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Chapter 2: Seeing and Thinking Sociologically
Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. The various positions that people can occupy in social groups are called _____.
A. roles
B. statuses
C. ascribed statuses
D. achieved roles
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Easy

2. The set of behavioral expectations associated with a particular position is referred to as _____.
A. roles
B. statuses
C. ascribed status
D. achieved roles
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Easy

3. The rights, privileges, and obligations associated with relationships between particular positions are called _____.
A. roles
B. statuses
C. ascribed statuses
D. achieved statuses
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Easy

4. The phrase “people tend to like what other people like” summarizes the concept of _____.
A. social influence
B. social control
C. justified status
D. achieved status
Ans: A

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Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Social Influence: The Impact of Other People in Our Everyday Lives
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. A social position taken on voluntarily or acquired through effort is called a(n) _____.
A. role
B. status
C. ascribed status
D. achieved status
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Easy

6. According to the text, which individual did *not* commit heinous acts during the Rwandan genocide?
A. a physics professor
B. a hotel manager
C. a Catholic priest
D. a medical doctor
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: How Individuals Structure Society
Difficulty Level: Medium

7. According to Auguste Comte, all societies contain social _____ and social _____.
A. statics; dynamics
B. industries; institutions
C. politics; religions
D. powers; services
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: How Individuals Structure Society
Difficulty Level: Medium

8. The American Medical Association, General Motors, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture are examples of _____.
A. groups
B. organizations
C. institutions
D. societies
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Organizations
Difficulty Level: Easy

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9. A(n) _____ consists of people who interact regularly and have a sense of belonging.
A. group
B. organization
C. institution
D. society
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Easy

10. The Sociology Students' Association (SSA) meets in the library on the first Wednesday of every month. During meetings, the SSA plans community service projects and social activities, such as movie nights. The SSA would be considered a _____.
A. society
B. counterculture
C. primary group
D. secondary group
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Medium

11. Family, politics, religion, and health care are all examples of _____ in the United States.
A. groups
B. organizations
C. institutions
D. societies
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Social Institutions
Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Why has the National Football League been slow to heed medical research regarding the dangers of head injuries?
A. The organization doesn't recognize the research findings.
B. Much of the research was funded by its rival, the U.S. Youth National Soccer League.
C. Changing the rules of the game would have a negative financial impact on the industry.
D. Research shows that most players sustain injuries before entering the NFL.
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Social Institutions
Difficulty Level: Medium

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13. According to the author, the way we respond to our social world is largely determined by _____.
A. our interpretation of our environment
B. our genetic makeup at birth
C. the parenting we received as a child
D. both our interpretation of our environment and the parenting we received as a child
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: How Individuals Structure Society
Difficulty Level: Hard

14. Which of the following groups would be considered a dyad?
A. a married couple
B. a mother and her three children
C. a soccer team
D. a first-grade music class
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Easy

15. Which sociological perspective argues that society is a system whose parts work together to keep it running smoothly?
A. structural-functionalist
B. feminist
C. conflict
D. symbolic interactionist
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Structural-Functionalist Perspective
Difficulty Level: Easy

16. Which sociological perspective focuses on forms of communication between individuals, such as language, gesture, and posture?
A. structural-functionalist
B. feminist
C. conflict
D. symbolic interactionist
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Symbolic Interactionism
Difficulty Level: Easy

17. Which sociological perspective focuses on gender as the most important source of conflict and equality in social life?

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A. structural-functionalist
B. feminist
C. conflict
D. symbolic interactionist
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Conflict Perspective
Difficulty Level: Medium

18. Which sociological perspective views society in terms of competition and struggle between groups?
A. structural-functionalist
B. feminist
C. conflict
D. symbolic interactionist
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Conflict Perspective
Difficulty Level: Easy

19. An increasing sensitivity to past persecution of American Indians and Native Americans has caused many people to reconsider the meaning of Christopher Columbus's voyage and the celebration of Columbus Day. This is an example of _____.
A. global cultural sensitivity
B. history as a work in progress
C. changing historical facts
D. peacekeeping reconsidered
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: How Individuals Structure Society
Difficulty Level: Medium

20. The sociologist who first made distinctions between manifest and latent functions of structures is _____.
A. Karl Marx
B. Talcott Parsons
C. Neil Smelser
D. Robert Merton
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Structural-Functionalist Perspective
Difficulty Level: Hard

21. Which of the following meets the sociological definition of a *society*?
A. mixed martial artists

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B. the Dallas Cowboys football team
C. France
D. Alpha Kappa Delta (the Sociology Honors Society)
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: How Individuals Structure Society
Difficulty Level: Easy

22. What factor defines the relationships among group members?
A. the reasons individual members chose to become part of the group
B. the ways individual members feel about one another
C. the structure of the group
D. the group's bylaws
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Medium

23. Which social institution meets the societal need to regulate sexual behavior and produce new members of society?
A. family
B. economy
C. religion
D. education
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Social Institutions
Difficulty Level: Easy

24. Which social institution meets the societal need for providing members with a sense of meaning and purpose?
A. economy
B. family
C. religion
D. education
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Social Institutions
Difficulty Level: Easy

25. The increasing interconnection among the peoples of the world--economically, politically, environmentally, and culturally--is a process referred to as _____.
A. networking
B. social connection
C. globalization
D. internationalization

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Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Social Structure in a Global Context
Difficulty Level: Easy

26. Pooja is a senior in college with plans for attending medical school. To keep up her grades, she spends most nights and weekends studying and completing assignments. Brizy, Pooja's best friend and roommate, recently complained to Pooja: "You don't have time to hang out. It's been months since we've watched a movie together. We don't talk like we used to." Pooja wants to be a good student but that's keeping her from also being a good friend. She's frustrated by the fact that the demands of her roles as a student are, at least for now, incompatible with the roles of best friend. Pooja is experiencing _____.
A. role coalition
B. role conflict
C. role strain
D. role reversal
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Hard

27. In 2012, an independent commission in Japan concluded that the cause of the nuclear disaster at Fukushima was partly a result of _____.
A. Japanese culture
B. financial globalization
C. corporate greed
D. widespread immorality
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Culture
Difficulty Level: Medium

28. Which term refers to the language, values, ideas, beliefs, norms, and physical objects that give a society its unique character?
A. symbiosis
B. culture
C. populism
D. structural-functionalism
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Culture
Difficulty Level: Easy

29. Which perspective stresses the importance of social institutions for maintaining social stability?

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A. structural-functionalist
B. feminist
C. conflict
D. symbolic interactionist
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Social Institutions
Difficulty Level: Easy

30. Several neighbors meet every Tuesday to discuss the problems facing their community, such as trash and abandoned buildings. Eventually, they recruit new members, elect officers, and establish committees to address specific problems. This neighborhood group has become a(n) _____.
A. institution
B. coalition
C. role
D. organization
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Organizations
Difficulty Level: Hard

31. Simon and Felicia enjoy ganging up on their younger sister by playing practical jokes and teasing her. Simon and Felicia have formed a(n) _____.
A. secondary group
B. coalition
C. organization
D. primary group
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Easy

32. Which of the following is the best example of a primary group?
A. the Williams family
B. the staff of an accounting department
C. the American Sociological Association
D. a football team
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Easy

33. Which of the following is the best example of a secondary group?
A. the Cortez family
B. the faculty at Garfield High

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C. a group of very close friends who have known one another since childhood
D. a married couple
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Easy

34. Reducing crime rates is a (n) _____ function of longer mandatory prison sentences. Creating more jobs for prison guards is a(n) _____ function.
A. achieved; ascribed
B. ascribed; achieved
C. manifest; latent
D. latent; manifest
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: The Structural-Functionalist Perspective
Difficulty Level: Hard

