

Chapter 2: Studying the Family

2.1 Quick Quiz

1. Why are theories and research on marriage and family important in our everyday lives?
 - A. They give people complete answers to raise healthy, successful families.
 - B. They use case studies of families that are a lot worse off than our own.
 - C. They improve people's ability to make informed decisions in their own families.
 - D. They rely primarily on age-old information instead of the latest empirical studies.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 2.1 Describe three ways that theory and research can help people make better decisions about their families.

Topic: Why Theories and Research Are Important in Our Everyday Lives

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

2. According to structural-functional theory, the instrumental roles in a family are typically seen as the responsibility of the _____.
 - A. marriage therapist
 - B. parents of the couple
 - C. wife
 - D. husband

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

3. According to the conflict theorists, _____.
 - A. there is continuous tension between the haves and have-nots
 - B. conflict among people would best be avoided
 - C. a society is a stable and cooperative system
 - D. families help eliminate the systems of social stratification

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

4. Student course evaluations are an example of _____.
 - A. face-to-face interviews
 - B. secondary analysis
 - C. participant observation
 - D. self-administered questionnaires

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

5. Jim and Ryan work as researchers at Palmer Corp., a retail firm. Currently, they are discussing whether they should use field observation to assess the public image of a newly launched product. Jim states that field observation would be the best method to assess the market. However, Ryan

disagrees. Which of the following statements, if true, is likely to support Ryan's argument?

- A. Researchers at Palmer Corp. have found that field research is a more flexible method than other research methods.
- B. Most researchers at Palmer Corp. are trained and qualified to conduct field observation across different market segments efficiently.
- C. In the past, Jim has gathered reliable and accurate market data with the use of field observation.
- D. It's often difficult to maintain objectivity while collecting and interpreting the data.

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

6. Examination of data that have been collected by someone else is known as _____.
- A. focus group study
 - B. secondary analysis
 - C. survey research
 - D. non-participant observation

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

7. Which of the following is true of content analysis?
- A. It can be labor intensive.
 - B. It does not permit comparisons over time.
 - C. It can be applied solely to oral communication.
 - D. It is an obtrusive approach.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

8. Lin, who works at a youth information center, is conducting a social intervention to prevent the negative outcomes of teenage pregnancy. Once the social intervention is complete, she will assess whether the intervention generated the expected results by conducting surveys. In such a scenario, Lin is using the _____.
- A. experiment method
 - B. evaluation method
 - C. nonparticipant observation method
 - D. secondary analysis method

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

9. According to the American Sociological Association, researchers must get a participant's _____ consent.
- A. informed

- B. confidential
- C. hidden
- D. "do no harm"

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.4 Describe the ethical standards that researchers must follow, and explain the political, religious, and community constraints that researchers encounter.

Topic: Ethics, Politics, and Family Research

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

10. Dr. Ellen wishes to study adolescent sexual behavior in her local community in order to better understand patterns of teen pregnancy. Which of the following is an example of a possible challenge she might face in pursuing her research?
- A. Teens rarely engage in sexual behavior.
 - B. Teen pregnancy is very low in the U.S.
 - C. Some religious groups and politicians may oppose studies on teen sexuality.
 - D. There is no way to complete her research ethically.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

2.2 Test Questions

1. Which of the following is true of self-help books and articles?
- A. They make people feel better about themselves.
 - B. They support non-traditional gender roles.
 - C. They oversimplify complex problems.
 - D. They rely solely on empirical evidence.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 2.1 Describe three ways that theory and research can help people make better decisions about their families.

Topic: Why Theories and Research Are Important in Our Everyday Lives

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

2. The idea that vaccines cause autism has been disproven by scientists, but some individuals continue to believe it to be true. This can result in serious illness and even death due to failure to vaccinate. Which of the practical reasons why theory and research are important does this demonstrate?
- A. What we don't know can hurt us.
 - B. Theories and research help us understand ourselves and our families.
 - C. Theories and research improve our ability to think more critically and make informed decisions in our own families.
 - D. Common sense always matches up with theories and research.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.1 Describe three ways that theory and research can help people make better decisions about their families.

