

Chapter 2 – Communicating Identity

Test Questions

Multiple Choice

1. Compared to prior generations, the current generation y, also called millennials, are:
 - a) Less sexually active.
 - b) Lacking in confidence.
 - c) More narcissistic
 - d) Less preoccupied with image or identity.
 - e) None of the above.
2. According to the book, *Generation MySpace*, discussed in chapter 2, which of the following is **NOT** true of the current millennial generation.
 - a) *If you've got it, flaunt it.* Modesty is uncool; privacy is lame.
 - b) *Career is everything: Even more than salary, a great job is all that counts*
 - c) *Happiness is a glamorous adult.* Fame is the ultimate goal; or at least looking like rock star.
 - d) *Happiness is about consumption.* Materialism and sex are the ultimate goals
 - e) *Entertainment rules!* Life is about video games and social networking.
3. Which of the following is true of identity gaps, discussed by Nussbaum and Kam in chapter 2
 - a) Identity gaps can be disorienting.
 - b) We have multiple identities (e.g. student, girlfriend, daughter, and employee).
 - c) Identities are often relationally based.
 - d) Identities change with stage of life.
 - e) All of the above
4. Which or following are true according to chapter 2?
 - a) According to Twenge, identities are rarely manipulated.
 - b) In the current millennium “style failure” is easily repaired.
 - c) The dark side of on line social networking is profanity, nudity, and manipulated images.
 - d) Interracial couples have few identity issues.
 - e) On-line deception is more common among older than your users.
5. In chapter 2 the tennis star Andre Agassi is discussed. Which of the following are true according to the chapter?
 - a) His motto on television commercials as “image is everything.”

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- b) His long rock star, hair was really a wig.
 - c) Agassi's account suggests that "perceptions are reality."
 - d) all of the above
 - e) none of the above
6. _____ refers to the qualities we understand ourselves to possess.
- a. self-esteem
 - b. self understanding
 - c. facework
 - d. identity
7. _____ refers to how positively or negatively we view ourselves.
- a. self-esteem
 - b. self understanding
 - c. facework
 - d. identity
8. Charles Horton Cooley's classic belief that our identity is affected by the feedback we receive from others is termed:
- a. self-reflexiveness.
 - b. looking-glass self.
 - c. interpersonal reinforcement.
 - d. peer pressure.
9. A/an _____ occurs when an expectation exists that something will happen, and a person behaves in a way (often unconsciously) that actually makes it more likely that the anticipated event will occur.
- a. interpersonal reinforcement
 - b. front-stage activity
 - c. self-fulfilling prophecy
 - d. demand-action pattern
10. Anika considers herself to be a very athletic person. After a game one day, her coach congratulates her on her performance during the game. However, she hears

- some of her teammates saying that they think she is not very athletically skilled. Which instance(s) of feedback is Anika likely to attend to?
- a. Only her teammates' feedback—we attend to feedback from our peers more frequently than from those of a different status.
 - b. Only her coach's feedback—we usually attend to feedback that is consistent with our own perception of identity.
 - c. Both her coach and her teammates' feedback—we always consider both positive and negative evaluations before determining which to believe.
 - d. Neither her coach nor her teammates' feedback—once we have a perception of our own identity, we do not attend to any feedback on that identity.
11. In the textbook, the authors note that in dating relationships, we tend to prefer _____ feedback on our identity, yet in marriage relationships we tend to prefer. _____ feedback on our identity.
- a. positive, authentic
 - b. authentic, positive
 - c. overt, covert
 - d. covert, overt
12. _____ provides an explanation for how our identities are developed and maintained as well as how our identity is intricately linked to group memberships.
- a. The communication theory of identity
 - b. Self-expansion theory
 - c. The dramaturgical perspective
 - d. Social identity theory
13. According to _____, identity construction can be viewed through personal, enactment, relationship, and communal frames.
- a. The communication theory of identity
 - b. Self-expansion theory
 - c. The dramaturgical perspective
 - d. Social identity theory

