

EC 4th EDITION CHAPTER 2 TEST QUESTIONS

Multiple Choice Questions

1. \_\_\_\_\_ are intentional acts or omissions in violation of criminal law, committed without defense or justification, and sanctioned by the state as a felony or misdemeanor.
  - a. Laws
  - b. Crimes**
  - c. Deviant acts
  - d. Victims
2. *Crimes* are acts that are \_\_\_\_\_ by criminal law.
  - a. prohibited
  - b. prosecuted
  - c. punished
  - d. All of the above**
3. \_\_\_\_\_ theorists believe that there is agreement between most people of all economic, social, and political positions about what behaviors are unacceptable and what should be labeled criminal.
  - a. Consensus**
  - b. Conflict
  - c. Postmodern
  - d. Critical
4. \_\_\_\_\_ criminology criticizes the overall kind of society in which we live and suggests we replace it with a socialist system.
  - a. Consensus
  - b. Conflict
  - c. Postmodern
  - d. Critical**
5. \_\_\_\_\_ theory is a perspective that rejects claims that any body of knowledge is true or can be true. Instead, its advocates believe that “claims to know” are simply power plays by some to dominate others.
  - a. Consensus
  - b. Conflict
  - c. Postmodern**
  - d. Critical
6. \_\_\_\_\_ theory is based on the idea that, rather than being similar, people are different and struggle over their differences. According to this theory, society is made up of groups that compete with one another over scarce resources. The conflict over different interests produces differing definitions of crime. These definitions are determined by the group in power and are used to further its needs and consolidate its power.
  - a. Consensus
  - b. Conflict**
  - c. Postmodern
  - d. Critical
7. Crimes are not produced by legislation alone. In fact, judicial interpretation also determines what is or is not crime. Judicial decisions can also be\_\_\_\_\_.

- a. appealed
- b. overturned
- c. revised
- d. **All of the above**

8. \_\_\_\_\_ theorists believe that, when power is determined by wealth, the conflict is considered class-based. Groups that acquire power through political or economic manipulation and exploitation place legal constraints on those without power. Crime is rooted in the vast differences of wealth and power associated with class divisions.
- a. Cultural conflict
  - b. **Marxist conflict**
  - c. Constitutive criminological
  - d. Feminist
9. \_\_\_\_\_ theory provides the framework for reconnecting crime and its control with the society from which it is conceptually and institutionally constructed by human agents.
- a. Cultural conflict
  - b. Marxist conflict
  - c. **Constitutive criminological**
  - d. Feminist
10. \_\_\_\_\_ theorists believe that criminology should not merely focus on crime but also include violations of *culture norms*, that is, behaviors that are considered standard for a specific cultural group.
- a. **Cultural conflict**
  - b. Marxist conflict
  - c. Constitutive criminological
  - d. Feminist
11. According to cultural conflict theory, \_\_\_\_\_ conflict occurs when a person raised in one culture is transposed into a different one. This person may follow traditional cultural norms; acting on such traditional norms may violate the norms of the host country.
- a. **primary**
  - b. secondary
  - c. tertiary
  - d. deviant
12. According to cultural conflict theory, \_\_\_\_\_ conflict occurs between groups of people who live in the same geographic area but create their own distinct value systems. Where these clash, conflict and norm violations occur.
- a. primary
  - b. **secondary**
  - c. tertiary
  - d. deviant
13. When power is determined by wealth, the conflict is considered class based. Analysis of this type of conflict is founded on principles outlined by nineteenth-century social philosopher \_\_\_\_\_. In this conflict theory, the definition of crime focuses on conflicts that arise in capitalist society.
- a. Emile Durkheim
  - b. **Karl Marx**
  - c. Max Weber