Topic: Why Theories and Research Are Important in Our Everyday Lives

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

3. A set of statements that explains why a particular phenomenon occurs is called a(n) _____.
A. observation

- B. role
- C. function
- D. theory

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

4. Which theory focuses on how the parts of a society work together in ensuring the survival of the whole?
- A. the structural functional perspective
 - B. the conflict perspective
 - C. the social exchange perspective
 - D. the symbolic interaction perspective

Answer: A

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

5. Lily, a wife and a mother of two children, plays the role of a homemaker. Her day-to-day work involves doing household chores, preparing meals for her family, and keeping the house clean. According to the structural functional theory, Lily is performing a(n) _____ role.
- A. primary
 - B. instrumental
 - C. expressive
 - D. implied

Answer: C

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

6. According to the structural-functional theory, the expressive role is typically seen as the responsibility of the _____.
- A. wife
 - B. husband
 - C. children
 - D. grandparents

Answer: A

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

7. The _____ involves providing the emotional support and nurturing that sustains the family unit.
- A. instrumental role
 - B. expressive role
 - C. latent role
 - D. breadwinner's role

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

8. According to structural-functionalism, family roles are functional because they create and preserve _____.

- A. social change
- B. individualism
- C. flexibility and adaptability
- D. order and stability

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

9. Which of the following is true of latent functions?

- A. They are clearly recognized.
- B. They are publicized.
- C. They are evident.
- D. They are unintended.

Answer: D

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

10. Marriages primarily symbolize the formation of a legal union. As a secondary function, they provide a hands-off message to past lovers. The secondary function is referred to as a(n) _____.

- A. manifest function
- B. latent function
- C. expressive function
- D. instrumental function

Answer: B

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

11. Structural functionalism has been criticized for being _____.

- A. liberal
- B. radical
- C. focused on social change
- D. conservative

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

12. Which of the following is a criticism of structural functionalism?
- A. It focuses excessively on how families interact on a daily basis.
 - B. It does not study families on a macro-level.
 - C. It tends to emphasize order and stability and ignore social change.
 - D. It emphasizes the structure of nontraditional families instead of traditional families.

Answer: C

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

13. Margaret believes that the structural-functional theory holds a narrow and diminished scope. She states that it does not take into account the different ethnic backgrounds of families while studying them. Which of the following, if true, is likely to support her claim?
- A. The structural functional theory views families through a white, male, middle-class lens.
 - B. The structural functional theory overemphasizes the importance of social change.
 - C. The structural functional theory ignores the need for social order and stability in society.
 - D. The structural functional theory states that disagreements are a normal part of family life.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

14. Which theory examines the ways in which groups disagree, struggle for power, and compete for scarce resources?
- A. the structural functional theory
 - B. the social exchange theory
 - C. the conflict theory
 - D. the symbolic interaction theory

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

15. Which of the following did the conflict theory advocate?
- A. Societies are stable and cooperative systems.
 - B. Difficulties in families are a result of individual shortcomings.
 - C. The process of conflict changing traditional roles is natural.
 - D. Conflict promotes structures and values that are more oppressive.

Answer: C

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

16. The _____ proposes that the struggle for power and competition for wealth is desirable because it improves people's lives.
- A. structural-functional theory
 - B. family systems theory
 - C. symbolic interaction theory

D. conflict theory

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

17. According to conflict theory _____ dominate political and economic decision making in U.S. society.

- A. poor women
- B. wealthy middle-aged men
- C. young children
- D. middle class minorities

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

18. A criticism of the conflict theory is that it overemphasizes conflict and coercion at the expense of _____.

- A. changes in traditional roles
- B. competition, power, and control
- C. order and stability
- D. male dominance

Answer: C

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

19. Clarice Thompson, an academician and scholar, believes that all individuals, irrespective of gender, should have equal social, economic, and political rights in a society. Clarice is most likely to be a _____.

- A. conflict theorist
- B. symbolic interactionist
- C. social exchange theorist
- D. feminist

Answer: D

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

20. George, a sociologist and a critic of the feminist theory, is of the opinion that feminist theorists do not use a balanced approach and that such theories are usually biased toward women's issues. Which of the following is an accurate statement that strengthens George's view?

- A. Feminist theories often concentrate on men and their attitudes toward women.
- B. Feminist theories assume that most homemakers voluntarily choose to perform this role over others.
- C. Feminist theories are often based on case studies of African-American or Asian men and women.
- D. Feminist theories fail to concentrate on other forms of oppression such as disability and religious

tolerance.

Answer: D

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

21. Anthony believes that feminist theories are an effective way to understand families. Which of the following statements is an accurate statement that strengthens his view?

- A. Feminists overlook commonalities in families that make them more similar than different.
- B. Feminists advocate that women should be given more rights and privileges than men.
- C. Feminists that focus on diversity often include different forms of family structure.
- D. Feminists focus on wage inequality but ignore personal issues.

