Test Bank for Fundamentals of Social Research CDN 4th Babbie

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TRUE/FALSE

1 : Social scientists generally believe that the succession from one paradigm to another represents progress from a false view to a true one.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : B

2 : In deduction we start from observed data and develop a generalization that explains the relationship between the observed concepts.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : B

3 : The idea of the existence of an objective reality independent of human experience is called positivism.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : A

4 : Scientific inquiry is a process involving both deduction and induction.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : A

5 : Humans can act both rationally and unreasonably at the same time.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : A

6 : The traditional model of science uses inductive logic.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : B

7 : All social scientific research seeks to explain phenomena.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : B

8 : While our subjectivity is individual, our search for objectivity is social.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : A

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9 : The conflict paradigm is limited to economic analysis.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : B

10 : The deductive model tends to be linked to theory testing, and the inductive model tends to be linked to theory development.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : A

11 : All research is tightly linked to theory.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : B

12 : Paradigms are often hard to recognize.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : A

13 : A paradigm is a reality.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : B

14 : A researcher must always begin with a hypothesis in order to properly apply the Wallace model of the research process.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : B

15 : The final step in the traditional model of science involves operationalization.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : B

16 : Sometimes theoretical issues are introduced merely as a backdrop for empirical analyses.
A : true
B : false

Correct Answer : A

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MULTIPLE CHOICE

17 : While doing research on crime, Professor Middler noted that crime creates jobs in law enforcement and related careers. He also noticed that crime reinforces norms when criminals are caught and punished. Which approach to the study of crime has Professor Middler probably adopted?
A : conflict theory
B : symbolic interactionism
C : structural functionalism
D : ethnomethodology

Correct Answer : C

18 : Which of the following is NOT a function of theory for research?
A : Theory helps us avoid being taken in by flukes.
B : Theory helps us to analyze our raw data.
C : Theory helps us to make sense out of observed patterns.
D : Theory shapes and directs research efforts.

Correct Answer : B

19 : Which term refers to a model or frame of reference for helping people organize and interpret the world?
A : paradigm
B : concept
C : hypothesis
D : law

Correct Answer : A

20 : Which of the following topics would a macro theorist be more likely to study than a micro theorist?
A : the effects of judges' instructions on jury deliberations
B : the relationships between government, family, and the economy
C : dating behaviours
D : student–faculty interactions

Correct Answer : B

21 : Which of the following is NOT a function of paradigms?
A : Paradigms shape the methods that we are likely to use.
B : Paradigms determine the kinds of facts we will discover.
C : Paradigms shape the conclusions that we draw from facts.
D : Paradigms determine that we remain objective.

Correct Answer : D

22 : Which of the following best describes the sequence used in the inductive method?
A : hypothesis, observations, and accept or reject hypothesis
B : observations, pattern finding, and tentative conclusions
C : tentative conclusions, theory, and observations
D : theory, observations, and tentative conclusions

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Correct Answer : B

23 : Which best describes the grounded theory method?
A : It is a method based on quantitative data.
B : It is a deductive method of theory construction.
C : It requires the researcher to construct theory by observing aspects of social life.
D : It is a process of testing theory.

Correct Answer : C

24 : Professor May wants to learn how grandparents define their role when they become the guardians of their grandchildren. May asks grandparents questions like, " How did you come to have custody of your grandchild?" and "Do you feel more like a parent or a grandparent?" Which paradigm is May probably using?
A : ethnomethodology
B : life cycle paradigm
C : structural functionalism
D : symbolic interactionism

Correct Answer : D

25 : On which of the following questions would a sociologist with a symbolic interactionist orientation be most likely to conduct research?
A : Is conflict inevitable in the sibling relationship?
B : What function does marriage serve for society?
C : What is the effect of economic conditions on the crime rate?
D : Which unstated norms govern the interactions between family members?

