

Chapter 1 What Is Sociology?

1.1 Multiple Choice Questions

1.1.1 Sociology as a Way of Seeing

- 1) Your textbook discusses social order and social disorder, pointing out that these contradictions exist simultaneously and are related. What concept is illustrated by this phenomenon?
- A) either/or
 - B) both/and
 - C) macro/micro
 - D) theory/research

Answer: B

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 3

Skill: Comprehension

- 2) As a way of seeing the world, sociology sees
- A) a position, usually at one extreme or the other
 - B) common sense, that is, what “everyone” knows
 - C) either social order or social disorder, not both at once
 - D) both social order and social disorder, often simultaneously

Answer: D

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 3

Skill: Comprehension

- 3) A sociologist who notes changes in our society, for example from more conservative to more liberal, yet also notes that each group of Introductory Sociology students behaves in much the same way as the groups before, is using what perspective?
- A) both/and
 - B) conflict
 - C) political
 - D) structural-functional

Answer: A

Diff: Difficult Page Ref: 3–7

Skill: Application

- 4) Which of the following exemplifies the both/and view?
- A) Noting that despite poverty, the U.S. is overall a relatively wealthy country
 - B) People who have more than one role in society
 - C) Conducting a research project with both quantitative and qualitative analyses
 - D) society’s parts have latent as well as manifest functions

Answer: A

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 3–7

Skill: Analysis

- 5) Sociologists note that although obesity is common in the U.S., with emphasis on supersizing and all-you-can eat, many women strive for thinness to fit our culture’s image of beauty. This duality exemplifies what perspective?
- A) Functionalism
 - B) Both/and
 - C) Social conflict
 - D) Modernism

Answer: B

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 3–7

Skill Level: application

- 6) Sociology is the study of human behavior in _____.
A) Society
B) Sociometry
C) Social work
D) Socialism

Answer: A

Diff: Easy

Page Ref: 4

Skill: Knowledge

- 7) Which sociologist wrote of the “sociological imagination”?
A) C. Wright Mills
B) Karl Marx
C) Alexis de Tocqueville
D) Auguste Comte

Answer: A

Diff: Easy

Page Ref: 4

Skill: Knowledge

- 8) What does the “sociological imagination” classify our lives as?
A) Conflicted lives, torn between demands of modern society
B) Contrasting lives, with good and bad aspects
C) Contextual lives, understandable in social contexts
D) Convolved lives, complicated, often incomprehensible

Answer: C

Diff: Difficult

Page Ref: 4

Skill: Comprehension

- 9) Your text describes the concept of _____ as “connecting our lives to the large-scale events in the world, seeing the impact of such things . . . on our sense of ourselves and our . . . interactions with others.” (p 4)
A) Structural Functionalism
B) Symbolic Interaction
C) The Sociological Imagination
D) Conflict Theory

Answer: C

Diff: Moderate

Page Ref: 4

Skill: Comprehension

- 10) Which of these is an interest of sociology, as opposed to other subjects?
A) Artistic visions of the society of the authors
B) Processes of individuals who act rationally in markets
C) Real life systematic observation of society
D) How everyday problems can be remedied by therapeutic intervention

Answer: C

Diff: Moderate

Page Ref: 9

Skill: Comprehension

- 11) *What is meant by the concept of social order?
A) a low volume of crime in a given area
B) how the components of a society function together
C) the type of government in place, such as a democracy
D) who is recognized as the most prestigious in a society

Answer: B

Diff: Moderate

Page Ref: 6

Skill: Comprehension

1.1.2 Doing Sociology

- 12) What type of science is sociology?
- A) Soft
 - B) Psychological
 - C) Social
 - D) none — it is not a science

Answer: C

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 9

Skill: Knowledge

- 13) Sociology uses which of the following as part of its scientific approach to interpret social behavior?
- A) Bias
 - B) Systematic observations
 - C) Simple common sense
 - D) Preconceptions

Answer: B

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 9

Skill: Comprehension

- 14) People don't behave as predictably as the subject matter of other sciences,
- A) therefore we can't test hypotheses in sociological research
 - B) however we can test hypotheses to study patterns of behaviors
 - C) thus sociology can not use any methods that are in other sciences
 - D) however sociologists use the same methods as chemists and biologists to study human "objects".