Answer: C

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analyze It

22. Johanna, a feminist, believes that modern day feminist theories provide a comprehensive evaluation of families that emphasize larger, more important issues. Which of the following statements supports her argument?

- A. A majority of feminist theorists today have shifted focus from personal issues to social issues.
- B. Most feminist theories today fail to include issues such as minimum wage for women.
- C. Feminist theories are often written by theorists who emphasize the importance of gender equality.
- D. Modern feminist theories emphasize different forms of oppression such as religious intolerance.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

23. The interconnected behaviors, roles, and relationships that influence a person's daily life are called the _____.

- A. exosystem
- B. mesosystem
- C. macrosystem
- D. microsystem

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

24. The _____ comprises the most immediate settings such as the family.

- A. microsystem
- B. macrosystem
- C. exosystem
- D. mesosystem

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families
Difficulty Level: Easy
Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

25. The _____ consists of the settings or events which people do not experience directly, but which can affect their development.
- A. microsystem
 - B. exosystem
 - C. macrosystem
 - D. mesosystem

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

26. For children, their parent's employment is part of the _____.
- A. microsystem
 - B. macrosystem
 - C. exosystem
 - D. mesosystem

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

27. Sean, a sociologist, argues that ecological theories are useful in understanding the dynamics of nontraditional families. However, Paul, his colleague, disagrees and states that such theories are useful only in assessing traditional families. Which of the following statements supports Paul's argument?
- A. Ecological theories fail to explain family dynamics of traditional families.
 - B. Research has indicated that conflict theories are more effective than ecological theories in studying families.
 - C. Ecological theories often indicate how nuclear families evolve into nontraditional families.
 - D. Most ecological theories fail to incorporate gay and lesbian households.

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

28. Which of the following statements concerning developmental tasks in a family life cycle is the most accurate reflection of the family development theory's stance?
- A. They tend to be similar for all types of families.
 - B. They are one-dimensional in nature.
 - C. They are not constant and change over time.
 - D. They are limited to fulfilling roles within the family.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

29. In her family, Jessica is expected to perform tasks such as cooking, cleaning, and feeding the children. Despite being a qualified statistician, she accepts her duty as a homemaker because women in the society are considered suitable primarily for the role of a homemaker. This process of assigning specific work to family members, usually women, is known as _____.
- A. kin-work
 - B. kin-scription
 - C. kin-time
 - D. filiation

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

30. Jose and Carlos are sociology students. They are discussing family development theories. Jose believes that family development studies are conducted only at the micro-level. However, Carlos argues that these theories include macro-level studies, as well. Which of the following statements, if true, is likely to weaken Jose's claim?
- A. Family development studies examine family patterns across cultures and history.
 - B. Most family development studies focus solely on examining nuclear families.
 - C. Modern family development theories are descriptive rather than explanatory.
 - D. The family life cycle stages proposed by the family development theory are representative of real-life families.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

31. A micro-level theory that examines the everyday behavior of individuals is known as the _____.
- A. structural functional theory
 - B. conflict theory
 - C. family development theory
 - D. symbolic interaction theory

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

32. In order for us to interact effectively, symbols must _____.
- A. have more than one meaning
 - B. have shared meaning
 - C. have alternative explanations
 - D. be limited to words and pictures

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

33. According to the symbolic interaction theory, an 8-year-old girl would consider her parents as _____.

- A. significant others
- B. superegos
- C. symbols
- D. ids

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

34. Muhammad is a husband, a grandfather, a brother, a son, and an uncle. These are examples of Muhammad's _____.

- A. roles
- B. achieved status
- C. symbols
- D. shared meanings

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

35. Critics of the symbolic interaction theory state that interactionists overlook the irrational and unconscious aspects of behavior. Which of the following statements, if true, is likely to weaken this criticism?

- A. Interactionists have an overly optimistic and unrealistic view of people's everyday choices.
- B. Research indicates that people mostly behave reflectively and contemplate things before taking action.
- C. Studies show that people act impulsively and rarely fear the consequences of hasty actions.
- D. Interactionists focus only on macro factors when examining individuals' behavior.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

36. Which theory states that social interaction between people is based on the efforts of each person to maximize rewards and minimize costs?