d. Erving Goffman

14. With regard to victimizations not reported to the police between the years of 2006 and 2010, the crime of \_\_\_\_\_ is the *least* reported crime.
- a. Rape/sexual assault
  - b. Theft**
  - c. Burglary
  - d. Motor vehicle theft
15. With regard to victimizations not reported to the police between the years of 2006 and 2010, the crime of \_\_\_\_\_ is the *most* reported crime.
- a. Rape/sexual assault
  - b. Theft
  - c. Burglary
  - d. Motor vehicle theft**
16. To solve the problems with Hagan's crime pyramid, Henry and Lanier have redesigned the visual structure of this depiction of crime by making it a double pyramid or what they call the crime \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. panopticon
  - b. prison
  - c. prism**
  - d. polygon
17. Marxist conflict theorists are furthest away from the view that law should define the content of crime. Instead, they argue that any behavior that causes \_\_\_\_\_ is a crime.
- a. harm**
  - b. deviance
  - c. jealousy
  - d. self-defense
18. According to constitutive criminologists, \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Crime is an agency's ability to make a negative difference to others.
  - b. Crimes are nothing less than moments in the expression of power such that those who are subjected to these expressions are denied their own contribution to the encounter and often to future encounters.
  - c. Crime then is the power to deny others in which those subject to the power of another suffer the pain of being denied their own humanity, the power to make a difference
  - d. All of the above**

#### True or False Questions

1. An important consideration when defining crime is the observation that crime is contextual. Criminal harm takes different forms depending on the historical period, specific context, social setting, location, or situation in which it occurs.
- a. True**
  - b. False
2. Most criminologists have traditionally relied on the *legal* conception of crime, which defines crime as behavior in violation of criminal law and liable for sanctioning by the criminal justice system.
- a. True**

- b. False
- 3. *Civil law* gives behavior its quality of criminality. In other words, civil law specifies the acts or omissions that constitute crime.
  - a. True
  - b. False**
- 4. The *conflict* approach refers to definitions of crime that reflect the ideas of the society as a whole. It assumes that all members of society agree on what should be considered crime, such as homicide and rape. Conflict definitions constitute a set of universal values.
  - a. True
  - b. False**
- 5. *Crimes of the powerless* are crimes for which those in relatively weak economic and political positions in society are predominantly arrested.
  - a. True**
  - b. False
- 6. The *consensus* approach refers to definitions of crime based on the belief that society is composed of different interest groups. These various groups are in competition with one another, and the competition is most pronounced between the powerful and powerless.
  - a. True
  - b. False**
- 7. Postmodernism is a perspective that rejects claims that any body of knowledge is true or can be true. Instead, its advocates believe that "claims to know" are simply power plays by some to dominate others.
  - a. True**
  - b. False
- 8. *Crimes of the powerful* are crimes committed by people who are in relatively strong legitimate economic and political positions in society.
  - a. True**
  - b. False
- 9. *Mala prohibita* crimes are acts that are 'bad in themselves. These acts are inherently evil and universally recognized as being crimes.
  - a. True
  - b. False**
- 10. According to critical criminologists, the definition of crime should be expanded to include the socially injurious activities of powerful groups against the powerless as well as behavior that violates or intrudes upon others' human rights.
  - a. True**
  - b. False
- 11. *Mala in se* crimes are those that have been created by legislative action. These acts involve a social, ecological, and temporal context and may be criminal in one society but not criminal in another.
  - a. True
  - b. False**

12. According to *Marxist conflict theory*, crime is defined as the activities of those who threaten the powerful. A definition of crime based on economic interests emphasizes that crime and deviance are the inevitable consequences of fundamental contradictions within society's economic infrastructure.
- a. **True**
  - b. False
13. What is defined as crime by the legal code varies from location to location and changes over time.
- a. **True**
  - b. False
14. Crimes are not produced by legislation alone. Judicial interpretation also determines what is or is not crime.
- a. **True**
  - b. False
15. The term *analogous social injury* refers to harm caused by acts or conditions that are legal but produce similar consequences to those produced by illegal acts.
- a. **True**
  - b. False

#### Fill-in-the-Blank Questions

1. Most criminologists have traditionally relied on the legal conception, which defines crime \_\_\_\_\_ as behavior in violation of criminal law and liable for sanctioning by the criminal justice system.  
Answer: **crime**
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ approach to the definition of crime reflect the ideas of the society as a whole. It assumes that all members of society agree on what should be considered crime.  
Answer: **consensus**
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ approach to the definition of crime is based on the belief that society is composed of different interest groups. These various groups are in competition with one another, and the competition is most pronounced between the powerful and powerless.  
Answer: **conflict**
4. In addition to being based on wealth and power, groups in society form around culture, prestige, status, morality, ethics, religion, ethnicity, gender, race, ideology, human rights, the right to own guns, and so on. Each group may fight to dominate others on issues. Approaches to defining crime that take account of these multiple dimensions are known as \_\_\_\_\_ theories.  
Answer: **pluralist conflict**
5. According to \_\_\_\_\_ theory, criminology should not merely focus on crime but also include violations of 'culture norms,' that is, behaviors that are considered standard for a specific cultural group.  
Answer: **cultural conflict**
6. In \_\_\_\_\_ theory, the definition of crime focuses on conflicts that arise in capitalist society.  
Answer: **Marxist conflict**