Answer: B

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 9

Skill: Comprehension

- 15) Sociologists who are testing hypotheses based on empirical observations of social phenomena are looking for
- A) open ended questions
 - B) feelings
 - C) the human spirit
 - D) scientific facts

Answer: D

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 9

Skill: Comprehension

- 16) Sociologists who are looking for "the human spirit" are most likely to
- A) ask open-ended questions about how people feel in society
 - B) test hypotheses based on empirical observations of social phenomena
 - C) examine the predictive power of human behavior with quantitative methods
 - D) find similarities with other sciences such as biologists and chemists

Answer: A

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 9

Skill: Comprehension

- 17) Commonsense descriptions about society, such as "women are natural nurturers" or "men are naturally aggressive,"
- A) Are stereotypical
 - B) Are not true for anybody
 - C) Cannot be scientifically tested
 - D) Are universal and timeless

Answer: A

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 10

Skill: comprehension

- 18) According to sociology, the events and problems of today
- A) Have contemporary roots
 - B) Are often random
 - C) Are the result of large-scale forces
 - D) Pre-determine the future

Answer: C

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 11

Skill: Comprehension

- 19) Regarding individuals, sociology
- A) Connects them to larger processes of stability and change that compose history
 - B) Tends to ignore them and focus instead of much larger-scale institutional phenomena
 - C) Emphasizes the importance of human nature
 - D) Notes the universal and timeless characteristics of individuals

Answer: A

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 10–11

Skill: Comprehension

- 20) _____ note(s) the universality of patterns such men and women being so different they seem to be from separate planets (Mars and Venus).
- A) Psychological experiments
 - B) Physiological analyses
 - C) Sociological research
 - D) Common sense stereotypes

Answer: D

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 10

Skill: Comprehension

- 21) Explanations that human behavior is “hardwired” focus on
- A) Nurture
 - B) Quantitative research
 - C) The sociological perspective
 - D) Nature

Answer: D

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 10

Skill: Knowledge

- 22) *While conducting research, sociologists engage in _____.
- A) systematic observation and hypothesis testing
 - B) strictly quantitative methods of analysis
 - C) only intuitive methods of ensuring validity
 - D) strictly qualitative research

Answer: A

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 9

Skill: Knowledge

1.1.3 Where did Sociology come from?

- 23) Which of these was an outcome of the “Enlightenment”?
- A) Use of reason to understand the relationship of the individual and society.
 - B) Use of faith alone to understand the relationship of the individual and society.
 - C) A rejection of the rationalist approach.
 - D) An embrace of the divine authority of the monarchy.

Answer: A

Diff: Difficult Page Ref: 11–12

Skill: Analysis

- 24) Which of the following, according to John Locke, play(s) an essential role in people joining together in a society?
- A) Psychological agreements
 - B) Social contracts
 - C) Cultural conscience
 - D) Contracts based on the divine authority of the monarchy

Answer: B

Diff: Difficult Page Ref: 11

Skill: Knowledge

- 25) Mary Wollstonecraft (1759–1797) argued that
- A) Women have absolutely no power with men
 - B) Society can't progress if half its members are kept backward
 - C) Society can't progress unless women gain power over men
 - D) In order for society to progress, women must use their power to seduce men

Answer: B

Diff: Difficult Page Ref: 12

Skill: knowledge

- 26) Who first coined the term *sociology*?
- A) Auguste Comte
 - B) Karl Marx
 - C) Emile Durkheim
 - D) Max Weber

Answer: A

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 13

Skill: Knowledge

- 27) According to Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy:
- A) only enhances human freedom
 - B) only erodes human freedom
 - C) can both enhance and erode human freedom
 - D) has nothing to do with human freedom

Answer: C

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 14

Skill: comprehension

- 28) Which is a central component of Karl Marx's theoretical framework?
- A) Social engineering
 - B) Democracy
 - C) Racism
 - D) Capitalism

Answer: D

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 14

Skill: Knowledge

- 29) What central insight was illustrated in Emile Durkheim's study of suicide?
- A) Society is held together by solidarity.
 - B) Suicide is the ultimate individual act.
 - C) The less people have, the more likely they are to commit suicide.
 - D) Capitalism is a major factor in suicide.