- A. symbolic interaction theory
- B. structural functional theory
- C. social exchange theory
- D. feminist theory

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

37. According to the social exchange perspective, when does a marriage end in a separation or divorce?

- A. when the children of the couple grow up and leave home
- B. when the husband and wife no longer earn the same income
- C. when the husband and wife no longer perceive marriage the same way
- D. when the costs of the marriage outweigh the rewards

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.2 Describe eight major family theoretical perspectives, identify whether each is macro- and/or micro-level, and summarize the strengths and limitations of each perspective.

Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

38. The social exchange theory has been criticized for overemphasizing _____.
- A. symbols
 - B. social roles
 - C. rational behavior
 - D. diversity

Answer: C

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

39. Maya and Fatima work as researchers at ABN Foundation and have been asked to study families in which conflict and misbehavior occur regularly. Maya and Fatima are currently considering if they should use the family systems theory to conduct the research. Which of the following evaluations of the theory would support their decision to use this theory?
- A. Researchers at ABN Foundation often refer to the family systems theory when studying families.
 - B. Critics point out that the theory focuses more on dysfunctional families and less on healthy families.
 - C. Research indicates that the family systems theory provides limited insight into how a family functions.
 - D. The family systems theory focuses on individual family members but not on how the members interact within the family system.

Answer: B

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Topic: Theoretical Perspectives on Families

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

40. Paul conducts a survey in order to collect and examine data relating to families. The data includes family size and the ethnicity of family members. Paul is conducting a(n) _____.
- A. qualitative research
 - B. interpretive research
 - C. secondary research
 - D. quantitative research

Answer: D

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

41. Which of the following methods do researchers use to systematically collect data from respondents through questionnaires or interviews?

- A. experiment method
- B. survey method
- C. participant observation
- D. secondary research

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

42. Dr. Jeffreys, a researcher, is conducting a drug trial in a controlled environment. He manipulates several variables and measures the effect of each variable on the subjects of the trial. In this scenario, Dr. Jeffreys is using the _____.
- A. experiment method
 - B. field research method
 - C. nonparticipant observation method
 - D. secondary analysis method

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

43. While conducting a study on the Amazonian tribes, Susan selects a group of ten people from each tribe and studies their daily routines and habits. These small groups are referred to as the _____.
- A. population
 - B. variable
 - C. sample
 - D. para-data

Answer: C

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Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

44. Which of the following is true of a probability sample?
- A. Researchers use the criteria of convenience and the availability of participants to conduct the study.
 - B. Each person has an equal chance of being chosen for the study.
 - C. The selection of the sample is carefully planned and not random.
 - D. The findings cannot be generalized to the population from which the sample is drawn.

Answer: B

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Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

45. In a _____, there is little or no attempt to get a representative cross-section of a population and people don't have an equal chance of being selected for the study.
- A. random sample
 - B. probability sample

- C. nonprobability sample
- D. stratified sample

Answer: C

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Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

46. Jim, a researcher, is gathering information about family income and monetary costs of living in New York. He e-mails questionnaires to a random sample of 1,000 respondents to collect the data. As it's a large sample, Jim expects to gather unbiased estimates from the sample. However, to his surprise, he receives a response from only 50 people. Which of the following, if true, is most likely to be the reason for the low response?
- A. The respondents found the questionnaire offensive because it asked for sensitive data.
 - B. Jim e-mailed the questionnaires to a diverse group of people from different social, economic, and cultural backgrounds.
 - C. Research indicates that people tend to provide inaccurate answers when responding to questionnaires.
 - D. Face-to-face communication usually has low response rates.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

47. An advantage of using field research is that _____.
- A. it is an inexpensive process compared to other data collection methods
 - B. it is free from the researcher's personal biases
 - C. people being studied are rarely influenced by the researcher's presence
 - D. researchers don't have to deal with observations that provoke strong emotional reactions

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

48. Which of the following is an example of secondary data?
- A. documenting interactions between couples
 - B. diaries
 - C. observing the behavior of children
 - D. group interviews

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

49. Which of the following is a difference between content analysis and surveys?
- A. Surveys can be applied to any form of communication whereas content analysis cannot be applied.
 - B. Content analysis is obtrusive whereas surveys are not.
 - C. Content analysis allows researchers to correct coding errors whereas surveys do not.

D. Surveys allow researchers to gather specific data over time whereas content analysis does not.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analyze It

50. Which of the following is a difference between experiments and field research?

- A. Experimental designs invariably involve higher costs than field research.
- B. The results of experimental studies can be generalized to a larger population whereas the results of field research cannot.
- C. Experiments involve artificial situations whereas field research does not.
- D. Experiments are, in most cases, more time consuming than field research.

