

Chapter 2--Changing Encounters with Death

Student: _____

1. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Encounters with death can be studied by looking at

- A. death rates
- B. average life expectancy
- C. deaths caused by communicable diseases
- D. dying trajectories
- E. all of these

2. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Which of the following is *not* one of the principal features in patterns of encounters with death described in Chapter 2?

- A. death rates
- B. average life expectancy
- C. changing causes of death
- D. attitudes toward death
- E. changing locations of death

3. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The vignette near the beginning of Chapter 2 explained that Bryan Lee Curtis wanted to:

- A. support smoking cigarettes as a personal choice
- B. provide people with information about the dangers of smokeless tobacco use
- C. teach people how to die
- D. change personal attitudes, behaviors, and values related to smoking cigarettes
- E. leave behind a happy legacy for his wife and son

4. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Our study of death-related encounters showed that

- A. people have interacted with their mortality in nearly identical ways throughout history
- B. most peoples in other parts of the world today encounter death much as we do at present
- C. significant features of death-related encounters are usually obvious
- D. Americans encountered death prior to the 20th century much as we do in the 21st century
- E. the ways in which we encounter death today are not the only ways in which humans have interacted or might interact with death

5. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Death rates

- A. indicate how long a typical person in a society is likely to live
- B. are inversely related to the number of deaths that occurred in a specific society
- C. reflect the number of people in a specific group who die during a particular time period
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

6. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The overall, age-adjusted death rate for the United States in 2004

- A. reached a record-low historical figure
- B. represented a decrease of 3.8 percent from the 2003 rate
- C. was 800.8 deaths per 100,000 standard population
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

7. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The crude or unadjusted death rate for males in the United States in 2004

- A. was 8.2 per 1,000, almost the same as the overall death rate for females
- B. was 848.0 per 100,000, nearly 50 percent higher than the comparable rate for females
- C. reached a new low of 585.0 deaths per 100,000
- D. reached a new high of 58.5 deaths per 1,000
- E. none of these

8. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

During the year 2004 in the United States, there were approximately

- A. nearly 2.4 million deaths
- B. just over 1.6 million deaths
- C. more than 10 million deaths
- D. approximately 5 million deaths
- E. 188 million deaths

9. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

During the year 2004, approximately how many males died in the United States?

- A. nearly 1.2 million
- B. over 2.4 million
- C. 750,000 thousand
- D. 13.4 million
- E. 6 million

10. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Death rates

- A. can only be determined accurately when a society keeps adequate birth and death rates
- B. are equivalent to the total number of deaths in a society
- C. cannot easily be determined on any basis other than gender
- D. by themselves can provide a good picture of the numbers of aged people in a society
- E. none of these

11. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

In many poor and not well-organized societies today,

- A. statistical accuracy concerning death rates must give way to imprecise estimates
- B. a fund of accurate demographic statistics is not available
- C. demographic statistics derive from birth, death, and census records
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

12. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Death rates in the United States are or have been lowest for

- A. males in 1900
- B. males in 2004
- C. females in 1900
- D. females in 2004
- E. none of these

13. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

From 1900 to 2004 in the United States, overall death rates dropped from 17.2 deaths per 1,000 to

- A. 15.5 per 1,000
- B. 9.2 per 1,000
- C. 8.2 per 1,000
- D. 6.5 per 1,000
- E. 5.9 per 1,000

14. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

From 1900 to 2004 in the United States, overall death rates

- A. decreased by about 25 percent
- B. decreased by over 50 percent
- C. increased by approximately 10 percent
- D. increased by about 30 percent
- E. none of these

15. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

In the United States in 1900,

- A. death rates were significantly higher than they are today
- B. women had higher death rates than males
- C. members of lower socioeconomic classes tended on average to have lower death rates than members of middle and upper socioeconomic classes in our society
- D. children had lower death rates than they do today
- E. parents seldom experienced the death of a child

16. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Changes in American death rates can be revealed

