

Chapter 02: Classical Social Theories

Chapter 02 Multiple Choice Questions

1. **Most generally, a theoretical statement is one that attempts to explain how certain facts or events are**

- A) understood.
- B) related.
- C) caused.
- D) predictable.

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-01

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: B) related.

2. **Which of the following statements does *not* explain why sociologists use theories?**

- A) Theories are used to help direct and inform research.
- B) Theories are used to inspire discussion and debate about the workings of the world.
- C) Theories are used to provide explanations about why things happen as they do.
- D) Theories are used to decide what is right and wrong in order provide a better social world.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-02

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: D) Theories are used to decide what is right and wrong in order provide a better social world.

3. **_____ is well known for his analysis of how humans existed in their *natural state*, before the emergence of formal social structures.**

- A) Thomas Hobbes
- B) Karl Marx
- C) John Locke
- D) Charles de Montesquieu

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-03

Page-Reference: 33-34

Skill: Factual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: A) Thomas Hobbes

4. **Hobbes was one of the first social theorists to view people as _____ the society they create.**

- A) determined by
- B) products of
- C) responsible for
- D) existing in tension with

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-04

Page-Reference: 33-34

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: C) responsible for

5. ***Tabula rasa* refers to the idea that people**

- A) are born with some specific pieces of knowledge.
- B) are born without any knowledge, like a blank slate.
- C) have knowledge independent of experience.
- D) are born with all the knowledge they need.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-05

Page-Reference: 34-35

Skill: Factual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: B) are born without any knowledge, like a blank slate.

6. **The idea that people were born *tabula rasa* was purported by**

- A) Thomas Hobbes.
- B) Karl Marx.
- C) John Locke.
- D) Charles de Montesquieu.

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-06

Page-Reference: 34-35

Skill: Factual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: C) John Locke.

7. **Whereas Hobbes viewed the emergence of the state in terms of the protection of individuals from each other, Locke viewed the state's emergence in relation to the**

- A) need for a social safety net.
- B) defensibility of borders.
- C) formalization of consensus.
- D) preservation of private property.

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Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-07

Page-Reference: 33-35

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: D) preservation of private property.

8. _____ suggested that people have never existed outside, or without, society; humans are defined and created by society.

- A) Thomas Hobbes
- B) Karl Marx
- C) John Locke
- D) Charles de Montesquieu

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-08

Page-Reference: 35

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: D) Charles de Montesquieu

9. Which of the following is *not* associated Charles de Montesquieu's work?

- A) Argued that each form of government demonstrated underlying social principles.
- B) Argued that humans were defined and created by society.
- C) Argued that an original natural state exists.
- D) Argued that the true spirit of a society is what it wants to become, not what it is.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-09

Page-Reference: 35

Skill: Factual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: C) Argued that an original natural state exists.

10. According to Jean-Jacques Rousseau,

- A) the natural state was an awful existence where people fought against each other.
- B) there was no need to understand the basic nature of the human condition.
- C) before society, people existed in a symbiotic and idyllic relationship based on equality.
- D) human beings are not perfectible.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-10

Page-Reference: 36-37

Skill: Factual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: C) before society, people existed in a symbiotic and idyllic relationship based on equality.

11. Which classical theorist believed that people entered into the arrangements that form society as free and equal individuals?

- A) Hobbes
- B) Locke
- C) Rousseau
- D) Plato

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-11

Page-Reference: 36

Skill: Factual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: C) Rousseau

12. Which is the best definition of Herbert Spencer's concept of *social Darwinsim*?

- A) The belief that social species like humans have an evolutionary advantage over others species.
- B) The belief that society is fundamentally a struggle where some people win and other people lose.
- C) The belief that changes in society are natural.
- D) The belief that societies evolve naturally in response to pressures, those who are well adapted to the environment, flourish, and those who are poorly adapted don't.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-12

Page-Reference: 42

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: D) The belief that societies evolve naturally in response to pressures, those who are well adapted to the environment, flourish, and those who are poorly adapted don't.

13. Which of the following is false about the Enlightenment and its thinkers?

- A) They challenged 400 years of Christian scholarship.
- B) They advocated critical thinking and practical knowledge.
- C) They agreed that free thinking and expression should be limited.
- D) They reordered how people saw the world and their role in it.

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-13

Page-Reference: 37-38

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: C) They agreed that free thinking and expression should be limited.

14. The general social features that exist on their own and are independent of individual manifestations are best known as

- A) ideologies.
- B) social facts.
- C) manifest functions.
- D) looking-glass selves.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-14

Page-Reference: 42

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: B) social facts.

15. Which of the following was *not* a conservative reaction to Enlightenment thinking?

- A) Society exists on its own.
- B) Change is a threat to both individuals and society as a whole.
- C) Parts of society are interdependent.
- D) Individuals, not society, are the most important unit of social analysis.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-15

Page-Reference: 38-39

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: D) Individuals, not society, are the most important unit of social analysis.

16. The conservative reaction to the Enlightenment advocating a return to social hierarchies because their system of differential status and rewards is good for both individuals and the collective is best aligned with

- A) conflict theory.
- B) functionalism.
- C) symbolic interactionism.
- D) feminism.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-16

Page-Reference: 38-41

Skill: Applied

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.
Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: B) functionalism.

17. Which of the following is a major tenet of functionalism?

- A) The social world is a dynamic system of interrelated and interdependent parts.
- B) People are in a constant struggle over scarce resources.
- C) Meaning is created through ongoing interactions with others.
- D) Social structures work against people in achieving success.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-17

Page-Reference: 40-41

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: A) The social world is a dynamic system of interrelated and interdependent parts.

18. Which of the following is *not* part of understanding the organic analogy?

- A) Society is made up of interrelated and interdependent parts.
- B) It is associated with functionalism.
- C) The system's natural state of affairs is one of equilibrium where the system is stable and homeostatic.
- D) Structures work against each other for the good of the collective.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-18

Page-Reference: 40-41

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: D) Structures work against each other for the good of the collective.

19. _____ is considered by many to be the founder of modern sociology.

- A) Auguste Comte
- B) Karl Marx
- C) Émile Durkheim
- D) Talcott Parsons

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-19

Page-Reference: 43

Skill: Factual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: C) Émile Durkheim

20. According to Durkheim, which of the following are *not* true of culture and society?

- A) They do not inspire individual behaviours.
- B) They exist outside of the individual.
- C) They are independent of the individual.
- D) They outlive the individual.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-20

Page-Reference: 43-46

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: A) They do not inspire individual behaviours.