Answer: C

Topic: Family Research Methods

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analyze it

51. Which of the following is a similarity between evaluation research and clinical research?

- A. They are limited to qualitative approaches.
- B. Both methods are applied.
- C. They lack the ability to address real-life problems.
- D. Both of them involve specific methods and do not rely on standard data collection methods.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analyze it

52. Which of the following is an example of a benefit of using surveys as a data collection method?

- A. They are usually inexpensive
- B. They have a high response rate
- C. They are always representative of the general population
- D. They get in depth, intimate details of the population

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

53. Which of the following is an example of a limitation of using clinical research as a data collection method?

- A. The results aren't representative of average or even of troubled families.
- B. Clinical studies are objective.
- C. Case studies are typically linked with long-term counseling.
- D. Case studies are generalizable.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

54. Antonio, a university professor, is conducting a laboratory experiment on the effects of smoking and alcohol on students. Which of the following is an example of one of the challenges that Antonio may face in dealing with student volunteers for the research.
- A. Students often feel obligated to participate as part of their grade.
 - B. Participants will be resistant to respond in ways that the researcher expects.
 - C. The research will only generate unbiased results.
 - D. Students will likely refuse to participate in the project.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Analyze It

55. Child psychologists often have one-way mirrors in the clinic to assess the behavior of children. What purpose might this serve in their research?
- A. Researchers want to study phenomena without being part of the situation.
 - B. Children cannot be studied through interaction.
 - C. Researchers don't want to get parental consent for the project.
 - D. Children will often refuse to participate if they know they are being researched.

Answer: A

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

56. Dr. Chang is conducting research on homeless children in Indonesia. Though he has collected extensive data during the course of the research, the research is affected by his personal biases. Assess why it is difficult for Dr. Chang to remain objective while gathering data.

An ideal answer will include:

- 1) It is often difficult to maintain objectivity when a topic can evoke strong emotional reactions.
- 2) Children and harm can make researchers feel anxiety, anger, and sympathy for subjects.
- 3) It can be hard for a researcher to recognize and address their own biases.
- 4) Field observation is personal and subjective, it can be difficult to maintain one's objectivity.

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Analyze it

57. Explain whether secondary data is longitudinal or cross-sectional.

The ideal answer should include:

- 1) Secondary data is often longitudinal rather than cross-sectional.
- 2) Longitudinal data is collected at two or more points in time.
- 3) Cross-sectional data is collected at one point in time.
- 4) Longitudinal data allows the researcher to examine a trend over time.

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

58. Content analysis is a data-collection method that systematically examines some form of

communication. With the help of an example, explain why this method is likely to be less expensive than field research.

The ideal answer should include:

- 1) Content analysis involves existing data that is readily and cheaply available.
- 2) It is often less time consuming than other data-collection methods, especially field research.
- 3) Researchers who use this method wouldn't need equipment or a travel budget.
- 4) Content analysis doesn't need a large staff of researchers to collect data or do analysis.

Learning Objective: 2.3 Describe six data collection methods that researchers use to study families, and identify each of the method's strengths and limitations.

Topic: Family Research Methods

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

59. What are the three golden rules that all ethical standards have regardless of the discipline or research methods used, and how can researchers try to ensure these standards are met?

The ideal answer should include:

- 1) Do no harm by causing participants physical, psychological, or emotional pain.
- 2) The researcher must get the participants' informed consent to be in a study.
- 3) Researchers must always protect a participant's confidentiality.
- 4) The researcher should have their research plan approved by their Institutional Review Board before beginning research.

Learning Objective: 2.4 Describe the ethical standards that researchers must follow, and explain the political, religious, and community constraints that researchers encounter.

Topic: Ethics, Politics, and Family Research

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

60. What are some of the challenges researchers have faced in gathering data when they study teenage sexual behavior?

The ideal answer should include:

- 1) Many local jurisdictions have refused to let social scientists study adolescent sexual behavior.
- 2) Some school administrators believe that such research violates student privacy and might make a school district look bad.
- 3) Some groups and individual parents believe that the research undermines traditional family values.
- 4) Some religious groups and politicians believe this type of research makes minority sexual behavior seem normal, which they oppose.

Learning Objective: 2.4 Describe the ethical standards that researchers must follow, and explain the political, religious, and community constraints that researchers encounter.

Topic: Ethics, Politics, and Family Research

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts