

Chapter 1 Anthropology and the Study of Culture

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. The Garbage Project has much practical relevance because it provides information on
 - A how rural areas differ from urban areas.
 - B how long it has taken for garbage from prehistoric times to decompose.
 - C recent consumption patterns.
 - D how the poor of the world are creating the least garbage.
 - E none of the above: the Garbage Project is a case of "pure research" and has no practical relevance.Answer: C pp. 6-7
2. Culture
 - A is more developed in contemporary North America than in contemporary China.
 - B first emerged among humans around 10,000 years ago.
 - C is predominantly transferred through genes.
 - D is being destroyed by globalization.
 - E none of the above.Answer: E p. 11
3. The tendency to apply one's own cultural values in judging the behavior and beliefs of people raised in other cultures is known as
 - A cultural relativism.
 - B cultural universalism.
 - C ethnocentrism.
 - D egocentrism.
 - E cultural anthropology.Answer: C p. 20
4. A cultural relativist would view contemporary Nacirema culture as
 - A materialistic, aggressive, and without much worth.
 - B just as interesting and worthy of study as any other.
 - C more ethical than most others.
 - D adaptively superior to any other.
 - E trivial, frivolous, and simplistic.Answer: B p. 20
5. Anthropology is usually divided into four fields, but some people claim that a fifth should be included, called
 - A interpretivist anthropology.
 - B functionalist anthropology.
 - C theoretical anthropology.
 - D applied anthropology.
 - E cultural relativism.Answer: D p. 8
6. Linguistic anthropologists study
 - A how contemporary languages differ in terms of structure, grammar and sound systems.
 - B nonverbal communication.
 - C how languages change over time.
 - D how languages are related.
 - E all of the above.Answer: E pp. 7-8

7. San peoples of Southern Africa fought a long legal battle to gain profits from
A diamond mines on their land.
B the discovery of oil on their land.
C a new diet pill.
D all of the above.
E none of the above: the San are completely demoralized and lack the means of fighting for any kind of rights.

Answer: C p. 19

8. A major theoretical debate exists in cultural anthropology today between
A applied anthropologists and archaeologists.
B cultural materialists and interpretivist anthropologists.
C ecological anthropologists and economic anthropologists.
D psychological anthropologists and medical anthropologists.
E none of the above: there is no theoretical debate since all cultural anthropologists share the same theoretical perspective.

Answer: B p. 22

9. The field of anthropology that studies human language and communication is called
A biological anthropology.
B communication science.
C linguistic anthropology.
D applied anthropology.
E audiovisual anthropology.

Answer: C p. 7

10. Archaeologists use which of the following as research materials?
A pieces of old pottery
B prehistoric stone tools
C remains of ruined houses
D contemporary garbage heaps
E all of the above

Answer: E pp. 5-7

11. People who have a longstanding connection with their home territory predating colonialism are referred to as
A ethnic groups.
B racial groups.
C local groups.
D lost people.
E indigenous people.

Answer: E p. 18

12. The main goal of cultural anthropology is to
A understand why people behave and think the way they do.
B predict culture change.
C trace the evolution of culture from nonhuman primates to human primates.
D discover the biological bases of culture.
E learn how to change culture.

Answer: A p. 8

13. Biological anthropologists focus on
A the impact of colonialism on different cultures.
B cross-cultural patterns of contemporary human politics.
C human evolution and contemporary human variation.
D how culture is passed on from one generation to the next.

E historic data about various cultures.

Answer: C p. 5

14. The functionalist approach says that

- A powerful structures shape culture.
- B cross-cultural comparisons are not valid.
- C culture should be studied on the basis of how people make a living.
- D cultures evolve from primitive to more advanced, or civilized.
- E culture is like a biological organism with interacting parts.

Answer: E p. 9

15. The cultural materialist perspective uses a three-level model of culture that includes

- A infrastructure, structure, and superstructure.
- B class, "race," and gender.
- C ethnicity, age, and class.
- D structure, agency, and change.
- E globalization, McDonaldization, and localization.

Answer: A p. 22

16. Microcultures, according to the textbook, can be formed on the basis of

- A age.
- B class.
- C race.
- D gender.
- E all of the above.

Answer: E p. 11

17. The San people of Southern Africa

- A mainly value the hoodia cactus as a source of a hallucinogenic drug.
- B worked with transnational advocacy groups to gain a portion of profits from hoodia's use in a diet pill.
- C still earn a living mainly from foraging on their traditional land in the Kalahari desert.
- D are now the economically dominant ethnic group in South Africa.
- E now reject the term Bushmen as derogatory.

Answer: B p. 19

18. The increased spread of international ties and spread of Western capitalism worldwide is referred to as

- A internationalization.
- B capitalization.
- C interdependency.
- D holism.
- E globalization.

Answer: E p. 16-17

19. The cultural materialist interpretation of the Hindu belief in sacred cows points to

- A their ritual purity.
- B their fertility, as "mother figures."
- C their economic and environmental value.
- D all of the above.
- E none of the above.

Answer: C p. 22

20. Among Tejano immigrants in the United States, making tamales symbolizes

- A a connection with the homeland in Mexico.
- B the triumph of culture over nature.
- C rejection of US values especially fast food.

D a woman's role as a "good wife."
E the importance of corn in Tejano culture.
Answer: D p. 14

21. A recent mental health disorder in Japan related to sleep is
A insomnia.
B nightmares about work.
C falling asleep during the day.
D sleeping sickness.
E none of the above: Japan has no sleep-related disorder.
Answer: C p. 13

22. The only great ape found in Asia is the
A chimpanzee.
B orangutan.
C baboon.
D bonobo.
E gorilla.
Answer: B p. 6

TRUE/FALSE. Write 'T' if the statement is true and 'F' if the statement is false.

23. Culture is best defined as the effects of biological heredity on human behavior.
Answer: FALSE p. 11

24. Most North American anthropologists agree that general anthropology consists of five fields.
Answer: FALSE p. 8

25. Indigenous peoples are strongly connected to their homeland, but often do not have legal rights to it.
Answer: TRUE p. 18

26. Biological determinism is opposed to the perspective called cultural constructionism.
Answer: TRUE p. 22

27. Two theoretical trends were influenced by postmodernism: structurism and functionalism.
Answer: FALSE pp. 9-11

28. Absolute cultural relativism is a view that promotes questioning and debate concerning cross-cultural practices.
Answer: FALSE pp. 20-21

29. Cultural constructionism is best seen as a theoretical argument that stands in opposition to cultural relativism.
Answer: FALSE p. 22

30. Cultural materialists attempt to learn about culture by examining the material aspects of it, such as the environment and how people make a living within a particular environment.
Answer: TRUE pp. 10-11

31. One way that Tejano immigrant women can express dissatisfaction with their marriages is by refusing to make tamales.
Answer: TRUE p. 14

32. Basic natural functions—such as eating, drinking, sleeping, and eliminating—are done and thought about the same way everywhere, as opposed to cultural functions such as language.

Answer: FALSE pp. 12-13

33. Both globalization and localization can be seen in the spread of McDonald's restaurants.

Answer: TRUE p. 17

34. Microcultures can be formed on the basis of institutions such as hospitals and schools.

Answer: TRUE p. 20

35. Papua New Guinea has many natural resources and a low rate of HIV/AIDS among its population.

Answer: FALSE p. 15

36. A study of middle schools in the southwestern Rocky Mountain region of the U.S. found that Mexican immigrant girls are marginalized, especially because they are not interested in or good at sports.

Answer: TRUE p. 20

37. The Weyéwa people of Indonesia are known for recognizing over 20 types of "taste."

Answer: FALSE p. 12

38. Orangutans now live only in pockets of forested areas in the country of Brunei.

Answer: FALSE p. 6

39. The four models of cultural interaction are: clash of civilizations, McDonaldization, hybridization, and localization.

Answer: TRUE p. 17

40. In India, widows wear black.

Answer: FALSE p. 16

IDENTIFICATION/SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

41. In the framework of cultural materialism, the most basic aspect of culture is called _____.

Answer: infrastructure p. 22

42. Malinowski's functionalism approach is similar to the concept of _____, which is the interrelatedness of various aspects of culture.

Answer: holism p. 9

43. Judging other people's cultures on the basis of one's own culture is called _____.

Answer: ethnocentrism p. 20

44. The theoretical approach which is the view that powerful structures such as economics, politics, and media shape cultures and create entrenched systems of inequality and oppression is referred to in the textbook as _____.

Answer: structurism p. 11

45. In a cultural materialist framework, the mental aspects of culture are referred to as _____.

Answer: superstructure p. 22

46. _____ refers to the process by which one culture dominates another.

Answer: Cultural imperialism p. 21

47. _____ refers to the approach that seeks to explain why people do and think what they do by considering biological factors such as people's genes and hormones.

Answer: Biological determinism p. 22

48. Franz Boas promoted the theoretical approach called _____, which is the view that individual cultures must be studied and described in their own terms and understood within their own historical context.

Answer: historical particularism pp. 9-10

49. An example of a basis for microcultural formation is _____.

Answer: "race"/age/gender/class/etc. pp. 11, 17-20

50. Excessive daytime sleepiness is correlated with decreased worker productivity in the country of _____.

Answer: Japan p. 13

51. The concept of biological evolution says that _____.

Answer: early forms of an organism evolve into later forms through the process of natural selection.
p. 9

52. Interpretive anthropology and "thick description" are mainly associated with a cultural anthropologist named _____.

Answer: Clifford Geertz p. 10

53. The French anthropologist Claude Lévi-Strauss is associated with the theoretical perspective called _____.

Answer: French structuralism p. 10

54. A step proposed to move anthropology to being "anti-racist anthropology" is _____.

Answer: examining anthropology's historical connections with racism/increase racial diversity in academia/teach about racism p. 11

ESSAY. Write a well-organized essay of [will vary: between 50–100 words] for each of the questions below. Make sure your essay has an introductory and concluding sentence and evidence from class to back up your points as necessary.

55. Describe the past and present situation of the San peoples of Southern Africa; discuss the challenges they are currently facing and how they are seeking to rebuild their culture.

Answers will vary. p. 19

56. State the overall goal(s) of cultural anthropology and provide two examples of how cultural anthropologists have contributed to achieving the goal(s).

Answers will vary. pp. 8-11

57. What is a microculture and what are some examples of important microcultures?

Answers will vary. pp. 11, 17-20

58. Define the concept of holism and provide a cultural example.

Answers will vary. p. 9

59. Define globalization and localization and give an example of each.

Answers will vary. pp. 16-17

60. How have anthropologists approached the definition of culture?

Answers will vary. pp. 11-12

61. What does the theory of agency emphasize; provide an example.

Answers will vary. p. 22

62. How do cultural anthropologists define gender? Discuss two examples of gender as cultural rather than "natural."

Answers will vary. pp. 18-20

63. What is applied anthropology and what are two examples of it?

Answers will vary. p. 8

64. How has theory in cultural anthropology changed since the late nineteenth century?

Answers will vary. pp. 9-11

65. What is culture and what are three of its key characteristics?

Answers will vary. pp. 11-17

66. Define the principles of ethnocentrism, cultural relativism, absolute cultural relativism, and critical cultural relativism. Choose an issue and consider it from two of these perspectives.

Answers will vary. p. 20-21

67. Describe one microculture that you know about from your personal experience, class lecture, class films, or reading. What makes this microculture distinct? What characteristics, if any, does it share with another microculture?

Answers will vary. pp. 11, 17-20

68. Discuss three examples of behavior that show how culture is not the same as nature.

Answers will vary. pp. 12-15

69. Describe and discuss two of the three major debates in cultural anthropology.

Answers will vary. pp. 22-21

70. Contrast cultural materialism with interpretivism in terms of their theoretical position, definition of culture, and methods.

Answers will vary pp. 11, 22

Chapter 2 Researching Culture

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. Culture shock occurs when
A an anthropologist finds that he/she learns the local language more easily than expected.
B you discover, to your surprise, that you really like living in another culture.
C a person has shifted from one culture to another.
D two different cultural groups compete with each other.
E all of the above.

Answer: C p. 35

2. In the Trobriand Islands, the British colonialists substituted which activity for local warfare?
A Christianity
B the kula
C village dances
D boat racing
E cricket

Answer: E p. 32

3. Trobriand women's most prized material items are
A skirts.
B pigs.
C shell necklaces.
D grass mats.
E none of the above: only Trobriand men have material goods of value.

Answer A p. 32

4. On the basis of his experience in the Trobriand Islands during World War I, Bronislaw Malinowski is generally considered to be
A the "father" of participant observation.
B the founder of the etic approach.
C the first person to realize that no culture is more or less "civilized" than another.
D the first person to define the concept of culture.
E the first person to do fieldwork in his own culture.

Answer: A p. 28

5. Research that is guided by a hypothesis is called
A emic.
B deductive.
C holistic.
D inductive.
E prescriptive.

Answer: B p. 36

6. One thing about which most cultural anthropologists agree is
A that anthropologists should study primarily people's thoughts and ideas.
B that culture is genetically determined.
C the definition of culture.
D the importance of doing fieldwork.
E whether anthropological fieldwork should proceed inductively or deductively.

Answer: D p. 28

7. Compared to Malinowski's research in the Trobriands, Weiner's restudy addressed

- A women's lives.
- B changing leadership patterns.
- C the rise of HIV/AIDS.
- D the decline of the kula trade.
- E the high rate of suicide.

Answer: A p. 31

8. _____ is a cluster name for many indigenous peoples who live in the eastern Canadian Arctic.

- A Eskimo
- B Neanderthal
- C Sri Lankan
- D Inuit
- E Trobriand

Answer: D p. 39

9. People's naming of places is called

- A rapport.
- B toponymy.
- C numerology.
- D topography.
- E ethnocentrism.

Answer: B p. 39

10. Inuit place naming is an example of

- A indigenous knowledge.
- B cultural relativism.
- C globalization.
- D clash of civilizations.
- E leveling mechanism.

Answer: A p. 39

11. A major challenge for Richard Kurin, during his fieldwork in Pakistan, was

- A learning proper rules of gift exchange.
- B false role assignments.
- C learning the language.
- D not having a wife or children, which would have made him an "adult."
- E learning proper rules of greeting.

Answer: B p. 33

12. Given current globalization and the rarity of small, isolated cultures, many contemporary cultural anthropologists have abandoned

- A fieldwork.
- B learning a non-Western language.
- C the concept of holism.
- D the concept of cultural relativism.
- E participant observation.

Answer: C p. 29

13. When doing fieldwork, establishing rapport

- A is easier for male than female anthropologists.
- B is a waste of time when you could be conducting a survey instead.
- C usually happens during the first week.
- D makes life easier but doesn't improve the quality of the information gathered.
- E can involve exchanging gifts with the local people.

Answer: E pp. 33-34

14. According to the code of ethics of the American Anthropological Association, the anthropologist's first responsibility is to

- A protect the people studied from harm related to the research.
- B the agency that funded the study since they are the ones who paid for it.
- C the home country of the anthropologist.
- D the host government in the country where the research is conducted.
- E the United Nations.

Answer: A p. 42

15. A key factor that helps in selecting a research project is

- A finding a topic that has been neglected by previous researchers.
- B a certain degree of intuition and luck.
- C relating to a current issue of importance such as refugee movements.
- D finding a place that was studied long ago and merits restudy.
- E all of the above.

Answer: E pp. 30-31

16. During his fieldwork in Japan, Matthews Hamabata had a problem in terms of

- A learning to appreciate the food.
- B learning when to smile and when not to smile.
- C having to sit for long periods of time with his legs folded underneath him.
- D how to understand the meaning of a gift given to him and the appropriate response.
- E how to get people to tell him the truth.

Answer: D p. 34

17. The Hawthorne effect refers to

- A the tendency for men to answer questions on behalf of women.
- B the stage that comes in fieldwork after culture shock when the researcher begins to feel comfortable.
- C biases in the data when the researcher doesn't know the language well.
- D the tendency for respondents to avoid telling the truth about private matters.
- E the tendency for respondents to change their behavior to correspond with the researcher's interests.

Answer: E p. 36

18. The life history approach

- A is more successful for women respondents than men since women have more time.
- B has been rejected in cultural anthropology as too unreliable.
- C was popular in the nineteenth century but has been abandoned as too time-consuming.
- D is favored by anthropologists who seek quantitative data for large populations.
- E none of the above.

