

***Criminology Today: An Integrative Introduction, 9e* (Schmallegger)
Chapter 1 What Is Criminology? Understanding Crime and Criminals**

1.1 Multiple Choice Questions

1) Which one of the following is *not* one of the definitional perspectives found in contemporary criminology?

- A) Political
- B) Sociological
- C) Environmental
- D) Legalistic

Answer: C

Page Ref: 2

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

2) "Human conduct that is in violation of the criminal laws of a state, the federal government, or a local jurisdiction that has the power to make such laws" is a definition of

- A) criminology.
- B) crime.
- C) criminal.
- D) deviance.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 3

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

3) The belief that crime is an antisocial act of such a nature that repression is necessary to preserve the existing system of society is the basis of the _____ perspective on crime.

- A) legal
- B) political
- C) sociological
- D) psychological

Answer: C

Page Ref: 3-4

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

4) The psychological perspective sees crime primarily as

- A) a violation of a law.
- B) an offense against human relationships.
- C) an antisocial act
- D) problem behavior.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 5

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

5) Which of the following statements about deviance and crime is *true*?

- A) All deviant behavior is criminal
- B) All criminal behavior is deviant
- C) Deviant behavior and criminal behavior overlap
- D) Deviant behavior and criminal behavior are mutually exclusive categories

Answer: C

Page Ref: 5-6

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Level: Intermediate

6) You are running late to class and there is an exam today. To get to class on time, you drive about 10 miles above the speed limit. This is an example of behavior that is

- A) deviant but not criminal.
- B) criminal but not deviant.
- C) both deviant and criminal.
- D) neither deviant nor criminal.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 6

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Level: Intermediate

7) Which of the following behaviors are criminal only when committed by a child or youth?

- A) Shoplifting a candy bar
- B) Drinking alcohol
- C) Speeding
- D) Joyriding

Answer: B

Page Ref: 6

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Level: Intermediate

8) The _____ perspective says that laws should be enacted to criminalize certain behaviors when members of society generally agree that such laws are necessary?

- A) consensus
- B) sociological
- C) pluralistic
- D) legalistic

Answer: A

Page Ref: 7

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Basic

9) The pluralistic perspective suggests that behaviors are typically criminalized through

- A) a political process.
- B) the general agreement of most members of society.
- C) the existence of shared norms and values.
- D) consensus.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 7

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Basic

10) The gun control debate is an example of the _____ perspective.

- A) consensus
- B) sociological
- C) conflict
- D) pluralistic

Answer: D

Page Ref: 7

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

11) _____ is the field of study that is concerned primarily with the causes and consequences of crime.

- A) Criminal justice
- B) Criminology
- C) Criminality
- D) Criminalistics

Answer: B

Page Ref: 8-9

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Basic

12) A _____ studies crime, criminals, and criminal behavior.

- A) scientist
- B) criminal justice professional
- C) criminologist
- D) criminalist

Answer: C

Page Ref: 12

Objective: What do criminologists do?

Level: Basic

13) Criminal justice focuses on

- A) the control of lawbreaking.
- B) the causes of crime.
- C) the consequences of crime.
- D) the victim.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 11

Objective: What is criminology? What are its many roots?

Level: Basic

14) Which of the following would probably not fall within the field of criminalistics?

- A) Forensics examiner
- B) Polygraph operator
- C) Fingerprint examiner
- D) Correctional officer

Answer: D

Page Ref: 12

Objective: What do criminologists do?

Level: Intermediate

15) A(n) _____ of crime attempts to explain all or most forms of criminal conduct through a single, overarching approach.

- A) complete
- B) unicausal
- C) integrated
- D) general

Answer: D

Page Ref: 13

Objective: What do criminologists do?

Level: Basic

16) The general theory of crime suggests that all types of criminal and deviant behavior can be explained by a single factor: a lack of self-control. This is an example of a(n) _____ theory.

- A) integrated
- B) unicausal
- C) bicameral
- D) complete

Answer: B

Page Ref: 13

Objective: What do criminologists do?

Level: Difficult

17) _____ criminology emphasizes the use of social scientific techniques to develop knowledge in the field of criminology.