7. Some theorists define crime as 'a political tool used to protect power, wealth, and position in a society.' This power-and-wealth version of conflict theory has been termed \_\_\_\_\_ criminology. This is because it criticizes the overall kind of society in which we live and suggests we replace it with a socialist system.  
Answer: **critical**
8. Harm caused by acts or conditions that are legal but produce similar consequences to those produced by illegal acts is referred to as \_\_\_\_\_.  
Answer: **analogous social injury**
9. \_\_\_\_\_ is a perspective that rejects claims that any body of knowledge is true or can be true.  
Answer: **Postmodernism**
10. \_\_\_\_\_ criminology is considered to be the framework for reconnecting crime and its control with the society from which it is conceptually and institutionally constructed by human agents. 'Crime is both in and of society.'  
Answer: **Constitutive**
11. \_\_\_\_\_ crimes are 'acts bad in themselves.' They are inherently evil; universally recognized as being crimes.  
Answer: ***Mala in se***
12. \_\_\_\_\_ crimes are those that have been created by legislative action. They involve a social, ecological, and temporal context. In fact, these acts may be criminal in one society but not criminal in another.  
Answer: ***Mala prohibita***
13. Crimes of the \_\_\_\_\_ are those crimes for which those in relatively weak economic and political positions in society are predominantly arrested.  
Answer: **powerless**
14. Crimes of the \_\_\_\_\_ are those crimes committed by people who are in relatively strong legitimate economic and political positions in society.  
Answer: **powerful**
15. With regard to victimizations *not* reported to police between the years of 2006 and 2010, the crime of \_\_\_\_\_ is the least reported crime.  
Answer: **theft**

#### Critical Thinking Essay Questions

1. Why might the legal definition of criminology be too limited in scope? What are some of the arguments made about defining criminology from the legal perspective?  
Answer should include: **First, it takes no account of harms that are covered by administrative law and are considered regulative violations. A second problem with a strict legal definition of crime is that it ignores the cultural and historical context of law. What is defined as crime by the legal code varies from location to location and changes over time.**
2. Please describe and compare both the consensus and conflict approaches to the definition of crime. What are any similarities and differences between these two perspectives?

Answer should include: **The consensus approach refers to definitions of crime that reflect the ideas of the society as a whole. It assumes that all members of society agree on what should be considered crime, such as homicide and rape. Consensus definitions constitute a set of universal values. In contrast, the conflict approach refers to definitions of crime based on the belief that society is composed of different interest groups. These various groups are in competition with one another, and the competition is most pronounced between the powerful and powerless.**

3. What are the two types of conflict discussed within Sellin's cultural conflict theory? What are any similarities and differences between these two types?

Answer should include: **Primary conflict occurs when a person raised in one culture is transposed into a different one. As an immigrant, the person may follow traditional cultural norms, but acting on such assumptions may violate the norms of the host country. Where these norms are expressed in law, criminal violations occur. Secondary conflict occurs between groups of people who live in the same geographic area but create their own distinct value systems. Where these clash, conflict and norm violations occur. An example of secondary cultural conflict as crime is when the behaviors of subgroups of society are targeted by laws.**

4. Please provide three examples of 'analogous social injury,' other than any example provided in your text.

Answer should include: **Any harm caused by acts or conditions that are legal but produce similar consequences to those produced by illegal acts. Answers provided in the text: promoting and selling alcoholic beverages and cigarettes (described as "drug delivery systems"), though legal, still produce considerable social, health, and psychological problems. Other substances that are (recreationally) illegal (in most states), such as marijuana, may produce less-negative consequences.**

5. What is 'crime' according to constitutive criminologists?

Answer should include: **Crime is both in and of society. Crime is an agency's ability to make a negative difference to others. Crimes are nothing less than moments in the expression of power such that those who are subjected to these expressions are denied their own contribution to the encounter and often to future encounters. Crime then is the power to deny others in which those subject to the power of another suffer the pain of being denied their own humanity, the power to make a difference.**