Answer: E p. 37

19. A major catalyst to the adoption of a code of ethics by the American Anthropological Association was

- A the decline of small, isolated populations and increase in research in "modern" cultures.
- B the increasing proportion of anthropologists from non-Western cultures who supported a code of ethics.
- C World War II.
- D the Vietnam-American War.
- E the realization that "native" peoples were learning to read and would be able to comment on anthropological writings.

Answer: D pp. 41-42

20. The research method in cultural anthropology that involves living in a culture for an extended period while gathering data is

- A the inductive method.
- B archival research.
- C participant observation.
- D life history.

E the interview method.

Answer: C p. 28

21. Interpretivist anthropologists tend to favor which kind of research approach?

A inductive

B deductive

C etic

D applied

E predictive

Answer: A p. 41

22. An emic approach focuses on

A what people in the study area say about their own culture.

B gathering data on culturally shared rules for behavior.

C explanations for culture offered by members of that culture.

D events that have meaning for members of a particular culture.

E all of the above.

Answer: E p. 36

23. When Tony Whitehead, an African American anthropologist, did fieldwork in Jamaica, he was surprised that

A he was unable to speak easily with the people because of his American English.

B people thought he was much older than he was.

C people expected him to bring his family with him and found it difficult to accept him as a lone male.

D people assigned him to a high status.

E none of the above: Whitehead's fieldwork proceeded with no surprises since he was of the same "race" as the people he was studying.

Answer: D p. 34

24. An ethnography is

A the main way cultural anthropologists present their findings about culture.

B a descriptive writing about a culture.

C an important aspect of anthropological research.

D all of the above.

E none of the above

Answer: D p. 41

TRUE/FALSE. Write 'T' if the statement is true and 'F' if the statement is false.

25. In the Trobriand Islands, kinship follows the female line.

Answer: TRUE p. 32

26. A major challenge facing the Trobriand Islanders today is the large number of western tourists.

Answer: FALSE p. 32

27. Many Institutional Review Boards now accept the possibility of informed oral consent in some research situations.

Answer: TRUE p. 33

28. According to the ethical guidelines of the American Anthropological Association, undergraduate students are not allowed to do anthropological fieldwork.

Answer: FALSE p. 31

29. One recommendation for improving fieldwork safety is that fieldworkers should obtain appropriate medical training.

Answer: TRUE p. 43

30. Deductive methods of research are more likely to collect quantitative data while the inductive approach tends to emphasize qualitative data.

Answer: TRUE p. 36

31. During Christa Salamandra's research in Damascus, Syria, some people suspected that she was a tax collector.

Answer: FALSE pp. 33-34

32. Interpretivist anthropologists tend to collect etic data.

Answer: FALSE p. 36

33. Maria Catédra's use of tape recording during her research in Spain revealed the importance of maintaining people's trust.

Answer: TRUE p. 40

34. Some cultural anthropologists seek to reveal how a culture works by looking closely at one person's life.

Answer: TRUE p. 37

35. Data that are numerical and are presented in charts and tables are called quantitative.

Answer: TRUE p. 44

36. One method of gathering data on people's time allocation patterns is asking people to keep daily logs or diaries.

Answer: TRUE pp. 37-38

37. Dangers from the physical environment, social violence and war can affect fieldwork.

Answer: TRUE p. 43

38. Cultural anthropologists who use the interview method feel that only the *open-ended* interview provides reliable data.

Answer: FALSE p. 36

39. Culture shock can occur when an anthropologist returns home as well as when he/she enters the field.

Answer: TRUE pp. 35

40. Gender is a less important microcultural factor in anthropological fieldwork than "race" or ethnicity.

Answer: FALSE pp. 34-35

41. The *armchair approach* in cultural anthropology came before the *verandah approach*.

Answer: TRUE p. 28

42. Damascus is one of the world's oldest continually occupied cities.

Answer: TRUE p. 33

43. Annette Weiner's fieldwork on women's trading networks in the Trobriand Islands is an example of a restudy.

Answer: TRUE p. 31

44. Multi-sited research conducts fieldwork on a topic in more than one location.

Answer: TRUE p. 29

45. The rationale for developing the food product Go-Gurt was based on study of California people's busy lifestyles.

Answer: TRUE p. 30

IDENTIFICATION/SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

46. The approach in cultural anthropology that focuses on what local people think or say is called _____, while the outsider's analysis is referred to as _____.