21. Durkheim's concept of _____ highlights the totality of a society's beliefs and sentiments.

- A) collective conscience
- B) latent function
- C) class consciousness
- D) anomie

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-21

Page-Reference: 43

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: A) collective conscience

22. A sociologist from this tradition is most likely to argue that society consists of diverse structures that work together for the good of the collective.

- A) Functionalist
- B) Conflict
- C) Symbolic interactionist
- D) Post-modern feminist

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-22

Page-Reference: 40-41

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: A) Functionalist

23. Anomic suicide might occur when

- A) people do not feel connected to others.
- B) people are too connected to others.
- C) people feel confusion from a lack of clear goals.
- D) people are overregulated.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-23

Page-Reference: 43-45

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: C) people feel confusion from a lack of clear goals.

24. Which of the following is *not* one of the four functional imperatives outlined by Parsons?

- A) Assimilation
- B) Goal attainment
- C) Integration
- D) Latency

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-24

Page-Reference: 47-48

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: A) Assimilation

25. The unintended consequences of an action or social pattern are referred to by functionalist theorists, such as Merton, as

- A) manifest functions.
- B) latent functions.
- C) hidden functions.
- D) necessary functions.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-25

Page-Reference: 48

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: B) latent functions.

26. Which of the following is *not* a critique of functionalism?

- A) It overemphasizes harmony and stability in society.
- B) It overlooks positive consequences that can result from conflict.
- C) It focuses primarily on human agency.
- D) It suggests that the status quo is almost always desirable.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-26

Page-Reference: 49

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: C) It focuses primarily on human agency.

27. _____ is based on the assumption that society is grounded upon inequality and competition over scarce resources.

- A) Symbolic interactionism
- B) Conflict theory
- C) Functionalism
- D) Post-modernism

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-27

Page-Reference: 49

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) Conflict theory

28. Which is the clearest example of Marx's concept of alienation?

- A) Jonathan carefully designing, carving, and finishing a cradle for his son.
- B) Melissa going to work every day to screw on the same piece of hundreds of widgets, without ever seeing the finished product or understanding what her coworkers do.
- C) Kelly buying a factory to make more widgets than she could in her existing workshop.
- D) Mark reducing the wages he pays his workers while increasing the price he charges consumers for his widget.

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Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-28

Page-Reference: 47

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) Melissa going to work every day to screw on the same piece of hundreds of widgets, without ever seeing the finished product or understanding what her coworkers do.

29. Marx and Engels would argue that

- A) social revolution was the inevitable result of capitalism.
- B) conflict is functional for society.
- C) social inequality best reflects an individual's biological possibilities.
- D) those in power justly run society objectively.

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-29

Page-Reference: 50-51

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: A) social revolution was the inevitable result of capitalism.

30. The physical and intellectual resources a society has with which to make a living, which include human labour power and the means of production (e.g., tools, machines, etc.), are referred to by Marx as

- A) forces of production.
- B) relations of production.
- C) tools of production.
- D) the capitalist infrastructure.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-30

Page-Reference: 53

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: A) forces of production.

31. In a classical Marxian sense, in a capitalist economy, the worker and owner

- A) have deeply shared interests, in spite of the appearance of opposition.
- B) are in diametrically opposed positions.
- C) should learn how to understand each other's positions better in order to foster a more positive and forward-thinking society.
- D) can both prosper if they commit to it.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-31

Page-Reference: 54

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) are in diametrically opposed positions.

32. Clarice is conducting an examination of the beliefs and values that support and justify the interests of the ruling class in contemporary Canadian society. She is, in effect, studying Canada's

- A) dominant ideology.
- B) humanistic tendencies.
- C) central value system.
- D) false consciousness.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-32

Page-Reference: 56

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: A) dominant ideology.

33. Ideology is

- A) empirically based on scientific findings.
- B) used to justify current systems of domination and inequality.
- C) a device used by functionalists to explain the workings of society.
- D) a term used by symbolic interactionists to explain how individuals interact with each other.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-33

Page-Reference: 56

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) used to justify current systems of domination and inequality.

34. When the proletariat realize their domination and oppression by the bourgeoisie and commit to organizing together and doing something to challenge this, a Marxist would say they have acquired

- A) self-consciousness.
- B) false consciousness.
- C) class consciousness.
- D) self-confidence.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-34

Page-Reference: 56-57

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: C) class consciousness.

35. In Marx's analysis of class society, there is a strong relationship between the class with the majority of material benefits and

- A) the dominant ideas.
- B) the Protestant work ethic.
- C) truth.
- D) necessary functions in the social body.

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Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-35

Page-Reference: 53-57

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: A) the dominant ideas.

36. A sociologist who emphasizes how people learn meanings and symbols in social settings is most likely to come from which theoretical tradition?

- A) Formal sociology
- B) Symbolic interactionism
- C) Symbolic conflict theory
- D) Structural symbolism

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-36

Page-Reference: 57-58

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions to its founding theorists.

Answer: B) Symbolic interactionism

37. This German term was used by Weber to describe deep understanding and interpretation of subjective social meanings.

- A) *bildung*
- B) *sui generis*
- C) anomie
- D) *verstehen*

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-37

Page-Reference: 57

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions to its founding theorists.

Answer: D) *verstehen*

38. The Thomas theorem refers to

- A) the idea that people give subjective meaning to situations and such meaning has real consequences.
- B) people's struggling over scarce resources.
- C) the theory that people continuously interact with each other to succeed in society.
- D) physical interactions with individuals.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-38

Page-Reference: 58

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions to its founding theorists.

Answer: A) the idea that people give subjective meaning to situations and such meaning has real consequences.

39. The argument that social processes and forms of interactions can be separated from their content, so that interactions which appear quite different can, in fact, be quite similar, is known as

- A) formal sociology.
- B) content sociology.
- C) post-modernism.
- D) rational choice theory.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-39

Page-Reference: 59

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions to its founding theorists.

Answer: A) formal sociology.

40. According to Mead, human behaviour is virtually always the product of

- A) competition for scarce resources.
- B) biology and culture.
- C) interaction with others.
- D) human instincts.

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-40

Page-Reference: 60

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions to its founding theorists.

Answer: C) interaction with others.

41. How is the relative absence of women sociological theorists in standard sociological histories accounted for?

- A) Inexplicable
- B) A consequence of different priorities
- C) The unfortunate result of biology
- D) An effect of patriarchy

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-41

Page-Reference: 62-63

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe how marginalized voices contributed to sociological theory.

Answer: D) An effect of patriarchy

42. Successful sociology students develop the ability to

- A) determine which sociological theory can correctly explain social phenomena.
- B) distinguish between correct and incorrect ways of analyzing world events.
- C) synthesize and compare different theoretical perspectives.
- D) view sociological theories impartially and without judgment.

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Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-42

Page-Reference: 32-33

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: C) synthesize and compare different theoretical perspectives.

43. According to Marx, people who do not own land and must sell their labour are members of the

- A) 99 percent.
- B) proletariat.
- C) exploited classes.
- D) bourgeoisie.

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-43

Page-Reference: 54

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: B) proletariat.

44. Which is the best example of Durkheim's concept of *anomie*?

- A) Clive struggling with his English assignment because he doesn't know what the professor expects him to do.
- B) Jody struggling with her calculus class because she doesn't think she's especially good at math.
- C) Edward struggling in his sociology class because it challenges a lot of his assumptions about the world.
- D) Marta struggling with her studies because she has set very ambitious goals for herself.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-44

Page-Reference: 45

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: A) Clive struggling with his English assignment because he doesn't know what the professor expects him to do.

45. Which is the best definition of Durkheim's concept of mechanical solidarity?

- A) Elements of society work together like the pieces of a machine, when one part malfunctions, society winds up in disarray.
- B) Social relationships exist because people like to connect with others who have similar values and worldviews, individuals can largely meet their own material needs.
- C) Social relationships exist because people have specialized in what they produce, and need to trade with others in order to meet their needs.
- D) Social relationships depend on a deep understanding and interpretation of subjective social meanings.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-45

Page-Reference: 46

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

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Answer: B) Social relationships exist because people like to connect with others who have similar values and worldviews, individuals can largely meet their own material needs.

46. Rousseau believed that people entered into the social contract

- A) because they required protection from each other.
- B) because people had a natural fear of the government and governing parties.
- C) on their own will, as free and equal individuals.
- D) in order to keep the government accountable to citizen groups.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-46

Page-Reference: 36-37

Skill: Factual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: C) on their own will, as free and equal individuals.

47. According to Enlightenment thinkers, the most important unit of social analysis was

- A) the family.
- B) the individual.
- C) the scientific method.
- D) society as a whole.

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-47

Page-Reference: 37-38

Skill: Factual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: B) the individual.

48. Which of the following is a valid criticism of conflict theory?

- A) Conflict theories pay too much attention to individual actors and neglect broader social patterns.
- B) Conflict theories do not recognize the effect of social structures on individuals.
- C) Conflict theorists do not always acknowledge that contemporary struggle is institutionalized, rather than the result of individual desires.
- D) Conflict theories overemphasize the role of consensus in society.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-48

Page-Reference: 57

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: C) Conflict theorists do not always acknowledge that contemporary struggle is institutionalized, rather than the result of individual desires.

49. According to the organic analogy, how is society similar to the human body?

- A) Both are made up of interrelated and interdependent parts.
- B) Both society and the human body will eventually expire.
- C) Neither can exist and thrive without human interaction.
- D) Both are essentially biological in nature.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-49

Page-Reference: 40-41

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: A) Both are made up of interrelated and interdependent parts.

50. Which of the following best illustrates a "laissez-faire" approach?

- A) A provincial government increases funding for programs serving people with developmental disabilities.
- B) The federal government earmarks money for three new maximum-security prisons.
- C) A provincial government decreases the amount of funding it provides to non-profit daycare centres.
- D) The federal government announces that it will impose more regulations and travel restrictions on people travelling to Canada by plane.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-50

Page-Reference: 42

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: C) A provincial government decreases the amount of funding it provides to non-profit daycare centres.

51. Which of the following is the best definition of Marx's concept of *false consciousness*?

- A) A set of incorrect beliefs about the values governing society.
- B) When people believe in, and defend, a system that oppresses them.
- C) Recognizing one's dominance and oppression and taking collective action to address it.
- D) The idea that it is impossible for the poor to change social systems that disadvantage them.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-51

Page-Reference: 56

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) When people believe in, and defend, a system that oppresses them.

52. Which philosopher most strongly influenced the work of Karl Marx?

- A) Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel
- B) Friedrich Engels
- C) Charles de Montesquieu
- D) Thomas Hobbes

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Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-52

Page-Reference: 50-53

Skill: Factual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: A) Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel

53. What does Durkheim mean when he discusses the idea of *anomie*?

- A) The only possible sociological explanation for suicides.
- B) A sense of normlessness that results from a lack of clear goals creating feelings of confusion.
- C) Social features that exist on their own independent of any individual's manifestation.
- D) The idea that every individual interprets their own social world and acts accordingly.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-53

Page-Reference: 45

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) A sense of normlessness that results from a lack of clear goals creating feelings of confusion.

54. How are Mead's idea of the *I* and the *Me*, Cooley's concept of a *looking-glass self*, and Goffman's idea of *dramaturgy* similar?

- A) They all emphasize that individuals with similar social backgrounds will all act in the same way.
- B) They were all developed directly as criticisms of functionalist approaches to society.
- C) They were all replaced by symbolic interactionism.
- D) They are all approaches to understanding the construction of the self in relation to society.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-54

Page-Reference: 60-62

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: D) They are all approaches to understanding the construction of the self in relation to society.

55. Which of the following is the best example of a self-fulfilling prophecy?

- A) Matthew gets 56 percent on his first macro-economics midterm. Working very hard over the semester, he is able to raise his grade on the final exam to 86 percent.
- B) After being dumped by his girlfriend, Matthew decides to stop dating for a while and focus on his studies.
- C) After receiving a low grade on his calculus exam, Matthew complains to the head of his department about his calculus professor.
- D) Matthew thinks his boss does not like him, so is always defensive at work. His boss winds up reprimanding him for not being willing to take direction.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-55

Page-Reference: 61

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

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Answer: D) Matthew thinks his boss does not like him, so is always defensive at work. His boss winds up reprimanding him for not being willing to take direction.

56. Which of the following is a major criticism of symbolic interactionism?

- A) Symbolic interactionism fails to take into account the importance of personal relationships.
- B) Symbolic interactionism is not useful for studying everyday social situations.
- C) Symbolic interactionism does not account for the importance of social structures and institutions.
- D) Symbolic interactionism underestimates the power of the self-fulfilling prophecy.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-56

Page-Reference: 62

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: C) Symbolic interactionism does not account for the importance of social structures and institutions.

57. Which of the following is not a criticism of symbolic interactionist approaches?

- A) Symbolic interactionism fails to account for how difficult changing long-standing social relationships is.
- B) Symbolic interactionism does not account for the influence of social structures and institutions.
- C) Symbolic interactionism does not leave enough room to discuss human agency and individual's ability to make choices.
- D) Symbolic interactionism does not account for the way gender, minority status and other social structures can define the opportunities available to people.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-57

Page-Reference: 62

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: C) Symbolic interactionism does not leave enough room to discuss human agency and individual's ability to make choices.

58. What is the relationship between Mead's concepts of the *I* and the *Me*?

- A) The *I* is the socialized self, judgmental reflective and controlling; the *Me* is the unsocialized self, spontaneous, creative and impulsive.
- B) The *I* describes social actions that are unique to the individual, the *Me* describes patterns of social interaction divorced from their content.
- C) The *I* generates the individual's responses to the actions of others, the *Me* controls which of those responses are expressed.
- D) The *I* describes the self when we are actively managing how other people see us, the *Me* describes the self when we relax those efforts.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-58

Page-Reference: 60

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: C) The *I* generates the individual's responses to the actions of others, the *Me* controls which of those responses are expressed.

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59. Which of the following statements about ideology are *not* true?

- A) Ideologies are sets of beliefs and values that support and justify the ruling class of a society.
- B) Ideologies exist in all societies.
- C) Different political parties always have different ideologies.
- D) Marx was particularly critical of capitalist ideologies.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-59

Page-Reference: 56

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: C) Different political parties always have different ideologies.

60. Which of these is not a reason discussions of classical sociological theory tend focus on the contributions of white men?

- A) Contributions to sociology by women emphasizing social justice and activism were only recently recognized as important.
- B) Non-Western scholars and women were disproportionately engaged in developing the disciplines of philosophy and anthropology.
- C) Many contributions by non-Western scholars were not translated, and therefore were inaccessible to many Western thinkers.
- D) The people who controlled society, and sociology, tended to ignore contributions coming from women, minorities, and non-Western scholars.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-60

Page-Reference: 62-65

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe how marginalized voices contributed to sociological theory.

Answer: B) Non-Western scholars and women were disproportionately engaged in developing the disciplines of philosophy and anthropology.

61. Which of the following criticisms of conflict theory is *most* valid?

- A) Karl Marx was never trained as a sociologist.
- B) Conflict theory has sometimes inspired advocacy and social activism.
- C) Conflict theorists tend to downplay the importance of social motivation, social organization, and individual agency.
- D) Conflict theory is essentially a mirror image of functionalist theory.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-61

Page-Reference: 57

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: C) Conflict theorists tend to downplay the importance of social motivation, social organization, and individual agency.

62. **Classifying Canada as an *ideal type* of capitalism would be applying the ideas of which classical theorist?**

- A) John Locke
- B) Thomas Hobbes
- C) Jean-Jacques Rousseau
- D) Charles de Montesquieu

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-62

Page-Reference: 35

Skill: Applied

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: D) Charles de Montesquieu

63. **According to the organic analogy, increasing crime rates within a society would signal a need for**

- A) more prisons to be built.
- B) more laws to define and address criminal behaviour.
- C) social programs to address the issues causing crime.
- D) harsher penalties for convicted criminals.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-63

Page-Reference: 40-41

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: C) social programs to address the issues causing crime.

64. **The enormous monetary bailouts of major American corporations by the federal government in 2008 was the opposite of what _____ would suggest.**

- A) natural selection
- B) the laissez-faire approach
- C) the organic analogy
- D) evolution

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-64

Page-Reference: 42

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: B) the laissez-faire approach

65. **The practice of celebrating birthdays with gifts and cake would be classified by Émile Durkheim as**

- A) a social fact.
- B) the collective conscience.
- C) mechanical solidarity.
- D) organic solidarity.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-65

Page-Reference: 43

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: A) a social fact.

66. **A surgeon's reliance on his/her medical and administrative team in order to perform complex medical procedures would be an example of Durkheim's concept of**

- A) mechanical solidarity.
- B) organic solidarity.
- C) anomie.
- D) the collective conscience.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-66

Page-Reference: 46

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: B) organic solidarity.

67. **The rules and penalties associated with acts of academic dishonesty in a post-secondary institution are an example of which of Parsons's four functional imperatives?**

- A) Adaptation
- B) Goal attainment
- C) Integration
- D) Latency

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-67

Page-Reference: 47-48

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: C) Integration

68. **What does Marx mean when he talks about the *base* and the *superstructure*?**

- A) The *base* refers to the relations and means of production; the *superstructure* refers to the social relationships that must exist in order to allow for the production of material goods.
- B) The *base* refers to the relations and means of production; the *superstructure* refers to the things society values and pursues once material needs are met.
- C) The *base* refers to the values society embraces; the *superstructure* refers to the techniques and tools society uses to pursue those values.
- D) The *base* refers to the expectations that are common across all societies; the *superstructure* refers to cultural variations across different cultures.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-68

Page-Reference: 53-56

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) The *base* refers to the relations and means of production; the *superstructure* refers to the things society values and pursues once material needs are met.

69. **The Occupy movement of 2011–12 is an example of Marx's concept of**

- A) class conflict.
- B) alienation.
- C) exploitation.
- D) ideology.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-69

Page-Reference: 54

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: A) class conflict.

70. **The idea of dialectics, that every idea contains the seed of an opposing idea or position, is best associated with which of the following thinkers?**

- A) Max Weber
- B) Herbert Spencer
- C) John Locke
- D) Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-70

Page-Reference: 50-51

Skill: Factual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: D) Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel

71. **Which of the following is the best definition of *exploitation*, from the perspective of conflict theory?**

- A) The ideological tools used to convince people of the value of a system that oppresses them.
- B) The difference between what workers are paid and the wealth they create for the owner.
- C) The process by which workers are separated from each other and the work they produce.
- D) The existence of natural and moral inequality in society.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-71

Page-Reference: 54

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) The difference between what workers are paid and the wealth they create for the owner.

