

Test Bank

For

Sociology Now

Third Edition

Michael Kimmel, *Stony Brook University*

Amy Aronson, *Fordham University*

Tristan Bridges, *University of California—Santa Barbara*

Prepared by

Zachary T. King, *University of California—Santa Barbara*



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Multiple Choice Questions

1.1 Sociology as a Way of Seeing

1) What is the sociological imagination?

- A) the application of sociology to imaginary scenarios, as in film and fictional writing
- B) the ability to see the connection between our individual identities and our social contexts
- C) the sociological study of play, dreams, and other imaginative activities
- D) the enhanced imaginative capacity of those who engage in the study of society

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 1.1.1 Understand the sociological imagination as both a set of skills and as a way of seeing.

Topic: Beyond Either–Or: Seeing Sociologically

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

2) Applying the sociological imagination to understanding unemployment would lead you to _____.

- A) conclude that people without jobs are most likely incompetent workers
- B) look at the way that individual and larger social factors are both at work
- C) realize that people are not responsible for their actions because society shapes the outcome
- D) see that evolutionary biology has most likely determined who is unemployed

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 1.1.1 Understand the sociological imagination as both a set of skills and as a way of seeing.

Topic: Beyond Either–Or: Seeing Sociologically

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

3) What positive take does the text indicate sociologists might present when considering cases of violent road rage?

- A) Violent road rage allows people to vent their energy and calm their emotions.
- B) Most people driving the freeways under stressful conditions do not engage in violent road rage.
- C) Violent road rage has a functional role, providing employment for emergency responders.
- D) By simply increasing the power of law enforcement, society can reduce violent road rage.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 1.1.2 Summarize why sociologists study the order and organization of societies.

Topic: Making Connections: Sociological Dynamics

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

- 4) Which statement about road rage in the United States is true?
- A) All other industrialized countries have similar incidents of road rage.
 - B) A similar prevalence of road rage is seen mostly in regions ruled by violent warlords.
 - C) Road rage is exceedingly rare in the United States compared to other countries.
 - D) Road rage is an individual incident and tells us nothing about how societies compare.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 1.1.3 Explain why sociologists study both social order and social disorder.

Topic: Sociological Understanding

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

- 5) In their investigation of society, sociologists direct their focus on _____.
- A) social order—positive aspects of society that help people remain optimistic
 - B) social disorder—social problems that need to be examined and solved
 - C) both social order and social disorder, as the study of each can help inform the study of the other
 - D) neither social order nor social disorder, but instead on the activities of political leaders

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 1.1.3 Explain why sociologists study both social order and social disorder.

Topic: Sociological Understanding

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

- 6) Which countries are among the top 10 most globalized countries in the world?
- A) Ireland and Hungary
 - B) Monaco and Guam
 - C) Democratic Republic of Korea and Liechtenstein
 - D) Somalia and San Marino

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 1.1.3 Explain why sociologists study both social order and social disorder.

Topic: Sociological Understanding

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

- 7) What is one factor used to measure how globalized a country is?
- A) migration of people across borders
 - B) size of the country's military
 - C) racial diversity of the country
 - D) geographic area of the country's territory

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 1.1.3 Explain why sociologists study both social order and social disorder.

Topic: Sociological Understanding

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

8) Which describes how sociologists think about the role of biology and social upbringing in determining behavior?

A) Behavior is determined solely by “nature”—our biology.

B) Behavior is essentially random, caused by physical forces outside of us.

C) Both “nature” and “nurture” determine behavior.

D) Behavior is determined only by “nurture,” or social upbringing—biology has nothing to do with it.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 1.1.4 Using the nature–nurture debate as an example, explain why what passes as “common sense” is often more complicated than it first appears.

Topic: Getting beyond “Common Sense”

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

9) According to General Social Survey results from both 2006 and 2012, most Americans think sociology is _____.

A) very scientific

B) pretty scientific

C) not too scientific

D) not scientific at all

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 1.1.4 Using the nature–nurture debate as an example, explain why what passes as “common sense” is often more complicated than it first appears.

Topic: Getting beyond “Common Sense”

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

10) How would a good sociologist explain LeBron James’s athletic ability?

A) His ability is the result of practice, teaching, help, as well as physical qualities.

B) His ability is the result of the physical athleticism he was born with.