Answer: emic/etic p. 36

47. The goal of the Inuit Place Names Project is to _____

Answer: document climatically important information/indigenous knowledge/climate change p. 39

48. Men's trading networks in the Trobriands are called _____ and they involve _____.

Answer: kula/exchanging valued armbands and necklaces/or everyday goods p. 32

49. Collaborative research involves anthropologists working with members of the study populations as _____.

Answer: partners/teammates pp. 42-43

50. In the AAA Code of Ethics, the Association makes it clear that anthropologists' ethical obligations to people, species, and material are more important than the goal of seeking _____.

Answer: new knowledge p. 42

51. One step in anthropological fieldwork that comes before going to the field is _____.

Answer: project selection/funding the project/language learning/buying equipment/gaining permission from officials/etc. pp. 33-34

52. Liza Dalby's research among the geisha of Japan involved the study of a microculture based on which factor?

Answer: gender p. 35

53. When an anthropologist has difficulty adjusting to a new culture and feels uneasy, unhappy and wishes to go home, this condition is referred to as _____.

Answer: culture shock p. 35

54. _____ data are mainly words and description while _____ data are mainly numeric.

Answer: Qualitative/quantitative p. 41

55. One way that cultural anthropologists record their findings while in the field is in the form of _____.

Answer: field notes/notes/tape recordings/photographs/videos pp. 40-41

56. The Vietnam-American War prompted anthropologists to give serious attention to the issue of _____.

Answer: ethics pp. 41-42

57. Doing research among powerful people is called _____.

Answer: studying up p. 34

58. Lanita Jacobs-Huey's study of African-American women's hair culture is an example of _____ research.

Answer: multi-sited p. 29

59. _____ is research that puts the anthropologist in danger because it is carried out in war zones and areas of conflict.

Answer: War zone anthropology p. 43

ESSAY. Write a well-organized essay of [will vary: between 50–100 words] for each of the questions below. Make sure your essay has an introductory and concluding sentence and evidence from class to back up your points as necessary.

60. How has research in anthropology changed since the nineteenth century? Mention specific figures in the development of research methods.

Answers will vary. pp. 26-31

61. Define rapport and discuss an example of an anthropologist having difficulty establishing it.

Answers will vary. pp. 33-34

62. What is participant observation, when was it "discovered" as a method, and what positive benefits does it have in terms of data quality?

Answers will vary. pp. 28-29

63. What are two special methods used by cultural anthropologists in addition to participant observation?

Answers will vary. pp. 36-39

64. What are two common problems in anthropological fieldwork?

Answers will vary. pp. 33-39

65. What is a life history and why is this method controversial?

Answers will vary. p. 37

66. Name three microcultures that the textbook mentions as affecting fieldwork and describe the effects of one of them on an anthropologist's experience.

Answers will vary. pp. 34-35

67. What is the background of the American Anthropological Association's Code of Ethics and how is this background related to two of its key principles?

Answers will vary. pp. 41-42

68. Discuss two ways that cultural anthropologists record data while in the field.

Answers will vary. pp. 40-41

69. Discuss one example of danger in doing fieldwork and describe a way of reducing that danger.

Answers will vary. p. 43

70. Describe the difference between deductive and inductive research and how this difference relates to fieldwork methods. Discuss the kinds of ethnographies that cultural materialists and interpretivists tend to write.

Answers will vary. p. 36

71. What are some of the key ethical issues in cultural anthropology and how do they make cultural anthropology different from another discipline that you have studied (such as history, chemistry or political science?).

Answers will vary. p. 40-41

72. Discuss the findings of Malinowski in the Trobriand Islands and then the findings of Weiner. Do the differences suggest that anthropologists should always work in teams comprising more than one gender?

Answers will vary. pp. 29, 31-32

73. Describe the research phases in The South Baffin Island Place Name Project and the kind of information each phase produced.

Answers will vary. p. 39

74. What is the background and context of Trobriand Island culture and what are some of the major issues facing the Trobriand Islanders today?

Answers will vary. p. 32