72. The fact that we as a society feel that women convicted of crimes should be treated differently than men and should build more rehabilitative facilities for women than punitive, ensuring better outcomes for women when released, is an application of

- A) the Thomas Theorem.
- B) a self-fulfilling prophesy.
- C) *verstehen*.
- D) sympathetic introspection.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-72

Page-Reference: 58

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: A) the Thomas Theorem.

73. According to symbolic interactionist theory, the little voice in your head informing you that, despite their polite laughter, your friends are not amused with your sarcastic comebacks, is an example of

- A) the I.
- B) the Me.
- C) sympathetic introspection.
- D) the looking glass self.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-73

Page-Reference: 60

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) the Me.

74. Stephanie tells her friends what she thinks is funny story. They respond with silence instead of laughter. Stephanie interprets this as evidence that her friends don't think she's funny, and decides they must be right. She determines not try to be amusing anymore, preferring to stay quiet. This is an example of _____ at work.

- A) the I
- B) the Me
- C) sympathetic introspection
- D) the looking glass self

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-1-74

Page-Reference: 61

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: D) the looking glass self

75. At the end of a first date, you attempt to determine how it went by thinking about what was said and done during the course of the evening, and particularly you and your date's reactions to one another. This is an example of

- A) double consciousness.
- B) dramaturgical analysis.
- C) sympathetic introspection.
- D) the looking glass self.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-1-75

Page-Reference: 58

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: B) dramaturgical analysis.

76. Hyphenated-Canadian syndrome, the divided identity that so many new immigrants to Canada face as a result of our multicultural mosaic, is an example of whose concept of double consciousness?

- A) Frantz Fanon
- B) Annie Marion MacLean
- C) W. E. B. Du Bois
- D) Ida Wells-Barnett

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-1-76

Page-Reference: 64

Skill: Applied

Objective: Describe how marginalized voices contributed to sociological theory.

Answer: C) W. E. B. Du Bois

Chapter 02 True-False Questions

1. The work of non-Western sociologists generally justified colonialism.

- A) a True
- B) b False

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-2-01

Page-Reference: 65-66

Skill: Factual

Objective: Describe how marginalized voices contributed to sociological theory.

Answer: b. False

2. A principle of symbolic interactionism is that, in social settings, people learn meanings and symbols that allow them to exercise their distinctively human capacity for thought.

- a True
- b False

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-2-02

Page-Reference: 57-59

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists

Answer: a. True

3. **Economic inequality is growing, both between the rich and the poor in individual countries and between rich and poor countries.**

a True

b False

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-2-03

Page-Reference: 51-52

Skill: Factual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: a. True

4. **Rousseau suggested that human beings are the only animal that is perfectible, and can achieve their potential through society.**

a True

b False

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-2-04

Page-Reference: 36-37

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: a. True

5. **A critique of symbolic interactionism is its inability to account for the effect of social structures on individual actions.**

a True

b False

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-2-05

Page-Reference: 62

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: a. True

6. **The conservative reaction to the Enlightenment was based on the belief that society is not the product of individuals but, rather, an entity in itself.**

a True

b False

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Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-2-06

Page-Reference: 38-40

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: a. True

7. Émile Durkheim distinguished between *manifest* and *latent* functions.

a True

b False

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-2-07

Page-Reference: 48-49

Skill: Factual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: b. False

8. Conflict theorists suggest that those in power should stay in power because it results in stability.

a True

b False

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-2-08

Page-Reference: 49-50

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: b. False

9. Functionalist theorists offer no account of social change in their emphasis on stability and equilibrium.

a True

b False

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-2-09

Page-Reference: 40-49

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: b. False

10. For symbolic interactionists, human actors are the product of external and constraining social forces.

a True

b False

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Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-2-10

Page-Reference: 57-59

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: b. False

11. **Conservative reactionaries to the Enlightenment felt that healthy competition between individuals was a good thing.**

a True

b False

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-2-11

Page-Reference: 38-40

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: a. True

12. **Karl Marx would view our current university system as a functional and practical way to help young people fulfill their wants and desires.**

a True

b False

Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-2-12

Page-Reference: 50-57

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: b. False

13. **Herbert Spencer's critique of social welfare programs shows that he saw great utility in applying his sociological imagination.**

a True

b False

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-2-13

Page-Reference: 42-43

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: b. False

14. ***Verstehen* refers to understanding the meaning of an action from an objective, impartial, "outsiders" point of view.**

a True

b False

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Difficulty: Easy

QuestionID: 02-2-14

Page-Reference: 59

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: b. False

15. Talcott Parson's AGIL typology was an important contribution to conflict theory as it outlined the mechanisms for maintaining social equilibrium.

a True

b False

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-2-15

Page-Reference: 47-48

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: b. False

Chapter 02 Short Answer Questions

1. Explain DuBois's idea of a *double consciousness* as it applies to the experience of Black Americans. Give an example of a group who may experience a similar double-consciousness in Canada and explain how it applies.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-3-01

Page-Reference: 64

Skill: Applied

Objective: Describe how marginalized voices contributed to sociological theory.

Answer: Du Bois explains a double consciousness as Black Americans having a divided identity. They understand themselves both as being part of a majority, through their belonging to American society, and as part of a minority, because of the discrimination they experience for being black. Canadian examples will vary by student, but should reflect groups who are both part of Canadian society, and somehow excluded from it. These could include Indigenous people, visible minorities (immigrants, cultural groups, etc.), and women. Discussions of examples should include an awareness of this simultaneous inclusion and exclusion.

2. According to Rousseau, what is the relationship between the social contract and the need for government?

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-3-02

Page-Reference: 36-37

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

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Answer: Rousseau believed that we needed to understand the basic nature of the human condition so we could build a society that most closely resembled our natural tendencies and desires. A perfect society would mirror our natural state. But when social arrangements were inconsistent with these natural rules, society suffered social problems (e.g., high crime and suicide rates). Increasing population pressures forced people to work together to meet their material (e.g., food) needs. As humans progressed as a collective, certain individuals prospered because they were more gifted farmers, orators, or artisans, and for the first time society began to experience social and economic inequality. It was in this environment that Rousseau saw the greatest need for government; he saw that people needed to be protected from each other and needed to secure their private property. The rise of government, then, was really the manifestation of the social contract. People would willingly enter into the social contract because of the potential for individual and social benefit.

3. How did Enlightenment thinking challenge the power structure in place during that time?

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-3-03

Page-Reference: 37-38

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: Enlightenment thinking challenged 400 years of Christian scholarship devoted to discovering God's intentions and the domination of knowledge practised by the Church. The intellectuals of the day fought any attempt to limit free thinking and expression and believed that over time the human condition could be improved for all. Before the Enlightenment, people's thinking was directed by God, the Church, and the aristocracy. Enlightenment thinking, however, promoted human agency and autonomy. Today, seeing ourselves as engaged and autonomous beings seems obvious, but at the time this independence of thought created a great deal of turmoil, not only for the Church but also for society as a whole.

4. What is the relevance of the conservative reaction to Enlightenment thinking in the development of sociology?

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-3-04

Page-Reference: 38-40

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: Enlightenment thinking was inherently revolutionary as it confirmed the importance of self-reflection, and challenged tradition, the Church, and the rich and powerful. Conversely, conservative reaction thinking suggested that society was independent of human experience; that change threatened everyone, and that hierarchical arrangements were natural and necessary for a stable society. The legacy of the conservative reaction to sociological theory is evident even today.

5. Explain social Darwinism. Is social Darwinism consistent or inconsistent with the sociological imagination? Why?

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-3-05

Page-Reference: 42-43

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

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Answer: Social Darwinism is the application of the principles of biological evolution to human societies, a functionalist approach that suggests that societies evolve because there is a *reason* for the changes (i.e., the need to survive). It helps to explain why some in society are doing well and others are not. Some are simply more evolved or better adapted than others. And since this is a *natural* process, many believe that nature should be allowed to take its course and that to interfere would only make matters worse.

This approach is inconsistent with the sociological imagination because it denies an appreciation of inherited social disadvantage and outright discrimination.

6. Define and explain what is meant by *social facts*. Give one example.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-3-06

Page-Reference: 43

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: Social facts are general social features that exist on their own and are independent of individual manifestations. Social facts are the creation of human actions but are not the intended consequences of them – they are unintentional outcomes of collective behaviour and interaction.

Social facts operate outside of anyone alive today but also can be seen as givens since they provide the context for our thinking; and by doing so they constrain us and coerce us to behave in established, predictable ways.

Examples will vary by student.

7. What does Durkheim suggest about social organization as it relates to suicide?

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-3-07

Page-Reference: 43-46

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: Durkheim investigated his assertion that the degree of social integration (i.e., the extent to which individuals feel connected to each other in social networks) and the degree of social regulation (i.e., the extent to which individual desires, behaviours, and emotions are regulated by society) are important causes of a society's suicide rate. He argued that societies with levels of integration or regulation that are too high or too low will suffer from higher suicide rates. As such, any social organization that increases a person's healthy connection to others (e.g., marriage, family, organized religion) will decrease the likelihood of suicide.

8. How are *manifest* and *latent* functions different? What would the *manifest functions* and *latent functions* of the family be?

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-3-08

Page-Reference: 48-49

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

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Answer: Manifest functions are the intended consequences of an action or social pattern. Manifest functions of family may include socializing children, providing members with emotional, social, and material supports, and organizing romantic relationships, etc.

Latent functions are the unintended consequences of an action or social pattern. Latent functions of the family might include a mechanism for transmitting intergenerational wealth, a structure in which to control women's sexuality, a way of simplifying how government benefits can be allocated to individuals, etc.

Examples/explanations given by students may vary – the intent of the question is to recognize the difference between intended and unintended consequences of a social pattern.

9. How are the contributions of women, minorities, and non-Western scholars to sociology different from the contributions of white men? What elements do these minority voices tend to emphasize that are missing from more frequent discussions of classical theory?

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-3-09

Page-Reference: 62-65

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe how marginalized voices contributed to sociological theory.

Answer: The contributions of women in sociology tend to emphasize activism and social equity, and challenged a variety of social conventions, specifically regarding women. Minority scholars tended to contribute to sociology by highlighting the experiences of racialized minorities, as well as the potential for improvements in society through social action. Non-Western scholars tend to discuss the effects of imperialism and colonialism, as well as black identity. All these contributions have a tendency to be marginalized or ignored in common discussions of classical sociological theory.

10. What does *verstehen* refer to, and what is its relation to the sociological imagination?

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-3-10

Page-Reference: 59

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: *Verstehen* is a German term meaning to employ a deep understanding and interpretation of subjective social meanings in order to appreciate both the intention and the context of human action; it is entirely consistent with symbolic interactionism. *Verstehen*, then, refers to understanding the meaning of an action from the actor's point of view. Human actors are not seen as the product of external forces that direct their lives but instead as active agents who engage with others to organize their world and give it meaning. This approach is also entirely consistent with the sociological imagination – to put yourself in another person's shoes and see the world from his or her position.

11. Create a scenario or give an example that demonstrates how the self is created through Charles Horton Cooley's concept of the looking glass self. Using the same experience or scenario, explain how a positive self-concept or a negative self-concept could be created.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-3-11

Page-Reference: 61

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

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Answer: There are three basic components to the looking-glass self. First, we must imagine how we appear to others. Second, we need to imagine how others would judge that appearance. Third, we must reflect on that image and develop some self-feeling (e.g., pride, fear, embarrassment) as a result.
Examples/scenarios will vary by student.

12. Using George Herbert-Mead's concepts of the I and the Me, create a real-life scenario or provide a real-life example of how the self is developed through the interaction of the I and the Me.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-3-12

Page-Reference: 60

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: According to Mead, the self is developed through social interaction. It is made up of two components: the I and the Me. The I represents the individual's response to the actions of others and the Me controls the response of the I. The individual personality (i.e., the self) then emerges with the combination of the I and the Me.
Examples/scenarios will vary by student.

13. What are the weaknesses associated with symbolic interactionism? Which of these do you consider most significant, and why?

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-3-13

Page-Reference: 43-44

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: Symbolic interactionism has been criticized for neglecting the importance of social structures in defining the opportunities available to individuals, for not accounting for how difficult it is to change existing social structures and patterns, and for neglecting that some individuals (e.g. those with privilege) have much more ability to interpret the social world in ways that work for them.

Choice of which criticism is most important, and rationale, will vary by student.

14. According to Marx, how do the relations of production in a capitalist system lead to exploitation and inescapable inequality?

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-3-14

Page-Reference: 50-57

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

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Answer: In a capitalist economy, the worker and owner are in diametrically opposed positions: the worker wants to make the most money for the least amount of effort, and the owner wants to obtain the most labour for the least amount of money. Workers feel that owners do not care about their well-being – they are interested only in profits. Conversely, owners know that workers do not care about the quality of the products they produce – they are interested only in how much they are paid for their work. To generate a healthy return on their investment (e.g., factories, raw materials), owners are motivated to exploit their workers. Thus, exploitation is the difference between what workers are paid and the wealth they create for the owner. For capitalism to prosper, workers should be paid as little as possible. The owner has costs associated with producing the widgets (raw materials, factory costs, packaging, distribution, advertising), so the real level of exploitation depends on many factors. In addition, owners need to generate surplus/profit so they can invest in new technology in order to stay competitive in the marketplace. As such, the relationship between owners and workers can and will never be equal.

15. Explain Marx's concept of ideology and explain how it is understood to function in society. Give a contemporary example of the effects of ideology in Canadian society.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-3-15

Page-Reference: 56

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: Ideology can be defined as a set of beliefs and values that support and justify the ruling class of a society. Ideologies serve to justify why some people have more power/material resources than others, such as assuming the work that is typically done by men is more valuable than the work typically done by women. Contemporary examples will vary.

Chapter 02 Essay Questions

1. Benjamin Franklin is quoted to have said, "Those who would sacrifice freedom for security deserve neither." How does this contrast with Hobbes's ideas of the role of the state?

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-4-01

Page-Reference: 33-34

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: Hobbes believed that, at their most basic, people are motivated by self-interest and the pursuit of power. Living in a natural state would have been a brutal existence; since everyone was in direct competition with each other, people would have lived in a constant state of fear. With their wants always seeming to exceed what was available, there was constant potential for a "war of all against all." Hobbes thus argued that since people are naturally rational beings, in order to gain peace and protection they would be willing to enter into a collective agreement that would see them give up some of their individual freedom and autonomy to an absolute authority (e.g., democracy, monarchy). This collective agreement represented an important transition in that it demonstrated the human capacity to forgo independence and autonomy in return for collective benefit. In essence, it promotes exactly what Franklin warns against: sacrificing freedom for security.

2. Discuss the relationship between Enlightenment thinking and the birth of sociology. How are the development of micro- and macrosociology affected differently by this thinking?

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Chapter 02: Classical Social Theories

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-4-02

Page-Reference: 38-40

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe the early contributions of social philosophers and their relevance to classical sociological theory.

Answer: The textbook argues that sociology was born not from the revolutionary ideas of Enlightenment thinking but, rather, from the conservative reaction against them. Before the Enlightenment, people's thinking was directed by God, the Church, and the aristocracy. Enlightenment thinking, however, promoted human agency and thus was a clear continuation of the writings of Hobbes, Locke, Montesquieu, and Rousseau. Today, seeing ourselves as engaged and autonomous beings seems obvious, but at the time this independence of thought created a great deal of turmoil, not only for the Church but also for society as a whole. The Enlightenment was nothing less than a reordering of how people saw the world and their role in it.

Enlightenment philosophers challenged many beliefs that were grounded in tradition (e.g., inherited titles and wealth that were not based on demonstrated ability or skill) and encouraged the ability of the masses to take control of their lives and challenge their oppressors. This ultimately led to the American and French revolutions, which resulted in thousands of deaths. Both revolutions had a lasting influence: for the first time in history, entire societies were completely reorganized according to the secular ideals of social equality and liberty.

However, the chaos and disruption brought on by these ideals of individual autonomy, liberty, and the primacy of rationality and reason were challenged by conservatives, who promoted a return to earlier times when society was more stable. In effect, conservatives challenged the very basis of Enlightenment thinking. After all, they would suggest, the culmination of that thinking led to revolution, something no one should want. As discussed, one of the guiding principles of the Enlightenment was the belief in individual autonomy and the absolute necessity of independent thought and reflection. To Enlightenment thinkers, the individual was the building block for the entire society. In contrast, conservatives believed that society is not the product of individuals but, rather, an entity in itself, independent and separate from the individuals who make it up.

Enlightenment and conservative perspectives are both represented in sociology through the micro (individual) and macro (society-wide) approaches, respectively.

3. Compare and contrast functionalism and conflict theory as discussed in the text. How would the two perspectives explain crime? Which perspective do you agree with on this issue and why?

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-4-03

Page-Reference: 40-57

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists. Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: Functionalists view the social world as a dynamic system of interrelated and interdependent parts. Social structures exist to help people fulfill their wants and desires as defined by social values.

Conflict theory is based on the assumption that society is grounded on inequality and competition over scarce resources that ultimately result in conflict, which often inspires social change. Two basic principles that all conflict theorists share are that (1) power is the core of all social relationships and is scarce and unequally divided among members of society, and (2) social values and the dominant ideology are vehicles by which the powerful promote their own interests at the expense of the weak.

For functionalists, crime might be considered functional or dysfunctional, whereas conflict theorists would view crime as a product of an unequal system that produces inequality between those in power and those who are marginalized. In the latter case, crime reflects the interests of those in power.

4. Explain how Spencer's idea of "survival of the fittest" led to the concept and practice of social Darwinism in the US. Why do sociologists tend to be quite critical of these ideas?

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-4-04

Page-Reference: 42-43

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: Spencer came to believe that overpopulation would become a social problem over time and believed that, as a result, people would be forced to compete over increasingly scarce resources. This led him to coin the term *survival of the fittest*. Spencer argued that societies can be selected for in the same way as biological organisms.

This resulted in Spencer's concept of *social Darwinism*, which employs a functionalist approach by suggesting that societies evolve because there is a *reason* for the changes (i.e., they need to survive). Spencer's approach became very popular in the United States, as it helped to explain why some in society were doing well and others were not. Some were simply more evolved or better adapted than others. And since this was a *natural* process, many believed that nature should be allowed to take its course and that to interfere would only make matters worse.