C) His ability is the result of only practice and teaching—anyone of any genetic predisposition could do as well.

D) His ability is the result only of his intense personal interest in the sport of basketball.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 1.1.4 Using the nature–nurture debate as an example, explain why what passes as “common sense” is often more complicated than it first appears.

Topic: Getting beyond “Common Sense”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

11) What would a sociologist be likely to say about the notion of “common sense”?

- A) Commonsense explanations are true because they uphold our culture’s values.
- B) Commonsense ideas like “men are aggressive” tend to be verified by further scientific study.
- C) We can trust commonsense explanations because they have endured across history.
- D) Commonsense explanations often trade in untrue stereotypes posed as fact.

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 1.1.4 Using the nature–nurture debate as an example, explain why what passes as “common sense” is often more complicated than it first appears.

Topic: Getting beyond “Common Sense”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

1.2 iSoc: Sociological Frames of Analysis

12) Which description fits the definition of identity as a component of the iSoc perspective?

- A) the visible characteristics that determine how other people see each individual
- B) the unique combination of group affiliations and social characteristics that each individual develops
- C) the parts of who we are that do not match the social mainstream and so leave us marginalized
- D) the way our individuality is legally recognized through name, social security number, and birth certificate

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 1.2.1 Define the first three components of the iSoc perspective (identity, intersectionality, and inequality) as well as how they are interrelated.

Topic: Identity, Intersectionality, and Inequality

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

13) The definition of intersectionality as a component of the iSoc perspective is the _____.

- A) ways different identities intersect with one another to shape our social identity and experiences
- B) ways various social institutions cooperate to manage their individual members
- C) ways individual people affect all other people through a network of connections
- D) recognition of ways in which history and biography inform each other

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 1.2.1 Define the first three components of the iSoc perspective (identity, intersectionality, and inequality) as well as how they are interrelated.

Topic: Identity, Intersectionality, and Inequality

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

14) What explanation does the text offer for why the United States does not have a “country code” for its Google Web address?

- A) The United States has a relatively small population compared to countries like India and China and so does not need an individualized code.
- B) Google did not want to give the United States a special code, as that would give it too much power over the Internet.
- C) The majority of Internet users in the world are from the United States due to greater access to technology.
- D) Due to its great power, the United States is simply the “default,” a privilege that is largely invisible to Americans.

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 1.2.1 Define the first three components of the iSoc perspective (identity, intersectionality, and inequality) as well as how they are interrelated.

Topic: Identity, Intersectionality, and Inequality

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

15) _____ aspects of identity are likely to be invisible to those who possess them.

- A) Privileged
- B) Marginalized
- C) Foreign
- D) New

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 1.2.1 Define the first three components of the iSoc perspective (identity, intersectionality, and inequality) as well as how they are interrelated.

Topic: Identity, Intersectionality, and Inequality

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

16) Which is a definition of interactions as a component of the iSoc perspective?

- A) conflicts throughout society created through social class divisions
- B) varying components of our identities that, in combination, have unique impacts on our life experience
- C) the behaviors with others we are forced to take due to the scripts defined by our identities
- D) conflict and cooperation between all the social institutions that govern our lives

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 1.2.2 Define the final two components of the iSoc perspective (interactions and institutions) as well as how they are interrelated.

Topic: Interactions and Institutions

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

- 17) Social institutions as a component of the iSoc perspective are _____.
- A) patterned sets of interactions that work to meet collective needs not met by individual action alone
 - B) formal, recognized social organizations with defined membership and leadership structures
 - C) media and educational organizations that work to construct positive identities for individuals in society
 - D) sites of social control, like prisons and asylums, that work to construct new identities for troublesome individuals

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 1.2.2 Define the final two components of the iSoc perspective (interactions and institutions) as well as how they are interrelated.

Topic: Interactions and Institutions

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

- 18) How should you use the five different “lenses” of the iSoc model, such as identity, institutions, interactions, and so on?
- A) Determine which one lens provides the superior explanation for you in most cases, and use only that one.
 - B) Use whatever lens, or combination of lenses, provides the best understanding of the social phenomenon you are studying.
 - C) Rank the lenses in terms of how useful you feel each one to be, and proceed through using them one by one, giving more focus to those you have determined are better.
 - D) Always examine a social phenomenon through all five lenses at once, as it is never useful to consider only one or two at a time.