- A) Evidence-based
- B) Translational
- C) Theoretical
- D) Policy-based

Answer: A

Page Ref: 14

Objective: What is evidence-based criminology? How does it complement theoretical criminology?

Level: Basic

18) _____ criminology involves taking the results of criminological research and converting it into workable social policy and practice.

- A) Experimental
- B) Translational
- C) Theoretical
- D) Policy-based

Answer: B

Page Ref: 15

Objective: What is evidence-based criminology? How does it complement theoretical criminology?

Level: Basic

19) The _____ perspective holds that crime manifests from underlying social issues such as poverty, discrimination, and pervasive family violence.

- A) evidence-based
- B) individual responsibility
- C) social deviance
- D) social problems

Answer: D

Page Ref: 16

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Basic

20) Which of the following crime reduction or prevention strategies is most characteristic of the social problems perspective?

- A) A government-funded initiative to enhance educational opportunities among low-income individuals
- B) A move to broaden police powers by increasing the number of exceptions to the Exclusionary Rule
- C) Rewriting state statutes to increase the severity of punishment for violent offenders, such as three-strikes laws
- D) Allocating federal funds to help states build and operate more prisons

Answer: A

Page Ref: 17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Difficult

21) Which of the following statements about the social problems perspective is *false*?

- A) It suggests that crime is a symptom of underlying social problems such as poverty and discrimination
- B) It emphasizes the development of social and educational opportunities as a way of dealing with the crime problem
- C) It emphasizes crime prevention efforts such as harsher sentences and the development of rehabilitation programs
- D) It sees crime as a public health problem as well as a criminal justice problem

Answer: C

Page Ref: 17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Difficult

22) Which of the following recent developments in national crime control policy was **NOT** substantially influenced by the social responsibility perspective?

- A) The increase in the number of federal capital crimes
- B) The enactment of a federal three-strikes law
- C) The abolition of federal parole
- D) The creation of the Job Corps to reduce unemployment by encouraging the development of job skills

Answer: D

Page Ref: 17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Difficult

23) This book recognizes that crime is not an isolated individual activity but a(n) _____ event.

- A) social
- B) economic
- C) deviant
- D) political

Answer: A

Page Ref: 18

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Intermediate

24) An American visitor witnessing a crime in Japan may interpret the events differently than someone born within the Japanese culture. This is an example of

- A) intercultural perspective.
- B) social relativity.
- C) deviant perception.
- D) politicization.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 19

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Difficult

25) Ultimately, crime is a result of the coming together of inputs provided by all but which of the following?

- A) The victim
- B) The criminal justice system
- C) Society
- D) The media

Answer: D

Page Ref: 20

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Intermediate

26) Which of the following is a background contribution by the offender?

- A) A genetic inventory
- B) A peculiar motivation
- C) A specific intent
- D) A drug-induced state of mind

Answer: A

Page Ref: 20

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Intermediate

27) The _____ contributes to a criminal event by failing to prevent criminal activity.

- A) victim
- B) offender
- C) criminal justice system
- D) general public

Answer: C

Page Ref: 20

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Basic

28) Victims may actively contribute to their own victimization through the appearance of

- A) defensiveness.
- B) exposure.
- C) defenselessness.
- D) precipitation.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 20

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Basic

29) _____ is the process by which one acquires the cultural values of one's society.

- A) Socialization
- B) Integration
- C) Social relativity
- D) Criminalistics

Answer: A

Page Ref: 21

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Basic

30) Many modern criminologists operate from a(n) _____ perspective.

- A) psychological
- B) political
- C) economic
- D) sociological

Answer: D

Page Ref: 23

Objective: What social science has traditionally provided a central theoretical basis for criminology? Why?

Level: Basic

1.2 True/False Questions

1) The legalistic perspective defines crime as a violation of the criminal law.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 2-3

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

2) Adopting the psychological perspective of crime would greatly expand the scope of criminology.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 3-4

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

3) All criminal behavior is deviant.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 6

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Level: Basic

4) Some behaviors are considered to be criminal only if they are committed by a child.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 7

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Level: Intermediate

5) The pluralistic perspective is most applicable to societies characterized by a shared belief system.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 7

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

6) The difficulty in reaching agreement regarding legalizing marijuana is an example of social consensus.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 7-8

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Difficult

7) Criminology is an interdisciplinary field.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 10

Objective: What is criminology? What are its many roots?

Level: Basic

8) Criminal justice focuses on questions about the causes of crime.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 11

Objective: What is criminology? What are its many roots?

Level: Basic

9) A correctional officer is a criminalist.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 13

Objective: What do criminologists do?

Level: Intermediate

10) There is a growing tendency to apply the term *criminologist* to anyone who works in the criminal justice field.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 13

Objective: What do criminologists do?

Level: Basic

11) A theory that attempts to explain all types of criminal behavior is a general theory of crime.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 13

Objective: What do criminologists do?

Level: Basic

12) An integrated theory is one that proposes a single identifiable cause for all serious criminal behavior.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 14

Objective: What do criminologists do?

Level: Basic

13) Translational criminology focuses on taking research findings and converting them into social policy.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 15

Objective: What is evidence-based criminology? How does it complement theoretical criminology?

Level: Basic

14) A social program that encourages teenagers to stay in school and graduate is typical of the social problems perspective.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 16-17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Intermediate

15) The individual responsibility perspective considers people to be responsible for their own behavior.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Basic

16) The abolition of federal parole and the creation of the federal three-strikes law were influenced by the social problems perspective.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Intermediate

17) Because crime is a social event, it can have more than one interpretation.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 19

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Intermediate

18) Social relativity means that the offender and the victim interpret crime in a similar way.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 19

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Basic

19) The consequences of crime include both outputs and interpretations.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 19

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Basic

20) The primacy of sociology should not prevent criminologists from recognizing contributions from other perspectives.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 23

Objective: What social science has traditionally provided a central theoretical basis for criminology? Why?

Level: Intermediate

1.3 Fill in the Blank Questions

1) Seeing crime as the result of criteria that have been built into the law by powerful groups is the basis of the _____ perspective on crime.

Answer: political

Page Ref: 3-4

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

2) The sociological perspective considers crime to be a(n) _____ act.

Answer: antisocial

Page Ref: 3-4

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

3) _____ is human activity that violates social norms.

Answer: Deviance/Deviant behavior

Page Ref: 6

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Level: Basic

4) Truancy and running away from home are examples of _____.

Answer: delinquency

Page Ref: 6

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Level: Basic

5) The _____ perspective suggests that behaviors should be criminalized when members of society generally agree that such laws are necessary.

Answer: consensus

Page Ref: 7

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Basic

6) _____ focuses on questions about the causes of criminal behavior.

Answer: Criminology

Page Ref: 9-10

Objective: What is criminology? What are its many roots?

Level: Basic

7) _____ criminology proposes explanations for criminal behavior.

Answer: Theoretical

Page Ref: 13-14

Objective: What is criminology? What are its many roots?

Level: Basic

8) The individual _____ perspective argues that criminal offenders choose crime over more law-abiding behaviors.

Answer: responsibility

Page Ref: 17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Intermediate

9) Social _____ means that social events are interpreted differently according to an individual's cultural experiences and personal interests.

Answer: relativity

Page Ref: 19

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Basic

10) Background causes of crime are known as _____.

Answer: contributions

Page Ref: 20

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Basic

11) A specific intent is an example of a(n) _____ contribution to crime by the offender.

Answer: foreground

Page Ref: 20

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Intermediate

12) An innocent victim killed outside his/her home by random gunfire from a drive-by shooting is a(n) _____ participant in the crime.

Answer: passive

Page Ref: 20

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Basic

13) A situation in which someone starts a fight but ends up being severely beaten is an example of victim _____.

Answer: precipitation

Page Ref: 21

Objective: What is the social context of crime? What are crime's consequences?

Level: Intermediate

14) The field of _____ has contributed the most to criminology

Answer: sociology

Page Ref: 23

Objective: What social science has traditionally provided a central theoretical basis for criminology? Why?