Answer: A

Diff: Difficult Page Ref: 15

Skill: Comprehension

- 30) According to Durkheim, in modern society, with the division of labor and diverse and conflicting interests, society is held together with
- A) Mechanical solidarity
 - B) Communal Competition
 - C) Organic solidarity
 - D) Structural-Functionalism

Answer: C

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 15

Skill: Comprehension

- 31) Max Weber connected Protestantism to the material success and economic profit of what economic system?
- A) communism
 - B) Socialism
 - C) capitalism
 - D) feudalism

Answer: B

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 16–17

Skill: Comprehension

- 32) Sociology came to the United States
- A) When Marx, Weber, and Durkheim went on a speaking tour of major US universities.
 - B) When American sociologists applied the ideas of European sociology to the American experience.
 - C) During the Revolutionary War
 - D) During the Civil Rights and Women's Movements

Answer: B

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 18

Skill: Knowledge

- 33) Lester Ward stressed the need for social planning and reform, and rebelled against the _____ model which saw each succeeding society as improving on the one before it.
- A) Functionalist
 - B) Symbolic Interactionist
 - C) Post Modernist
 - D) Social Darwinism

Answer: D

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 19

Skill: Comprehension

- 34) Frederick Douglass's principle theme was that _____ was learned, and thus could be unlearned.
- A) Language
 - B) Slaveholding
 - C) Feminism
 - D) Capitalism

Answer: B

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 18–29

Skill: knowledge

- 35) Charlotte Perkins Gilman, who wrote *Women and Economics* in 1898, noted that
- A) women were socialized toward feminine traits such as docility.
 - B) women who exhibited masculine characteristics such as leadership were more successful
 - C) the more successful marriages were those in which men and women shared tasks equally
 - D) women who earned their living had to suppress characteristics such as feebleness

Answer: A

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 19

Skill: Comprehension

- 36) W.E.B. Du Bois wrote that “the problem with the twentieth century was the problem of _____.”

A) Modernism
 B) Poverty
 C) The Great Depression
 D) The color line

Answer: D

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 20

Skill: knowledge

- 37) George Herbert Mead developed a social theory of the “self”, emphasizing

A) Nature
 B) Class, status, and party
 C) The generalized other
 D) The importance of Social Darwinism in influencing our social beings.

Answer: C

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 20

Skill: Knowledge

- 38) *Before the full impact of the Industrial Revolution, the source of one's identity was through one's _____.

A) religion
 B) status or kinship
 C) work or workplace
 D) educational level

Answer: B

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 12

Skill: Knowledge

1.1.4 Contemporary Sociology

- 39) Which of the following represent the two main focuses of Contemporary Sociology in the United States?

A) nature and nurture
 B) psychological and anthropological
 C) science and religion
 D) the self and social order

Answer: D

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 21

Skill: Knowledge

- 40) Which *best describes* symbolic interactionism?

A) People's interactions with their environment help them develop a sense of “self.”
 B) People's interactions create social cohesion, stability, and equilibrium for society.
 C) People are integrated into various levels of the social world via inequity.
 D) People are integrated into the social world through shared values and traditions.

Answer: A

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 21

Skill: Comprehension

- 41) Talcott Parsons' structural functionalism stresses

A) balance and equilibrium among societies' parts
 B) competition and inequality between the powerful and powerless
 C) development of individuals' sense of self through interactions with others
 D) the unequal distribution of social rewards in the social structure

Answer: A

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 22

Skill: Knowledge

- 42) According to Robert K. Merton, parts of society have functions that are _____ if they are intended and _____ if they are unintended.

<u>Intended</u>	<u>Unintended</u>
A) latent	manifest
B) concrete	abstract
C) manifest	latent
D) abstract	concrete

Answer: C

Diff: moderate Page Ref: 22

Skill: Knowledge

- 43) In the United States, public education transmits knowledge and also provides free “babysitting” for school-age children, which, in turn, could allow both parents to be employed. Free babysitting would be considered a
- A) Macro-level effect
 - B) Qualitative effect
 - C) Manifest function
 - D) Latent function

Answer: D

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 22

Skill: Application

- 44) Which theory suggests that the constant struggles between the “haves” and the “have-nots” were the organizing principle of society?
- A) Functionalist theory
 - B) Symbolic Interaction theory
 - C) Conflict theory
 - D) Social Darwinism

Answer: C

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 25

Skill: knowledge

- 45) Which *best describes* multiculturalism?
- A) The understanding of the dominant culture
 - B) The understanding of the minority or subculture
 - C) The understanding of many different cultures
 - D) The understanding of counterculture movements

Answer: C

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 24

Skill: Knowledge

- 46) _____ refers to the economic, political, cultural, and social interconnections among different groups all over the world.
- A) Universalism
 - B) Globalization
 - C) Relativism
 - D) Particularism