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14. When we view ourselves through an *enactment frame*, our identity is constructed through:
- a. group memberships.
 - b. communication with others.
 - c. evaluation of our strengths and weakness.
 - d. the types of relationships we share with others.
15. Which of the following was NOT listed in your textbook as one of the conditions that makes impression management more salient?
- a. The behavior being managed reflects highly valued and central aspects of the self.
 - b. Successful impression management is tied to vital positive or negative consequences.
 - c. The behavior being managed reflects directly on highly valued rules of conduct.
 - d. The intended audience consists of people we like or respect.
16. The way we would greet a potential boss and try to impress her/him by discussing ideas of ethics and company loyalty illustrates which aspect of Goffman's dramaturgical perspective?
- a. condition of interaction
 - b. negative face
 - c. backstage behaviors
 - d. front-stage behaviors
17. Which of the following is the best example of trying to protect *negative face*?
- a. Hayley walks into a lamppost and hopes no one saw her.
 - b. Sam doesn't want to feel obliged to go to his girlfriend's house for Thanksgiving.
 - c. Kelly tries to prevent people from thinking that she is a "computer nerd."
 - d. Colin wants to prove that he is a better golfer than his brother.
18. Positive face:
- a. is the favorable image that people portray to others.

- b. reflects our desire to be liked by others.
 - c. reflects our desire to be free from imposition and restraint
 - d. a and b
19. There are several elements that affect the severity of a face threatening act (FTA). Which of the following is NOT one of these elements?
- a. the importance of the rule being violated
 - b. the power the receiver has over the sender
 - c. the esteem levels of the receiver and the sender
 - d. the responsibility of the actor for the behavior
20. Which of the following strategies for enacting a face threatening act (FTA) is typically used when task efficiency is a priority and the power/status difference between individuals is large?
- a. negative politeness strategy
 - b. going off the record strategy
 - c. positive politeness strategy
 - d. bald on-record strategy
21. Which of the following strategies for enacting a face threatening act (FTA) involves little attention to the task but primary attention to face?
- a. going off the record strategy
 - b. positive politeness strategy
 - c. bald on-record strategy
 - d. negative politeness strategy
22. If Natalie begins a statement by saying “I know this might not make you happy, but..” she is engaging in which kind of preventative facework strategy?
- a. hedging
 - b. appeal for suspended judgment
 - c. cognitive disclaimer
 - d. sin license

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23. If your friend pretends not to see you stumble over your own feet as you walk down the street together, which corrective facework strategy is being employed?
- a. avoidance
 - b. accounts
 - c. physical remediation
 - d. tactful recovery
24. The idea that people seek out relationships in order to gain more experience and that they terminate these relationships when they perceive that their identities are no longer growing is the basic premise behind:
- a. impression management theory.
 - b. positive face theory.
 - c. self-expansion theory.
 - d. face preservation theory.
25. According to the text, the ability to manage your self-presentation flexibly in a variety of contexts is one important aspect of
- a. relational maintenance.
 - b. communication competence.
 - c. uncertainty reduction.
 - d. backstage behaviors.

True/False

26. For young people, the number of friends they have on a Facebook site is incredibly important to one's identity.
- True** False
27. Social networkers are usually composed of people who are similar in terms of ethnicity, religion, age, and country of origin.
- True** False

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28. According to your text, self-esteem refers to how positively or negatively a person views oneself.

True False

29. Rather than having two completely separate identities, people in close relationships tend to merge identities.

True False

30. The feedback we receive from others does little to shape our identities.

True False

31. According to your textbook “identity” has little to do with the type of feedback we receive from others

True False

32. In good relationships a person should always help maintain a partner’s former identity.

True False

33. Many gay, lesbian, and transgendered people closet their real identities because of fears of rejection and possible violence.

True False

34. Identity incorporates expectations and guides behavior.

True False

35. According to self-expansion theory a successful relationship depends on partners’ ability to broaden each other’s identity.

True False

36. According to your textbook “identity” is rarely is communicated by a person’s “Facebook” site.

True False

37. Identity is independent of our social relationships.

True False

Essay

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38. What is the bright and the dark side of social networking on a young person's identity? Be sure to discuss the impact of the number of friends, de-friending, top friends, and net checking one's social network site.

Ans: Varies

39. Are social network sites dangerous? When? Give specifics to bolster your position.

Ans: Varies

40. Are young people more narcissistic today than in the past? Do generations differ in their degree of narcissism? Why or why not?

Ans: Varies

41. What is self-expansion theory? What does it have to do with the shaping of our identities?

Ans: Varies

42. How does identity guide behavior? Why is it difficult to assume another identity or to behave inconsistent with one's identity?

Ans: Varies

43. What is positive face? Negative face? Why is it important to preserve your own positive face and that of others?

Ans: Varies