- A. by studying death rates among specific American populations, such as gender groups or socio-economic classes
- B. by comparing death rates in different age groups in the society
- C. by observing alterations in infant mortality rates over time
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

17. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

In 1900 overall death rates for infants (newborns and children under 1 year of age) in the United States were

- A. roughly equal to those similar rates in 2004
- B. approximately 10 times higher than similar rates in 2004
- C. 17 times higher than similar rates in 2004
- D. nearly 24 times higher than similar rates in 2004
- E. nearly 50 times higher than similar rates in 2004

18. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

In the United States in 2004, the deaths of 540 pregnant women and women in the process of giving birth or immediately after childbirth led to a maternal mortality rate of

- A. 3.3 per 100,000 live births
- B. 7.1 per 100,000 live births
- C. 13.1 per 100,000 live births
- D. 608 per 100,000 live births
- E. none of these

19. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Average life expectancy

- A. is originally and most rapidly increased by decreasing the number of deaths in the early years of life
- B. is inversely correlated with death rates
- C. is exceeded by some individuals and not achieved by others
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

20. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

In the United States, average life expectancy

- A. is likely to continue to increase at the same rate it did in the early parts of the 20th century
- B. increased more rapidly between 1950 and 1999 than it did between 1900 and 1950
- C. increased throughout the twentieth century primarily due to advances in medical technology
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

21. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Average life expectancy

- A. is lower for women than for men in the United States
- B. is not related to death rates
- C. is the same for diverse groups in our society
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

22. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Projected average life expectancy for all individuals born in the United States in 2004 was

- A. 67.8 years
- B. 77.8 years
- C. 79.9 years
- D. 82.3 years
- E. none of these

23. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Projected average life expectancies for all individuals born in the United States in 2004

- A. decreased slightly for white and black females
- B. showed an expansion of the racial differential between the white and black populations
- C. reached a record high for white and black males
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

24. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

In terms of the biblical promise of "three score and ten" years (that is, 70 years), average human life expectancy in the United States

- A. exceeded that figure early in the 20th century
- B. surpassed that figure during the latter portion of the 20th century
- C. did not reach that figure until the first few years of the 21st century
- D. has not yet achieved that figure
- E. is a limit that no individual can surpass

25. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Leading causes of death in the United States around 1900 were

- A. communicable diseases
- B. degenerative diseases
- C. chronic diseases
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

26. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Communicable diseases often produce the following symptoms:

- A. diarrhea and sudden, unanticipated deaths
- B. vomiting, nausea, and fever
- C. those that develop slowly over time but often go unnoticed until they result in a sudden, unanticipated death
- D. the slow, long-term wearing out of bodily organs
- E. none of these

27. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

In the world today, relatively few people in developed countries die of communicable diseases, with the exception of

- A. accidents
- B. influenza and pneumonia, septicemia, and infection by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)
- C. venereal disease
- D. tuberculosis
- E. cirrhosis

28. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The leading cause of deaths in the U.S. in 2004 was

- A. cancer
- B. accidents
- C. homicide
- D. suicide
- E. diseases of the heart

29. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The second leading cause of death in the U.S. in 2004 was

- A. cancer
- B. cerebrovascular diseases
- C. chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- D. diseases of the heart
- E. cerebrovascular diseases

30. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The three leading causes of death in the U.S. in 2004 were

- A. cancer, diseases of the heart, diabetes
- B. human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, cancer, suicide
- C. diseases of the heart, cancer, accidents
- D. cerebrovascular diseases, cancer, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- E. cerebrovascular diseases, diseases of the heart, and cancer

31. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The leading cancer cause of death for American males is

- A. prostate cancer
- B. colon and rectal cancer
- C. lung and bronchial cancer
- D. pancreatic cancer
- E. none of these

32. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The leading cancer cause of death for American females is

- A. prostate cancer
- B. colon and rectal cancer
- C. lung and bronchial cancer
- D. pancreatic cancer
- E. none of these

33. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The dying trajectory

- A. of communicable diseases is often shorter than that of degenerative diseases
- B. is unusually similar in both degenerative and communicable diseases
- C. can often be more easily foreseen or predicted in degenerative diseases than in communicable diseases
- D. all of these
- E. none of these

34. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Diseases with patterns of gradually losing control over one's bodily functions and mental capacities are most likely to be

- A. communicable diseases with a long dying trajectory
- B. communicable diseases with a short dying trajectory
- C. degenerative diseases with a long dying trajectory
- D. degenerative diseases with a short dying trajectory
- E. none of these

35. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

At the present time, most deaths in the United States occur

- A. in home settings
- B. in nursing homes or long-term care facilities
- C. in hospitals or medical centers
- D. in retirement centers
- E. in day care facilities

36. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Most deaths in contemporary American society occur

- A. in some sort of health-care institution
- B. in a long-term care facility
- C. in the home
- D. in the presence of family caregivers
- E. none of these

37. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

When deaths typically occur in the home

- A. most persons in a society have fewer encounters with dying and death than when death occurs in institutions
- B. treatment of symptoms (palliative care) is not likely
- C. death may be easier to deny than when death occurs away from the home
- D. children are more likely to be involved in encounters with dying and death than when deaths occur away from the home
- E. primary health care providers usually are not members of the dying persons' extended family

38. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

The earliest and most important factor associated with reduced death rates in the United States was

- A. modern cure-oriented medicine
- B. industrialization
- C. preventive health care for individuals
- D. changes in the structure of contemporary families
- E. public health measures

39. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Which of the following is an example of public health measures that helped reduce death rates in the United States?

- A. better communication and transportation systems
- B. changing attitudes toward death
- C. advanced medical technology
- D. improvements in basic sanitation and disposal of sewage
- E. better food, clothing, and housing

40. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select the best answer from among the options provided.

Which of the following has the greatest influence on encounters with death in our society today?

- A. safe driving techniques
- B. firearms
- C. risky sexual behavior
- D. illicit drug use
- E. diet and physical activity patterns

41. What is the difference between "death rates" and "average life expectancy"? How are the two related?
42. How did infant death rates and maternal mortality rates change in the U.S. during the twentieth century?
43. What is the difference between a communicable and a degenerative disease. Give an example of each.

44. Dying trajectories are characterized by two principal features. Identify and briefly explain these two features.
45. Where do most Americans now die in our society? Why?
46. Chapter 2 describes changing encounters with death. What does it mean to speak of an "encounter" with death as that term is defined in the chapter? What are some of the principal features of encounters with death set forth in this chapter? Identify, explain, and give an example of any three (3) features that might be included in a description of any society's encounters with death.

47. Encounters with death in American society are said in Chapter 2 to have changed greatly over the past 100-150 years. Describe three (3) ways in which such encounters have changed. Be specific and take care to show exactly what such encounters were like in the past and how they are now.
48. Compare and contrast death rates in American society in 1900 with those in 2004. Add to this comparative portrait by showing how such rates differ by gender and by age.
49. What is the difference between public health measures, preventive health care, and cure-oriented medicine and how has each of these helped to change encounters with death in our society?

50. How have the nature of contemporary families and lifestyle behaviors affected encounters with death in our society? Be specific in explaining and influence of each of these factors and give examples of each.

Chapter 2--Changing Encounters with Death **Key**

1. E
2. D
3. D
4. E
5. C
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7. A
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22. B
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25. A
26. B
27. B
28. E
29. A
30. E

- 31. C
- 32. C
- 33. A
- 34. C
- 35. C
- 36. A
- 37. D
- 38. B
- 39. D
- 40. E
- 41. Answer not provided.
- 42. Answer not provided.
- 43. Answer not provided.
- 44. Answer not provided.
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- 48. Answer not provided.
- 49. Answer not provided.
- 50. Answer not provided.