Level: Basic

1.4 Matching Questions

Match the definitional perspective to its view of crime

- A) Crime is a form of social maladjustment or problem behavior
- B) Crime is behavior that violates the criminal law
- C) Crime is an antisocial act that needs to be repressed to preserve the existing social system
- D) Crime is defined in terms of power structures existing in society

1) Legalistic

Page Ref: 3-4

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

2) Political

Page Ref: 3-4

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

3) Sociological

Page Ref: 3-4

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

4) Psychological

Page Ref: 3-4

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Basic

Answers: 1) B 2) D 3) C 4) A

Match the role to the type of field or study within criminology

- A) Criminologists
- B) Criminalistics
- C) Criminal Justice

5) Polygraph examiner

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

6) Probation officer

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

7) Creating social policy

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

8) Public advocacy

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

9) Correctional officer

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

10) Constructing theories

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

11) Ballistics

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

12) Victim advocate

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

13) Victim advocate

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

14) Crime-scene photographer

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

15) Fingerprint examiner

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

16) Prosecutor

Page Ref: 13

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Level: Intermediate

Answers: 5) B 6) C 7) A 8) A 9) C 10) A 11) B 12) C 13) B 14) A 15) B 16) C

Match the policy to the underlying perspective

- A) Social problems perspective
- B) Individual responsibility perspective

17) Head Start program of comprehensive early childhood education

Page Ref: 16-17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Difficult

18) Federal allocations to allow states to expand their prison systems

Page Ref: 16-17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Difficult

19) A Job Corps initiative to help young people earn a high school diploma and find and keep a good job

Page Ref: 16-17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Difficult

20) Three-strikes laws to mandate life imprisonment for third-time violent felons

Page Ref: 16-17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Difficult

21) Enhanced sentences for drug trafficking

Page Ref: 16-17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Difficult

Answers: 17) A 18) B 19) A 20) B 21) B

1.5 Essay Questions

1) What are the various definitional perspectives by which crime can be defined and how does each perspective define crime? What is deviant behavior? What are the similarities and differences between criminal behavior and deviant behavior?

Answer: Answers should include a discussion of the four definitional perspectives (legalistic, political, sociological, and psychological) and an explanation of how each views crime. They should also include a definition of deviant behavior as behavior that violates social norms and should explain how the two concepts overlap but are not identical.

Page Ref: 2-6

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?; What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Level: Difficult

2) What is criminology and what is a criminologist? What career paths are available for individuals earning various degrees in criminology?

Answer: Answers should define criminology and criminologists, and should discuss some of the career paths, including jobs available in the areas of criminalistics and criminal justice.

Page Ref: 9-14

Objective: What is criminology? What are its many roots?; What do criminologists do?

Level: Intermediate

3) What are the two contrasting viewpoints on which the book is built? Explain each and give examples of policies based on each viewpoint.

Answer: Answers should explain the two contrasting perspectives now popular in American society: social problems perspective and the individual responsibility perspective. Examples may vary.

Page Ref: 16-17

Objective: What is the theme of this chapter? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Level: Basic

1.6 Critical Thinking Questions

1) What limitations exist with the legal perspective of crime?

Answer: Answers should define the legal perspective of crime as human conduct in violation of the criminal laws set by the government. Answers should address some of the following limitations discussed in the textbook: yielding moral high ground to powerful individuals with influence on the law; that social, ethical, and individual significance influence immoral forms of behavior; and that the legalistic definition also suffers from lack of recognition that formalized laws have not always existed.

Page Ref: 3

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this text has chosen to use?

Level: Difficult

2) How do the different roles of criminologists, criminalists, and criminal justice professionals vary? How do these roles contribute to the field of criminology? Who primarily contributes to social policy?

Answer: Answers should distinguish between criminologists, criminalities, and criminal justice. They should explain that criminologists contribute to the study of the field and development of policy, individuals working in the field of criminalistics collect physical evidence of specific crimes, and criminal justice professionals do the day-to-day work of the criminal justice system.

Page Ref: 12-16

Objective: What do criminologists do?; What is evidence-based criminology? How does it complement theoretical criminology?

Level: Intermediate

