

Chapter 01

Multiple Choice

Nobel laureate Robert Fogel contends that which of the following are good proxies for current levels of nutrition?

1. New Question

- a. Changes in height during the growing years
- b. Total height
- c. Total weight
- d. Changes in weight during the growing years

ANSWER: a

Which of the following most accurately describes world population growth?

2. New Question

- a. World population has increased steadily during the past 6,000 years.
- b. World population has exhibited significant cyclical patterns of growth and decline.
- c. World population was relatively small until 1750, when it increased extremely rapidly.
- d. World population was small until after World War II, when it increased very quickly.

ANSWER: c

3. Which of the following most accurately describes changes in life expectancy?

- a. Life expectancy was relatively low until 1750, when it increased extremely rapidly.
- b. Life expectancy has increased steadily during the past 6,000 years.
- c. Life expectancy was low until after World War II, when it increased very quickly.
- d. Life expectancy has exhibited significant cyclical patterns of growth and decline.

ANSWER: a

4. Per capita GDP in the US between 1900 and 2011 ____.

- a. has remained about the same.
- b. increased until about 1970 and decreased since then.
- c. was cyclical, but generally trending upward throughout the century.
- d. grew very quickly for the first half of the century and grew at a much lower rate in the second half of the century.

ANSWER: c

5. Which is true about present day Americans who are at the official poverty level?

- a. Their incomes are about the same as those at the poverty level in 1950.
- b. Their incomes are higher than all but the richest Americans in 1900.
- c. Their incomes are about the same as those at the poverty level in 1900.
- d. Their incomes are about the same as those in the middle class in 1950.

ANSWER: b

6. Which is true about present day Americans who are at the official poverty level?
- a. Their incomes are about the same as the average world income.
 - b. Their incomes are about half of the average world income.
 - c. Their incomes are above the world average per capita income.
 - d. Their incomes are about the average income of people in nations like China, India and Pakistan.

ANSWER: c

7. Which of the following is most accurate about ownership of household goods, such as flush toilets, refrigerators, televisions, clothes dryers and automobiles?

- a. Very few Americans at the poverty level in 2005 own these goods.
- b. Americans at the poverty level in 2005 own these goods at about the same rate as average households in 1950.
- c. Americans at the poverty level in 2005 own these goods at higher rates than average households in 1950.
- d. Americans at the poverty level in 2005 own these goods at about half the rate as average households in 1950.

ANSWER: c

8. Which is most accurate about those who were in the bottom fifth of the income distribution in 1977?

- a. In 2009, about 85% of them were still in the bottom fifth of the income distribution.
- b. In 2009, about 50% were still in the bottom fifth of the income distribution.
- c. In 2009, about 25% were in the bottom fifth and another 25% were in the second poorest group.
- d. In 2009, about 14% were in the middle fifth and another 9% were in the second richest group.

ANSWER: d

9. Which of the following was the most likely wealth status of the children of both the richest and the poorest quintile of parents (measured in 1977)?

- a. They will remain in the richest or poorest quintile, respectively.
- b. They will move up in wealth.
- c. They will drop in wealth.
- d. The poor will move to the higher quintile in wealth, whereas the richest will drop to the second wealthiest quintile.

ANSWER: a

10. Why was the upgrade of the diplomats of the leading European powers from ministers to ambassadors in Washington D.C. in 1892 somewhat belated?

- a. The United States already held a trade surplus with Europe in 1877.
- b. By that time, U.S. output per capita was already only a little below that of Great Britain.
- c. The United States had already joined the Western Alliance of Britain and France as a major military power.

ANSWER: b