Answer: B

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 24

Skill: Knowledge

- 47) George Ritzer coined what term for the homogenizing spread of consumerism around the world?
- A) McDonaldization
 - B) Ethnocentrism
 - C) Multiculturalism
 - D) Mass Society

Answer: A

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 27

Skill: Knowledge

- 48) In the Postmodern conception of the world,
- A) the fundamentals of society are all challenged.
 - B) Rather than using religious explanations, analyses are more scientific than ever
 - C) The meaning of social life is found in conforming to rigid patterns of development
 - D) Society is recognized as having less freedom

Answer: A

Diff: Difficult Page Ref: 29

Skill: Comprehension

- 49) *Conflict theorists believe that _____.
- A) only the lowest social group in a society is in conflict
 - B) societies in decline exhibit conflict, while stable societies do not
 - C) productive societies are the result of resolved internal conflicts
 - D) those who have power always seek to maintain it

Answer: D

Diff: Difficult Page Ref: 23

Skill: Comprehension

1.1.5 Sociology in the 21st Century, Sociology and You

- 50) The percentages of non-whites and women within the field of sociology since 1966 has seen what change?
- A) A slight decrease
 - B) A substantial decrease
 - C) An increase
 - D) No change

Answer: B

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 30

Skill: Evaluation

- 51) Your text points out that the Wall Street Journal rated Sociologist as
- A) The best job in America
 - B) One of the best jobs in America
 - C) An average job
 - D) A poor job

Answer: B

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 30

Skill: knowledge

- 52) Sociology is
- A) a way of seeing the many differences and similarities in social life.
 - B) a profession dedicated to helping people cope with individual problems
 - C) a field that is not at all diverse; it is dominated by white men
 - D) an area that exists only in colleges and universities

Answer: A

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 30

Skill: knowledge

- 53) According to your text, sociology's mission is the understanding of different groups
- A) focusing primarily on white men as the norm
 - B) to determine their appropriateness for society
 - C) to exclude those that should be marginalized
 - D) without value judgments

Answer: D

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 30

Skill: comprehension

- 54) Which of the following is correct about diversity on college campuses?
- A) Gays and lesbians are typically expelled for violating morals codes
 - B) Racial and ethnic minorities dominate colleges these days
 - C) Racial minorities are excluded from most campuses
 - D) Women outnumber men on almost every campus

Answer: D

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 30

Skill Level: Knowledge

- 55) *Since 1966, the percentage of BA degrees in sociology awarded to women has increased over _____ percent.

- A) 60
- B) 70
- C) 80
- D) 90

Answer: D

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 30

Skill Level: Knowledge

1.2 Fill in the Blank Questions

1.2.1 Sociology as a Way of Seeing

- 1) Sociologists who look at contrasts such as the decline in literacy among American teenagers as well as a high level of competition at our elite schools are taking the _____ view.

Answer: Both/And

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 7

Skill Level: Knowledge

- 2) Sociologists look at both how society fits together, called Social _____, and how it seems to be coming apart, called Social _____.

Answer: Order, Disorder

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 3

Skill Level: Knowledge

- 3) C. Wright Mills wrote of the "sociological _____"

Answer: imagination

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 4

Skill Level: Knowledge

- 4) The "sociological imagination" points out that our lives must be understood in social _____.

Answer: contexts

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 4

Skill Level: Knowledge

1.2.2 Doing Sociology

- 5) Sociology uses systematic _____ as part of its scientific approach to interpret social behavior.

Answer: observations

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 9

Skill: comprehension

- 6) Many “commonsense” descriptions of social life, such as “women are more nurturing,” are not true for everyone, and are based on _____.

Answer: stereotypes

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 10

Skill: knowledge

- 7) Very often, what we observe to be true turns out, after sociological examination, to be _____.

Answer: not true (or not entirely true)

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 10

Skill: comprehension

- 8) Sociology looks at the _____ of different forces, such as nature and nurture.

Answer: interaction

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 11

Skill: comprehension

1.2.3 Where did Sociology come from?

- 9) Sociology emerged in _____ in the early nineteenth century.

Answer: Europe

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 11

Skill: knowledge

- 10) The _____ reorganized the production of goods from a craft system to large-scale factory production.

Answer: Industrial Revolution

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 12

Skill: knowledge

- 11) _____ coined the term *sociology*.

Answer: Auguste Comte

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 13

Skill: knowledge

- 12) Tocqueville discussed the United States as the embodiment of _____.

Answer: Democracy

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 13–14

Skill: Knowledge

- 13) Karl Marx's central interest was the _____ economic system.

Answer: Capitalist

Diff: moderate Page Ref: 14

Skill: Knowledge

- 14) The two forms of solidarity described by Durkheim are _____ and _____.

Answer: Mechanical; Organic

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 17

Skill: Knowledge

- 15) According to Max Weber, the characteristic form of modern organizations is _____.

Answer: bureaucratic

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 17

Skill: knowledge

- 16) According to Thorsten Veblen's *The Theory of the Leisure Class* (1899), the wealthy visibly displayed their wealth in what he called _____.

Answer: conspicuous consumption

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 18

Skill: knowledge

1.2.4 Contemporary Sociology

- 17) The _____ perspective examines how an individual's interactions with his or her environment — other people, institutions, ideas — help a person develop a sense of “self.”

Answer: Symbolic Interaction

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 21

Skill: Knowledge

- 18) Schools are supposed to transmit knowledge, which is a _____ function.

Answer: Manifest

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 22

Skill: Application

- 19) According to _____ theory, constant struggles between haves and have-nots are the organizing principle of society.

Answer: conflict

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 23

Skill: knowledge

- 20) Nations that are interconnected through economic, political, cultural and social means bringing together different groups of people all over the world are an example of _____.

Answer: Globalization

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 24

Skill: Application

- 21) Research related to globalization focuses on _____ level analysis of processes such as the global marketplace, corporations, and transnational institutions.

Answer: macro

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 24

Skill: comprehension

- 22) George Ritzer calls the increasing homogeneity around the world _____.

Answer: McDonaldization

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 27

Skill: knowledge

- 23) The idea that society is moving from a less developed to a more developed (and therefore better) stage is associated with the idea of _____.

Answer: modernism

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 27

Skill: knowledge

- 24) In the _____ concept of the world, the fundamentals of society are all challenged and fluctuating.

Answer: Postmodernism

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 28

Skill: Knowledge

1.2.5 Sociology in the 21st Century, Sociology and You

- 25) Since 1966, the percentage of sociology degrees awarded to women has _____

Answer: increased

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 30

Skill: knowledge

1.3 True/False Questions

1.3.1 Sociology as a Way of Seeing

- 1) Sociology focuses on the common sense approach of either/or by taking either one perspective or the other.

Answer: FALSE (sociology focuses on both/and, seeing both sides or perspectives of seeming opposites)

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 3

Skill Level: Comprehension

- 2) A sociologist who notices that despite constant change, society is still quite stable is using the both/and view.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 3–7

Skill Level: Knowledge

- 3) The Sociological Imagination is a way of viewing our lives in the context of the larger social world, seeing the effects on our sense of self and interactions with others

Answer: TRUE

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 4

Skill: comprehension

1.3.2 Doing Sociology

- 4) Sociologists who are testing hypotheses based on empirical observations of social phenomena are looking for scientific facts.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 9

Skill: comprehension

- 5) Commonsense stereotypes, but not Sociology, include beliefs such as “women are more nurturing” and “men are more aggressive”

Answer: TRUE

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 9

Skill: comprehension

1.3.3 Where did Sociology come from?

- 6) During the Enlightenment, sociologists relied on the concepts of faith and divine authority to explain social life.

Answer: FALSE (no, reason was used to understand the relationship of the individual and society)

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 11–12

Skill: comprehension

- 7) Weber's emphasis on "value free" sociology means that personal evaluations must be separate from scientific pronouncements.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 16

Skill: knowledge

1.3.4 Contemporary Sociology

- 8) A manifest function of our education system is to meet potential dating and marriage partners.

Answer: FALSE (no, this is a latent function)

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 22

Skill: comprehension

- 9) Examination of globalization generally focuses on micro-level analysis.

Answer: FALSE (macro, not micro)

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 24

Skill: comprehension

1.3.5 Sociology in the 21st Century, Sociology and You

- 10) The mission of sociology is to understand different groups without using value judgments.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 30

Skill: comprehension

1.4 Short Answer Questions

1.4.1 Sociology as a Way of Seeing

- 1) Give an example of the "both/and" characteristic of sociology.