Correct Answer : D

26 : Which of the following outlines the steps in the traditional science model, in order?
A : theory construction, operationalization of concepts, development of a testable hypothesis, collection of data, and empirical testing
B : operationalization of concepts, theory construction, development of a hypothesis, collection of data, and empirical testing
C : development of a theoretical hypothesis, theory construction, operationalization of concepts, collection of data, and empirical testing
D : theory construction, development of a hypothesis, operationalization of concepts, collection of data, and empirical testing

Correct Answer : A

27 : The original source of Minamata disease, which produces severe nervous disorders and birth defects, was traced to the Chisso Chemical Company's dumping of mercury into a bay where Japanese villagers fished. The villagers of Minamata, the village where the company was located, refused to become involved in lawsuits against the chemical company for many years. However, the residents of Niigata, a fishing village 65 kilometres up-river from the factory, filed lawsuits against the chemical company. Which of the following uses the conflict paradigm to explain the differences in behaviour related to lawsuits in the two villages?
A : The Minamata victims were less likely to be tied socially, economically, and physically to the company than were the Niigato victims.
B : The Japanese culture frowns on lawsuits.

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C : The chemical company controlled more of the village resources in Minamata than in Niigato.
D : People in Niigato are more aggressive than people in Minamata.

Correct Answer : C

28 : Why is social science said to be un-Kuhnian?
A : because old social theories are NOT displaced by new ones
B : because unlike the natural sciences, social science advances through revolutionary change
C : because social theories are falsifiable and can never be proven
D : because social paradigms are rarely discarded completely

Correct Answer : D

29 : Which type of questions relates directly to theory?
A : Who?
B : What?
C : When?
D : Why?

Correct Answer : D

30 : Which of the following is an example of micro-level sociological theories?
A : Marxism
B : conflict theory
C : symbolic interactionism
D : structural functionalism

Correct Answer : C

31 : Which is a focal point of conflict theory?
A : consensus
B : power
C : interpretation
D : fear

Correct Answer : B

32 : Which of the following refers to the belief in a logically ordered, objective reality that we can measure through science?
A : sociology
B : psychology
C : positivism
D : social physics

Correct Answer : C

33 : What is the focus of interpretive paradigms, such as symbolic interactionism?
A : the discovery of objective truths
B : understanding individuals in larger groups
C : socially constructed meanings
D : inequality and change over time

Correct Answer : C

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34 : Which of the following research questions investigates topics at the “most macro-level” of analysis?
A : How do activists use their experiences with police brutality and repression to construct a meaningful understanding of such situations?
B : Are periods of unemployment in social democratic states shorter than in more liberal states?
C : Is lower socioeconomic status associated with higher incidence of negative health outcomes?
D : Does interpersonal conflict in marriages contribute to later adult anxiety among the couples’ children?

Correct Answer : B

35 : Other than conflict theory, which theoretical viewpoint can be seen as understanding socialization as the way inequalities are reproduced and maintained in society?
A : feminism
B : ethnomethodology
C : early positivism
D : structural functionalism

Correct Answer : A

36 : Objectivity is a conceptual attempt to get beyond individual views. What do we call successful attempts at doing this?
A : agreement reality
B : subjective reality
C : consensus reality
D : false reality

Correct Answer : A

37 : What would a functionalist view of the family emphasize?
A : whether “family” means different things to different people
B : family violence
C : the nurturing of families
D : the role of the family in raising productive members of society

Correct Answer : D

38 : “Exposure to classical music has no effect on IQ scores.” What is this statement an example of?
A : a hypothesis
B : an observation
C : a theory
D : a research question

Correct Answer : A

39 : In the social sciences, we are often interested in studying abstract variables, such as success. We need to make these concrete and measurable. The first step is deciding on an appropriate definition, such as focusing on academic success specifically. The next step is to decide how we would measure it—by looking at grade point averages, attendance, ability to get a job upon graduation, etc. What is this process called?
A : hypothesis testing

Access Complete Test Bank for Fundamentals of Social Research CDN 4th Babbie

B : operationalization
C : theory construction
D : observation

Correct Answer : B

40 : Which method of data collection would be most appropriate to use when applying an inductive, grounded-theory approach to theory development?
A : survey research
B : experimental research
C : field research
D : focus group research

Correct Answer : C

41 : What variable would a conflict theorist have NO interest in studying?
A : class
B : gender
C : ethnic struggles
D : social reality

Correct Answer : D

42 : Which of the following is NOT true of positivism?
A : It is based on the notion that reality is socially constructed.
B : It dominated scientific thought from the 17th to the mid-20th century
C : It represents the belief that science can be objective.
D : Is has been largely discredited.

Correct Answer : A

43 : What did Thomas Kuhn (1970) argue that scientific paradigms tend to do?
A : change frequently
B : resist substantial change
C : go in and out of fashion, disappearing for a time before rising to “the top” again
D : tend to peacefully co-exist with newer ones

Correct Answer : B

44 : Which best describes social scientific paradigms?
A : They represent progress from a false view to a true one.
B : They share essentially similar patterns of popularity to natural scientific paradigms.
C : They play a less fundamental role than paradigms in the natural sciences.
D : They may gain or lose popularity, but are seldom discarded completely.

Correct Answer : D

45 : Which of the following might be an example of a subject suitable for micro theoretical research?
A : the impact on children who witness spousal violence in their home
B : the effect of governmental funding for drug rehabilitation on overdose deaths
C : electoral participation rates among Canadian youth
D : levels of dropout among different universities across the country

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Correct Answer : A

46 : Which of the following theoretical traditions does NOT focus on macro considerations?
A : functionalism
B : conflict theory
C : symbolic interactionism
D : feminism

Correct Answer : C

47 : Which of the following describes a scientist who refuses to give up the belief that a herbal medicine she has developed can cure Alzheimer's disease, despite 20 years of doing controlled experiments that repeatedly fail to support its effectiveness?
A : She is not rational but is reasonable.
B : She is not reasonable but is rational.
C : She is both rational and reasonable.
D : She is neither rational nor reasonable.

Correct Answer : B

48 : Which is the process of determining the average income of Alberta physicians an example of?
A : specification
B : logical reasoning
C : observation
D : hypothesis formulation

Correct Answer : C

49 : Which of the following hypotheses is not falsifiable?
A : Canadians are less religious than Americans.
B : Age at first marriage is higher for men than for women.
C : Society is more secular (less religious) than it was 50 years ago.
D : Canadians have better political parties than Americans do.

Correct Answer : D

50 : A researcher wants to know what factors lead to dropping out of high school. He conducts open-ended interviews with 100 recent dropouts. Questions include the students' self-described reasons for why they decided not to stay in school, what their family background was like, and the reactions from their family members at their decision (e.g. disappointment, anger, apathy.) What is the term for the approach in this study?
A : primarily deductive
B : primarily inductive
C : about equally inductive and deductive
D : neither inductive nor deductive

Correct Answer : B

51 : Who developed the "wheel of science" featured in this chapter, showing the research process as a never-ending alternation of deduction and induction?
A : Emile Durkheim

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B : G.H. Mead
C : Walter Wallace
D : Neil Websdale

Correct Answer : C

52 : Which of the following is NOT part of scientific inquiry in practice?
A : deciding whether or not to take an inductive or deductive approach
B : alternating between induction and deduction
C : an interplay between logic and observation
D : working in a circle, like a wheel

Correct Answer : A

53 : Which of the following describes Durkheim's classic study that connected suicide with theory on religion, anomie, and social integration?
A : induction
B : deduction
C : both induction and deduction
D : the fact that research does not necessarily require induction or deduction

Correct Answer : C

ESSAY

54 : Contrast the inductive model of theory construction with the deductive model. Give examples of research that use each of these models.

Correct Answer : Answers may vary.

