

Reading 1: The Promise

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. According to C. Wright Mills, the history that affects every individual is now _____ history.

- a. life
- b. world
- c. generational
- d. technological

Ans: b

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. The sociological imagination has the capacity to shift from the political to the _____ perspective.

- a. criminological
- b. sociological
- c. gerontological
- d. psychological

Ans: d

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Mills contends that individuals feel _____ by their private lives.

- a. judged
- b. trapped
- c. undone
- d. transformed

Ans: b

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Medium

4. A(n) _____ occurs when, in a nation of 50 million employees, 15 million are unemployed.

- a. milieu
- b. issue
- c. structural failure
- d. sociological imagination

Ans: c

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Mills refers to the sociological imagination as the _____.

- a. promise
- b. deterrent
- c. failure
- d. debate

Ans: a

Difficulty Level: Easy

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

6. According to Mills, individuals are seldom aware of the connection between their _____.

- a. behavior and their troubles
- b. thoughts and their actions
- c. jobs and their family
- d. private lives and history

Ans: d

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. The sociological imagination is best described as _____.

- a. quality of mind
- b. imperative information
- c. moral energy
- d. statements of value

Ans: a

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. A trouble is a _____ matter.

- a. public
- b. private
- c. transcendent
- d. theoretical

Ans: b

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. According to Mills, no social study that does not come back to the problems of _____ and _____—and of their intersections within a society—has completed its intellectual journey.

- a. biography; history
- b. family; identity
- c. work; industry
- d. nature; understanding

Ans: a

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. Why does Mills believe there is a great need for sociological imagination in the modern world?

- a. We can no longer understand our own minds.
- b. There is a decline in spirituality.
- c. We are experiencing monumental change.
- d. There is a rise in personal problems.

Ans: c

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Medium

Short Answer

1. What is the task of the classic social analyst?

Ans: To grasp history and biography and the relations between the two within society.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Define troubles and issues.

Ans: Troubles occur within the character of the individual and within the range of his immediate relations with others. Issues have to do with matters that transcend these local environments of the individual and the range of his inner life.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. Describe how war can be both a personal trouble and a social issue.

Ans: Answers will vary but should include that the personal problem of war, when it occurs, may be how to survive it or how to die in it with honor; how to make money out of it; how to climb into the higher safety of the military apparatus; or how to contribute to the war's termination. The structural issues of war have to do with its causes; with what

types of men it throws up into command; and with its effects upon economic and political, family, and religious institutions.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. Identify the first fruit of the sociological imagination.

Ans: The idea that the individual can understand his own experience and gauge his own fate only by locating himself within his period, that he can know his own chances in life only by becoming aware of those of all individuals in his circumstances.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. Which distinction is a feature of all classic work in social science?

Ans: The personal troubles of milieu and the public issues of social structure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Medium