Answer: Divorce rates are high but most divorced people remarry, or the U.S. has a great deal of poverty but is also one of the wealthiest nations in the world, or another contrasting example.

Diff: Easy Page Ref: 4–5

Skill Level: Comprehension

1.4.2 Doing Sociology

- 2) Explain how the "subject matter" of sociology differs from that of other sciences.

Answer: People are not as predictable as rocks or chemicals

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 9

Skill: comprehension

- 3) Sociologists looking for "the human spirit" ask what kinds of questions?

Answer: open ended questions about how people feel in society

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 9

Skill: knowledge

- 4) Compare, with an example, common sense and sociology.

Answer: "women are naturally nurturing," or "men are naturally aggressive," or student's own example; these examples are based on stereotypes that men and women are "built" that way, rather than that they may seem or turn out that way. What seems true often turns out to be not true (or not to be entirely true) after sociological examination.

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 10

Skill: comprehension

1.4.3 Where did Sociology come from?

- 5) What was the enlightenment, and what did this have to do with sociology?

Answer: During the “Enlightenment,” or “Age of Reason,” reason was used to understand the relationship of the individual and society (as opposed to faith or divine authority of the monarchy). Sociology applies the ideas of the Enlightenment (reason) to the study of society.

Diff: Difficult *Page Ref: 12*
Skill: comprehension

- 6) Marx wrote of a problem between two groups. Identify the two groups and describe the problem.

Answer: owners (capitalists, bourgeoisie) and workers (laborers, proletariat), capitalism created greed and materialism, exchange of money and services between owners and workers was unequal, with very low wages.

Diff: Difficult *Page Ref: 14–15*
Skill: comprehension

1.4.4 Contemporary Sociology

- 7) Explain the functionalist perspective and explain, with an example, what functions are.

Answer: every part of society has a function (purpose) to reproduce society (or keep society in equilibrium and balance). Example: a function of education is to transmit knowledge.

Diff: Moderate *Page Ref: 22*
Skill: Knowledge

- 8) What does conflict theory suggest about how societies are organized?

Answer: Society is organized by the constant struggles between haves and have-nots (powerful and powerless, rich and poor).

Diff: Moderate *Page Ref: 23*
Skill: Comprehension

- 9) According to symbolic interactionism, an individual’s “sense of self” is created through interactions with what?

Answer: Through interactions with their environment — people, institutions, ideas.

Diff: Moderate *Page Ref: 21*
Skill: comprehension

1.4.5 Sociology in the 21st Century, Sociology and You

- 10) How has the diversity of people in sociology changed since the 1960s?

Answer: there are many more women and racial/ethnic minorities in sociology; many more sociology degrees have been awarded to women and racial/ethnic minorities.

Diff: Easy *Page Ref: 30*
Skill: knowledge

1.5 Essay Questions

- 1) Your textbook authors assert that, “Sociology is always wrestling with two immense and seemingly contradictory questions, social order and social disorder” (pg 3). Identify and explain, with examples, the view illustrated by this statement, and explain what this has to do with common sense.

Answer: A good essay will identify the Both/And view, give examples such as high rates of both divorce and remarriage or high rates of poverty in a wealthy country, and discuss how the fact that these contrasts or opposites can simultaneously exist is not common sense.

Diff: moderate *Page: 3–7*
Skill: comprehension

- 2) Where did Sociology come from? Where and during what period was it developed, and what challenges and transformations were taking place? How did key figures during this time view individuals and society?

Answer: A good answer will include Europe, nineteenth century, Enlightenment or Age of Reason, challenges to the divine right of kings and to monarchy, Locke: society formed through rational decisions of free individuals (or discussion of a “social contract”), Rousseau: private property creates inequality, but society enhances freedom if people are equal. Wollstonecraft: society couldn’t progress if women were kept backward. Essays could also note that these ideas contributed to Jefferson’s work on the Declaration of Independence, that the monarchies were being replaced by republics, and that the Industrial Revolution was changing the nature of work and people’s relationships to work.

Diff: Difficult *Page Ref: 11–12*

Skill: comprehension

- 3) One of the classic founders of sociology was Karl Marx. Discuss Marx’s main ideas about capitalism and class struggles. Who was struggling with whom, why, and what did Marx feel would happen?

Answer: Capitalism focuses on wealth and property, that there are two classes, the workers (labor, proletariat) and the owners (capitalists), that the exchange of money and services is unequal, that workers can’t afford to consume the products they are creating, that capitalists compete with each other, and that the system will lead to its own destruction as the workers revolt.