55 : How are theory and research linked? Give examples.

Correct Answer : Answers may vary.

56 : Briefly explain and give an example of a topic that a researcher might study when using each of the following: conflict paradigm, symbolic interactionism, structural functionalism, and the feminist paradigm.

Correct Answer : Answers may vary.

57 : Propose a research topic. Outline how you would study it by referring to the three main elements in the traditional model of science—theory, operationalization, and observation.

Correct Answer : Answers may vary.

58 : A theory aims to explain why something occurs. Pick a theory you are familiar with and lay out the components—axioms, propositions, and hypotheses—that will help to systematically explain the observations.

Correct Answer : Answers may vary.

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59 : Discuss the distinction between macro theory and micro theory. Outline how this distinction stretches across the paradigms.

Correct Answer : Answers may vary.

60 : What is “positivism”? Define how this view sees the study of social sciences. How has it recently been challenged?

Correct Answer : Answers may vary.

61 : How have scholars recently raised questions about the fundamental assumption of rationality, which has typically been at the centre of social life?

Correct Answer : Answers may vary.

62 : Your aunt theorizes that jail is the best way to treat youth offenders, as it teaches them to fear the consequences of bad behaviour. You show her a recent review of the literature on young offenders which collectively agrees that early life incarceration tends to lead to more criminal activity, rather than less. She insists that imprisonment has worked for hundreds of years. Explain how this example reflects the difference between reasonableness and rationality.

Correct Answer : Rationality refers to thinking that is logically consistent, whereas reasonableness refers to being open to new ideas and evidence rather than clinging to one’s beliefs no matter how much they are contradicted by new evidence. In this example, while her views are logically consistent – it “makes sense” on the face of it that punishment creates fear which in turn prevents bad behaviour – they do not hold up in the face of mounting evidence.

63 : People often say that a university degree is “just a piece of paper.” Based on the idea that reality is socially constructed, describe how a degree may be more than a piece of paper.

Correct Answer : Physical objects by themselves may indeed appear to be nothing more than a piece of paper. What makes them more than that is the fact that society attaches meaning to them. Without agreement that the paper has a particular meaning, then indeed a degree would be no different than a page that one scribbles a few words on. The fact that society considers it to be a contract, and promises certain rights, obligations, and benefits to that piece of paper, is what makes it “real.”

64 : Consider the concept of “health.” What are some ways that you could operationalize this concept?

Correct Answer : There is a great variety of ways to create indicators of health. For example: (1) Asking a person a global health question such as “On a scale of 1 to 7, where 1= “Very poor” and 7 = “Excellent,” how healthy do you feel these days? (2) Measure a person’s blood pressure and heart rate, ask them if they have any existing conditions, etc. One would want to ensure that they have a very clear idea of the concept that they want to measure. Is it physical health? Mental health? Do you want to measure the WHO definition of health? Your choice of conceptual definition will affect your choice of operational definition.

65 : Suppose that you want to investigate social media addiction among young mothers. After locating suitable subjects (who consider themselves addicted), you conduct in-depth interviews with 10 women between the ages of 20 and 29 in order to find out how they became heavily involved in social media, their marital status, their employment history, and so on. You notice a pattern in that most of these women are likelier than average to be socially isolated from the rest

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of their family, and the social media is a support system for them. In what sense has your study been inductive or deductive?

Correct Answer : Your study is primarily inductive because you were not setting out to test any particular theory behind social media addiction. Instead, you examined a series of self-identified addicts to look for common factors that might explain why they are addicted. You are in the process building a theory about social media addiction in young mothers, i.e. for those who are especially isolated, that it serves as a particularly strong means of perceived social support.

66 : What are each of the components of the Wheel of Science, and how does the wheel operate?

Correct Answer : The four components of the Wallace Wheel are: Theories, Hypotheses, Observations, and Empirical Generalizations. The wheel operates as a never-ending alternation of induction and induction.

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