35. According to the structural-functionalist perspective, prostitution has existed for centuries because it _____.
A. promotes inequality among social groups
B. contributes to the survival of society
C. symbolizes sexual freedom
D. empowers women to become financially independent
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Structural-Functionalist Perspective
Difficulty Level: Medium

36. An unintended, unrecognized consequence of an activity that helps some part of the social system is called a _____ function.
A. macro
B. manifest
C. micro
D. latent
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Structural-Functionalist Perspective
Difficulty Level: Easy

37. The intended, obvious consequence of an activity that is designed to help some part of the social system is called a _____ function.
A. macro
B. manifest
C. micro
D. latent

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Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Structural-Functionalist Perspective
Difficulty Level: Easy

38. When you enter a fast-food restaurant, you are expected to stand in line and wait your turn to order. This is an example of a _____.
A. norm
B. value
C. role
D. dyad
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Culture
Difficulty Level: Easy

39. Leonard, a father of two small children, has been unemployed for several months. He is having great difficulty paying his bills and last month he was unable to buy his youngest son a birthday present. Sociologists would say that Leonard is experiencing role _____.
A. overload
B. strain
C. function
D. conflict
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Medium

40. Which social institution is responsible for disseminating news and information quickly in complex, modern societies?
A. family
B. religion
C. mass media
D. judicial
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Social Institutions
Difficulty Level: Easy

41. Which of the following may change over time?
A. culture
B. norms
C. social institutions
D. all of these
Ans: D

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Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Culture
Difficulty Level: Medium

True/False

1. “College graduate” is an example of an ascribed status.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Most sociologists contend that the meaning and relevance of historical events remains constant over time.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: How Individuals Structure Society
Difficulty Level: Easy

3. The relationship between an individual and society is reciprocal.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: How Individuals Structure Society
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Much of our identity comes from our contact with others.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Social Influence: The Impact of Other People in Our Everyday Lives
Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Go to class, do the assigned readings, turn in papers when they’re due, and take notes during lectures are statuses associated with the role of a college student.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Medium

6. “Uncle” is an example of an ascribed status.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Easy

7. Karl Marx is associated with the conflict perspective.
Ans: T

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Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Conflict Perspective
Difficulty Level: Hard

8. According to the structural-functionalist perspective, dysfunctional aspects of social life will eventually disappear.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Structural-Functionalist Perspective
Difficulty Level: Hard

9. Spectators watching two baseball teams compete in the World Series would be considered an example of a secondary group.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Easy

10. In the United States, individual academic achievement is valued.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Culture
Difficulty Level: Easy

11. The distinction between an ascribed status and an achieved status is always clear.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Easy

Essay

1. Define the term *social institution*. Choose two social institutions and explain how these institutions are affected by the increase of women in the workforce.
Ans: Varies. Social institutions provide the foundation for behavior in some major areas of life. When women increasingly entered the workforce following WWII, both the institution of the family and the economy were affected.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Social Institutions
Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Discuss the difference between a primary group and a secondary group and then provide an example of each.
Ans: Primary groups include collections of individuals who are together for a long period of time and who share an emotional attachment to each other. An example of a primary

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group is a family. Secondary groups are less personal and are usually established to perform a task. An example would be a sports team.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Groups
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. Describe how privacy in families varies across time and social class. Identify two examples that illustrate how the concern over parental privacy rights can be framed as a freedom of religion issue.
Ans: Varies. The value placed on family privacy increased in the 19th century. Two examples might include the right of a parent to approve or disapprove of vaccinations or lifesaving medical interventions.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Social Institutions
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Discuss and provide examples of how interaction with others exerts social influence over our thoughts, perceptions, and actions.
Ans: Varies. This answer may include references to Stanley Milgram's study of conformity or references to the role of the media in reinforcing cultural notions.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Social Influence: The Impact of Other People in Our Everyday Lives
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Discuss a specific example of role strain.
Ans: Role strain refers to situations in which people lack the necessary resources to fulfill the demands of a particular role, such as when parents can't afford to provide their children with food and clothing.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Statuses and Roles
Difficulty Level: Medium

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