Diff: Moderate *Page Ref: 14–15*

Skill: comprehension

- 4) Emile Durkheim’s study of suicide is considered a major work in sociology. Discuss Durkheim’s findings regarding suicide, and how he explained that suicide was not just an individual act. What social factors or statuses did he find were related to suicide? How did Durkheim explain these relationships? Explain the forms of suicide that he identified, and how they relate to this model.

Answer: Durkheim found that suicide varied by factors (or statuses) such as Religion (Protestants more than Catholics or Jews), Age (Young and old more than middle-aged), Marital status (single more than married), gender (men more than women), and Employment (Unemployed more than employed). He explained these relationships with the concept of “integration”, that the statuses less associated with suicide were more integrated into the community and also had more norms that led to more “regulation.” He identified four forms of suicide: egoistic (too little integration), Altruistic (too much integration), Anomic (too little regulation), and Fatalistic (too much regulation).

Diff: Difficult *Page Ref: 16*

Skill: Comprehension

- 5) Compare the three major paradigms of sociology, Symbolic Interactionism, Structural Functionalism, and Conflict Theories. Discuss the focus of each, and identify the level of analysis.

Answer: Symbolic Interactionism — how individuals’ interactions with their environments (other people, institutions) help people develop their sense of self as well as the meanings of objects (or parts) of society; micro level. Structural Functionalism — focus on stability and order, society tends toward balance and equilibrium, every part of society has a function (or purpose); macro level. Conflict Theory — society allocates resources unequally, the US is based on inequality, the unequal distribution of rewards, those with power try to maintain it while those without power try to change the system so there are constant struggles between haves and have-nots; macro level.

Diff: Difficult *Page Ref: 21–24*

Skill: comprehension

1.6 Open Book Questions

- 1) Choose one of the illustrations in the first section of Chapter 1, either the photograph of flood victims on page 2, that of people on the beach in page 3, or city streets on page 7, and discuss how the photograph illustrates the both/and view explained in the chapter.

Answer: Pg 2: the people are experiencing a disaster yet are staying together, and appear to be patiently waiting for help. The situation illustrates both social disorganization (they and probably many others are losing their homes) and social order (staying together, waiting for help).

Pg 3: This photograph appears to show three generations, elderly, middle-aged, and young. Our society has both a widespread perspective that the elderly are frail and infirm, and we also have a view of the elderly being able to travel and enjoy time with their children and grandchildren.

Pg 4: The picture shows busses, pedestrians, and small carts or taxis sharing a very crowded street. There is both social disorder, in that it looks like a chaotic mess, and order, in that the traffic keeps moving and the busses aren't running over people.

Difficulty: 4 Page: 3–7

Skill: Analysis

- 2) Refer to the sections on Sociology and Science and Common Sense, on pages 9–11, and especially to the What Do You Think box on Page 10. How scientific is sociology? How do sociologists try to be scientific despite the fact that our subjects (people) are not as predictable as rocks or chemicals? What factors do you think might relate to whether people believed sociology was, or was not, scientific?

- 3) Refer to Table 1.1 “Contrasting the “Old Regime” and the New Social Order” on page 12. What led to the changes from the old regime to the new regime listed?

Answer: The changes were led by the Enlightenment, the American Revolution, the French Revolution, and the Industrial Revolution. Changes included challenges to the “divine right of kings”, and the downfall of monarchies, as well as more emphasis on the individual in society. In addition, there was less reliance on religion as an explanation of social life, and more emphasis on science.

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 12, Table 1.1

Skill: analysis

- 4) What does Figure 1.1, An Alternative View Of The World on page 27, show, and what does this mean? Why are some areas larger, and some smaller? Discuss the differences between the “larger” and “smaller” countries or areas of the world.

Answer: The map shows inequality in GDP, or Gross Domestic Product per capita of each region, which means that there is unequal distribution of wealth (or inequality). There are a few larger or “swollen” areas and lots of smaller or “shriveled” areas. The rich countries are much richer than the poor ones. Western Europe, North America, Japan and South Korea have a greater GDP and are much wealthier areas, while Africa and South America, which are much poorer regions, have a smaller GDP. An excellent essay would point out the both/and perspective that helps us see that, in various ways, the few rich countries are rich because the many poor countries are poor (or vice versa).

Diff: Moderate Page Ref: 27

Skill: comprehension