b. Supersede previous theories
 - c. Motivate us to look for additional ways to intimate relationship dynamics
 - d. A and C

D page 32

28. There are different methods of doing academic research, such as
- a. Designs, methods, and data analysis
 - b. Looking at validity and reliability
 - c. Interviewing participants
 - d. Using questionnaires
 - e. All of the above

E page 33

29. Research designs are based on
- a. Researchers' interests
 - b. Formulating questions
 - c. Looking at an issue over time
 - d. All of the above

D page 33

30. Regardless of the type of research method, it is important that the measurement technique
- a. Is a survey
 - b. Involves the same researchers
 - c. Includes validity and reliability
 - d. Is a cross-sectional study

C page 33

True/False

1. Expressive role is the role of the family in meeting the emotional and social needs of the family. True, page 7
2. Matrilineal descent is an inheritance that is traced through the female line. True, page 9
3. Over the past 100 years, the number of American families and households have been increasing. False, page 11
4. Women enter the workforce for only economic reasons. False, page 13
5. "Second shift" is a term used for women coming home from their jobs to start their homemaker job. True, page 13
6. A civil union is not a legal union. False, page 17
7. A dramatic change in family life over the past four decades is the rate of remarriage. True, page 19
8. Re-divorce rates for remarried persons show slight signs of decline from previous years. True, page 19
9. Ethnicity is the sum total of the ways of living including the values, beliefs, and traditions. False, page 21
10. Research on black families in recent years helps present a picture of diversity within this racial group. True, page 21
11. The major subgroups of Asian/Pacific Islander Americans, in order of size, are the Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Vietnamese, and Koreans. True, page 23
12. A theory is a tentative explanation of facts and data that have been observed. True, page 25
13. There are limited theories related to intimate relationships, marriages, and families. False, page 25
14. Historically, families were never self-sufficient. False, page 25
15. Coping is not necessary as a life skill. False, page 28
16. Systems theory emphasizes the interdependence of family members and how those members affect one another. True, page 29
17. Feminists object to the idea of any woman wanting to be traditional. False, page 31
18. Research designs are based on discussions. False, page 33
19. Reliability is the degree to which a measurement technique produces similar outcomes when repeated. True, page 33
20. Family Studies is an exciting field of science and one that can help individuals develop healthy relationships. True, page 35

Short Essay

1. The structure and function of the family have changed over the years. Why is it important to have a historical perspective?
Historical perspective allows us to have a better understanding of the present and the possible future characteristics of the family. There have been two major changes that have influenced the characteristics of the family: the shifts from institution to companionship and from patriarchy to democracy. The historical perspective allows us to see the shifts.

2. One of the dramatic trends within marriage patterns over the decades has been the postponement of marriage to a later age. What outcomes have we seen within society because of this trend?

The higher age at marriage has allowed for a longer period of time within school, meaning that educational opportunities, especially for women, have increased. There have also been indicators that delay in marriage has led to more career options, negative attitudes concerning being single have diminished, life expectancy has increased, the stigma of sexual expression outside of marriage has decreased, and there has been increased acceptance of cohabitation. The most significant finding is the later the marriage, the more likelihood of success.

Page 11

3. You are having dinner with friends. One of your friends says, "Working means that women have an added burden in their lives." What did your friend mean by this observation?

Women in the workforce not only have the responsibility and accountability for their jobs, but they then come home and face "the second shift." They still bear the burden of housework, meal preparation, childcare, and family appointments. Husbands may be of some assistance, but research shows they contribute only a minimal amount.

Page 13

4. The 2012 U.S. Census showed an increase in the number of children being raised by their grandparents. What sociological family trends would explain this increase?

Since 1970, the number of grandparent-maintained households, in which the mother was present, has more than doubled. Reasons for this trend include an increase in drug use by parents (meaning drug-related prison time/incarceration) and higher rates of teenage pregnancy, divorce, and child abuse and neglect.

Page 17

5. Longer life expectancy is impacting marriages and family. Why would this make a difference within a family?

More and more adults are caring for their elderly parents while raising their own children. The delay in marriage means that not only the couple but also their parents are older as the family begins to procreate. This can place a strain on the finances, emotional time, and energy resources of the family members who already are struggling with the demands of children and career.

Page 18

6. The United States has long been a country with rich diversity of ethnicity and cultures. Briefly define ethnicity and culture.

Ethnicity can be thought of as a way people define themselves as part of a group through similarities in ancestry and cultural heritage (religion, race, or national

origin) Culture can be defined as the sum total of ways of living, including values, beliefs, aesthetic standards, linguistic expression, patterns of thinking, behavioral norms, and styles of communication.

Page 20

7. Why is symbolic interaction theory widely used in family therapy?

This is a widely used theory because it assists the individuals to understand how they perceive one another and how they can modify their perceptions and behavior to develop a more meaningful and harmonious relationship.

Page 29

8. What is one of the most common methods of research collection?

One of the most common methods is the questionnaire. Researchers formulate questions or use an already-developed instrument. Some of the questionnaire formats include multiple-choice, open-ended, or a scale where the participants rate the intensity of their feelings. This can be limiting.

Page 33

9. Explain the pros and cons of a longitudinal study

In a longitudinal study participants are interviewed or observed over several periods of time. A study could span 20 years and involve interviewing the participants once each year to see how marital satisfaction changes over time. This type of study is helpful because it answers questions on process through time. However, it is a very expensive means of research.

Page 33

10. Your textbook discusses adoption by a gay or lesbian couple. What are some of the reasons why this is considered such a complex issue?

One of the reasons the issue is considered complex is that gays or lesbians may already be raising children through various circumstances: their own biological children from a previous heterosexual relationship; biological children by semen donation; use of a surrogate; or children adopted by one of the couple. This is not a "one size fits all" situation. There are legal, political, practical, and emotional ramifications to this issue.

Page 34

Essay Questions

1. Researchers have examined thousands of families representing many diverse cultures and found certain qualities that consistently represent strong families.

Identify the six qualities mentioned within your text and explain them.

Appreciation and affection: Giving sincere compliments, emphasizing the positive qualities of one another, communicating respect, expressing affection and caring for one another.

Communication: Members of strong families are good listeners, sharing feelings, conversing often, avoiding blame or excessive criticism, and using conflict-resolution techniques.

Commitment: This foundational trait involves being supportive, being dependable, being honest, having traditions, and making family a priority with regards to investment of time and energy.

Spending time together: Significant amount of quality time for conversing and “hanging out.”

Spiritual well-being: Having faith in God; being hopeful; seeing a higher clearer meaning in life; having values such as kindness, compassion, patience, responsibility, and forgiveness.

Effective coping with stress and crisis: Members of a strong family can face a crisis, adapt, see positive in a bad situation, and see resources in communication, spirituality, and commitment to one another.

Page 32

2. How does the international family strengths model differ from the other family theories?

The family strength model emphasizes the strengths of the family rather than the difficulties. It does not dismiss the problems a family faces, but rather looks at the strengths of the family so the members can use those strengths to meet the challenges. The major premise of this theory is that all families have strengths, and the strengths can be learned or developed. Success in family relationships can be promoted by using these strengths. The model proposes that although families are diverse both within and across cultures, the traits are remarkably similar.

Page 31 and 32

3. Why can a family relationship become complicated in a blended family?

Blended families can be complicated because each parent faces the challenge of forming relationships with the stepchildren, with the children of the new marriage, and perhaps with former spouses. The children face the challenge of adjusting to the stepparents and the step-siblings as well as maintaining relationships with the natural parents inside and outside their new family unit. If both of the natural parents remarry, the children must adjust to two stepparents and to any step-siblings in the newly constructed families. In addition, everyone needs to form new relationships with the new extended families.

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