Sociologists view Spencer's ideas with a critical eye for a number of reasons. First, this position denies an appreciation for inherited social disadvantage. Second, these ideas provided justification for colonial expansion by rich and powerful countries to poor and weak ones simply because these countries were capable of it. Third, how would Spencer explain the fact that some children of the rich maintain their advantage even though they do not possess any of their parents' positive attributes? Fourth, Spencer's argument equates evolution with progress and assumes that over time human society will inevitably improve, which has not been proven over time.

5. Explain the concepts of Marx's *base* and *superstructure*. What elements are included in them? Give examples as to how these concepts relate to each other.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-4-05

Page-Reference: 39-40 / 42-43

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: The base includes the means of production and the relations of production – both the physical and intellectual capacities to produce goods in the economy, and the relationships as structured between owners and workers.

The superstructure includes the things society values and pursues after material needs are met, including ideology, culture, religion, etc.

The base and superstructure maintain and shape each other reciprocally – the material relations shape ideology, but ideology also shapes how people approach means and relations of production.

Examples supplied by students will vary.

6. Give three contemporary examples that illustrate the *Thomas theorem*. How do these examples connect to other aspects of symbolic interactionism?

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-4-06

Page-Reference: 58-59

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: The Thomas theorem states that things that people define as real will be real in their consequences. Examples given by students will vary.

The interpretation of symbols, and assigning meanings to symbols and interactions, are an essential part of symbolic interactionism – which specific connections made between examples and aspects of symbolic interactionism will vary based on the examples chosen.

7. Apply the four steps of Parsons's *social action theory* to explain the motivations and goals of students in post-secondary.

Difficulty: Moderate

QuestionID: 02-4-07

Page-Reference: 47

Skill: Applied

Objective: Review and critique functionalism and the contributions of its principal theorists.

Answer: Parsons viewed people as "actors" in that they played roles either as individuals or as collectives, and he outlined a four-step process to explain their motivations and goals. First, actors are *motivated* to achieve a goal or end as defined by the cultural system in which they live. For example, your decision to attend university or college and achieve good grades occurred because you are motivated to have a productive and satisfying career, which you believe requires a post-secondary education. Second, actors must find the *means* to achieve their goals. Students need to gather the financial resources necessary to cover the costs of going to school (e.g., tuition, books, living expenses). Third, actors need to face the challenging *conditions* that stand in the way of achieving their goals. Students may have to complete difficult required courses, take classes from teachers who are hard to understand, and write term papers on topics in which they are not interested. Finally, actors must work within the *social system* to achieve their goals. Students are required to pay all of their fees on time and comply with the rules of the institution.

8. Discuss how Marx and Engel's concept of class consciousness is related to Mills's concept of the quality of mind, using examples.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-4-08

Page-Reference: 56-57

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique conflict theory and the contributions of its founding theorists.

Answer: Marx and Engels believed that people could liberate themselves from oppression through class consciousness. Class consciousness occurs when the proletariat realize their domination and oppression by the bourgeoisie and commit to doing something about it. According to Marx, the proletariat become class conscious when they recognize their mutual interests and begin to create their own political organizations. Marx and Engels expected that, over time, the proletariat would develop a sense of common destiny with other workers because they worked and lived so close together. By talking to each other, workers would begin to understand their plight and the necessity of advocating for their collective needs. By taking such action, by seeing the world as it really is, the proletariat's false consciousness would be destroyed – no longer would workers be alienated from themselves or each other.

In terms of quality of mind, achieving class consciousness is effectively seeing the world in shades of grey, understanding the world as socially constructed, and appreciating your role in it. As a conflict theorist, Mills was well aware of macro-level Marxist terminology (class consciousness) but his terminology (quality of mind) accentuated the changes also occurring on the micro level.

Examples will vary by student.

9. Discuss four of the seven fundamental principles of symbolic interactionism. How do these principles make symbolic interactionism different from conflict theories and functionalism?

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-4-09

Page-Reference: 58

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Review and critique symbolic interactionism and the contributions of its founding theorists.

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Answer: Symbolic interactionism maintains seven fundamental principles:

1. Unlike other animals, human beings have the capacity for thought.
 2. Human thinking is shaped by social interaction.
 3. In social settings, people learn meanings and symbols that allow them to exercise their distinctively human capacity for thought.
 4. Meanings and symbols enable people to carry on uniquely human actions and interactions.
 5. People are able to change meanings and symbols that they use given their interpretation of various social situations.
 6. People are able to make these modifications in part because they have the unique ability to interact with themselves. By doing so, they examine different courses of actions and select the one with the most advantages and the least disadvantages.
 7. The culmination of patterns of action and interaction make up groups and societies.
- Symbolic interactionism differs from functionalism and conflict theories because of its micro-focus, and emphasis on the individual, rather than broader social structures and patterns. Symbolic interactionism studies the individual in society; conflict theories and functionalism both attempt to study society and its effect on the individual.

10. Your textbook discusses a number of marginalized voices in the development of sociology. Choose three, and discuss their contribution.

Difficulty: Challenging

QuestionID: 02-4-10

Page-Reference: 62-65

Skill: Conceptual

Objective: Describe how marginalized voices contributed to sociological theory.

Answer: Answers will vary by student. Choices include:

Mary Wollstonecraft – *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, advocating for co-education, challenging the social convention of marriage, and the idea that women's reliance on the power of seduction led them to think they were more powerful than they really were

Harriet Martineau – translated the works of Auguste Comte, completed empirical fieldwork at a time when this was uncommon, defining the ways in which sociologists study the world

Annie Marion MacLean – wrote *Wage Earning Women*, completing one of the first large-scale survey research projects, contributing to understanding of the experiences of working-class women

Anna Julia Cooper – *A Voice from the South*, influencing students as a school principal, advocating change in the hopes of reshaping society (contributing to activist strains of sociology)

Ida Wells-Barnett – writing about the atrocities of black lynchings, describing black women's confrontation of racism and sexism (essential in the development of intersectionality)

W. E. B. DuBois – *The Souls of Black Folks*, development of double consciousness, founded NAACP (activist strain), rich account of minority experiences

Frantz Fanon – *The Wretched of the Earth*, *Studies in a Dying Colonialism*, racism blinds the minority to their oppression, language affects how people see themselves (see imposition of colonial languages)

C. L. R. James – *Beyond a Boundary*, demonstrated the revolutionary power of the masses, documented the damage and suffering caused by slavery

George Padmore – *The Life and Struggles of Negro Toilers*, *How Britain Rules Africa*, radicalizing the Caribbean working class, advocating for colonial revolution