

Chapter 1: The Sociological Mindset

Multiple Choice:

1. Sociologists evaluate assertions with _____.
 - a. “common sense” ideas
 - b. hearsay
 - c. anecdotes
 - d. objective evidence

Answer: d

Learning Objective: 1.2.1 Define the term sociology.

Topic: Definition of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

2. Which of the following is the best definition of sociology?
 - a. the scientific study of social structure and social interaction
 - b. the scientific study of American society
 - c. the objective science of common sense
 - d. the objective science of societies

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.1 Define the term sociology.

Topic: Definition of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

3. According to the text, the definition of sociology contains three key phrases that make sociology a unique discipline. Which of the following are those three key elements?
 - a. systematic observation, social interaction, social insight
 - b. sociological evidence, systematic observation, social structure
 - c. science, social structure, social interaction
 - d. social insight, science, sociological evidence

Answer: c

Learning Objective: 1.2.1 Define the term sociology.

Topic: Definition of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

4. Which of the following is true regarding Harriet Martineau?
 - a. She wrote *Society in America*, which has ideas consistent with modern sociology.
 - b. She translated from French the works of John Stuart Mill.
 - c. She was an American social theorist.
 - d. She believed women were supposed to fulfill domestic roles and rear children.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.1 Define the term sociology.

Topic: Definition of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate
Skill Level: Remember the Facts

5. When did sociology become a formal academic discipline?
- during the eighteenth century
 - during the early part of the nineteenth century
 - during the latter part of the nineteenth century
 - not until the early 1900s

Answer: c

Learning Objective: 1.2.1 Define the term sociology.

Topic: Definition of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

6. Which of the following best describes the global outlook of sociology?
- People all over the world study sociology in college classes.
 - Sociology focuses on individual cultures and therefore is not impacted by what transpires throughout the world.
 - What transpires in one part of the world affects our lives where we are.
 - All people are basically the same and can be catalogued through sociology.

Answer: c

Learning Objective: 1.2.2 Describe the global outlook of sociology.

Topic: Global Outlook of Sociology

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

7. The relatively permanent components of our social environment that influence our behavior, often without our being consciously aware of it, are known as _____.
- social interaction
 - social structure
 - personal milieu
 - sociology

Answer: b

Learning Objective: 1.3.1 Define social structure.

Topic: Definition of Social Structure

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

8. According to C. Wright Mills, the sociological imagination is made up of _____ and _____.
- common sense; social forces
 - social milieu; objective evidence
 - personal milieu; structural characteristics
 - structural characteristics; common sense

Answer: c

Learning Objective: 1.3.2 Explain what C. Wright Mills meant by the sociological

imagination.

Topic: Social Forces and Personal Milieu

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

9. Christine recently graduated from college with a degree in journalism, but despite several interviews with local newspapers, she has not yet been offered a job. According to C. Wright Mills, which of the following describes a factor in her *personal milieu* that might be contributing to her problems finding employment?
- The newspaper industry is struggling and there are fewer jobs to be filled.
 - Christine's clips from the school paper reveal that she is not a talented writer, and she has an abrasive personality that is apparent in interviews.
 - Many writing jobs have been outsourced to other countries.
 - With many journalists out of work, there is fierce competition for the reporting jobs Christine is seeking.

Answer: b

Learning Objective: 1.3.2 Explain what C. Wright Mills meant by the sociological imagination.

Topic: Social Forces and Personal Milieu

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

10. A consistent way of looking at some aspect of the social world is known as a(n) _____.
- perspective
 - opinion
 - ideology
 - hypothesis

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.4.1 Recognize what is meant by a sociological perspective.

Topic: What Is a Sociological Perspective?

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

11. The key to the conflict perspective is _____.
- social interaction
 - social power
 - sociological imagination
 - social cohesion

Answer: b

Learning Objective: 1.4.2 Describe the conflict perspective.

Topic: Conflict Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

12. Which of the following statements best explains how the conflict perspective addresses social change?
- a. Social change is impossible. Marx argued that change would never happen in capitalistic societies.
 - b. According to Marx, social change is built into society because people with fewer privileges will attempt to change their status.
 - c. Social change is unlikely because the subordinate group lacks the willpower to change their status.
 - d. Marx claimed that social change was possible, but it was only through the avenue of capitalism.

Answer: b

Learning Objective: 1.4.2 Describe the conflict perspective.

Topic: Conflict Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

13. _____, a central feature of the conflict perspective, is a realm of cultural ideas and values that support the ruling class and became part of the society's cultural belief system.
- a. Ideological illusion
 - b. Social institutions
 - c. Sociological imagination
 - d. Social power

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.4.2 Describe the conflict perspective.

Topic: Conflict Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

14. Rich politicians who favor tax cuts for the wealthy and other entitlements often are able to convince poor citizens that these policies will actually benefit them, even though they typically do not. Which theoretical perspective offers the best explanation for this type of cultural domination?
- a. conflict perspective
 - b. functional perspective
 - c. symbolic interaction perspective
 - d. sociological imagination

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.4.2 Describe the conflict perspective.

Topic: Conflict Perspective

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

15. _____ functions have unintended and often unrecognized consequences, whereas _____ functions are intended, recognized consequences.
- a. Manifest; latent

- b. Mechanical; organic
- c. Latent; manifest
- d. Organic; mechanical

Answer: c

Learning Objective: 1.4.3 Describe the functional perspective.

Topic: Functional Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

16. According to the functional perspective, which of the following is considered important for a society to operate efficiently?

- a. conflict
- b. interactions
- c. equilibrium
- d. power

Answer: c

Learning Objective: 1.4.3 Describe the functional perspective.

Topic: Functional Perspective

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

17. Durkheim claimed that people in small, traditional societies are socially integrated when everyone is socially much the same. What did he call this type of social cohesion?

- a. organic solidarity
- b. mechanical solidarity
- c. manifest functions
- d. latent functions

Answer: b

Learning Objective: 1.4.3 Describe the functional perspective.

Topic: Functional Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

18. _____ refers to social integration achieved through interdependence derived from differences among people.

- a. Organic solidarity
- b. Mechanical solidarity
- c. Manifest functions
- d. Latent functions

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.4.3 Describe the functional perspective.

Topic: Functional Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts