

Chapter 1: Introduction Test Bank

Multiple-Choice

1. Theory is vital to making sense of social life because:
 - a) it holds assorted observations and facts together
 - b) you can't do science without it
 - c) sociological law states you must
 - d) social life is based solely on theory
2. The thing to remember about facts is that:
 - a) they are only applicable to hard sciences
 - b) they are based upon implicit assumptions
 - c) facts are universally accepted
 - d) facts are mathematically derived
3. Your authors do *not* provide which of the following when constructing a framework for the introductory chapter as a means for students to comprehend classical sociological theory?
 - a) how
 - b) why
 - c) when
 - d) who
4. Which of the following is not true of scientific theories?
 - a) Theory is a system of generalized statements or propositions about phenomena
 - b) They explain and predict phenomena in question
 - c) They produce testable and thus falsifiable hypotheses
 - d) Theories are known scientifically as dependent variables
5. Which of the following is true of sociological theories?
 - a) They tend to be more evaluative and critical.
 - b) They tend to rely purely on statistics.
 - c) They tend to rely on ethnographies only.
 - d) They are centered upon participant observation.
6. When a student starts thinking and writing about material presented in a secondary reading, she is how many steps removed from the original text?
 - a) one
 - b) two
 - c) three
 - d) four
7. Many of the seeds for what would become sociology were first planted with:
 - a) the American Revolution
 - b) the French Revolution

- c) the Enlightenment
 - d) the Fall of Rome
8. One of the concepts developed during the time of the Enlightenment included:
- a) verstehen
 - b) the civil society
 - c) religious conservatism
 - d) anomic society
9. One of the most important aspects of the new attitude from the Enlightenment was an emphasis on:
- a) education
 - b) strategy
 - c) reason
 - d) religion
10. Who coined the term “sociology”?
- a) Emile Durkheim
 - b) Karl Marx
 - c) Max Weber
 - d) Auguste Comte
11. Who was the most instrumental in laying the groundwork for the emerging discipline of sociology?
- a) Emile Durkheim
 - b) Karl Marx
 - c) Max Weber
 - d) Auguste Comte
12. Which of the following individuals is not traditionally associated with the ideas of the Enlightenment?
- a) Copernicus
 - b) Newton
 - c) Rousseau
 - d) Galileo
13. Which founding father of sociology, in response to the Industrial Revolution, compared modern society to an “iron cage”?
- a) Karl Marx
 - b) Emile Durkheim
 - c) Auguste Comte
 - d) Max Weber
14. The authors’ metatheoretical framework is built around the questions of:
- a) solidarity and isolation
 - b) order and action

- c) power and submission
- d) cognition and emotion

15. Which concept asks what accounts for the patterns or predictability of behavior that lead us to experience social life as routine?
- a) rational
 - b) order
 - c) nonrational
 - d) action
16. The perspective that pictures society as an overarching system that works *down* on individuals and groups to determine the shape of the social order is called:
- a) individualist
 - b) nonrational
 - c) collectivist
 - d) rational
17. Which word or phrase best matches for the term “nonrational” when used in the context of the authors’ metatheoretical framework?
- a) stupid
 - b) subjective ideals
 - c) nonsensical
 - d) irrational
18. When a person takes her bearings more from forces outside herself than from internalized forces, we would label this as:
- a) individualist
 - b) rational
 - c) collectivist
 - d) nonrational
19. According to the authors’ metatheoretical framework action guided by norms, values, morals, traditions is considered:
- a) Rational
 - b) Collective.
 - c) Nonrational.
 - d) Individual.
20. According to the authors’ metatheoretical actors seen as relatively free to reproduce the patterns and routines of social life is categorized as:
- a) Rational
 - b) Collective
 - c) Nonrational
 - d) Individual

21. The four coordinates used in the authors' table of theorists' basic orientation should be considered by the student as:
- a) real statistical points
 - b) pure points
 - c) ideal types
 - d) fixed points
22. Which of the following is true of the metatheoretical framework?
- a) It is a handy mirror for reality.
 - b) It helps to compare and contrast theorists.
 - c) Theorists are defined by one quadrant only.
 - d) Theories are one-dimensional always.
23. In answer to the sample question posed in the chapter, "Why do people stop at red lights?" which quadrant would say it is both a habit and it is good and right to follow the law?
- a) collective nonrational
 - b) individual rational
 - c) collective rational
 - d) individual nonrational
24. In which quadrant would we find the reason of "*fear* of getting a ticket" to the red light question?
- a) collective nonrational
 - b) individual rational
 - c) collective rational
 - d) individual nonrational

True/False Questions:

1. So-called facts are based on implicit assumptions and unacknowledged presuppositions.
 - a) True
 - b) False
2. Our everyday life is filled with theories as we seek to understand the world around us.
 - a) True
 - b) False
3. Theory is a system of generalized statements or propositions about phenomena.
 - a) True
 - b) False
4. Sociologists tend to be interested not only in understanding the workings of society, but also in realizing a more just or equitable social order.
 - a) True
 - b) False

5. In general, it is relatively easy to fashion universal laws to explain societal dynamics.
 - a) True
 - b) False
6. It is true that original texts are usually too hard for students to decipher.
 - a) True
 - b) False
7. Secondary texts do not merely translate what the theorist wrote into simpler terms; rather, in order to simplify, they must revise what an author has said.
 - a) True
 - b) False
8. The Enlightenment was not so much a fixed set of ideas, but a new attitude, a new method of thought.
 - a) True
 - b) False
9. The rise of science and empiricism in the mid-seventeenth century would give birth to sociology.
 - a) True
 - b) False
10. The primary domain of sociology according to Durkheim is social facts.
 - a) True
 - b) False
11. Sociology reflects a complex mix of Enlightenment and counter-Enlightenment ideas.
 - a) True
 - b) False
12. Rousseau believed both in the social contract and that rationality by itself left an individual lifeless, cold, and uncertain.
 - a) True
 - b) False
13. Sociology's founding fathers' work emphasized rational thought and objective methodology; leaving little room for subjective and humanistic concerns.
 - a) True
 - b) False
14. Your textbook argues Abdel Rahman Ibn-Khaldun, Confucius, and Aristotle can best be understood as pre-modern sociologists.
 - a) True
 - b) False

15. Your authors argue that most scholars, researchers, and students view these theorists in exactly the same light, thus validating the fixed points of the theorists' basic orientation table.
- a) True
 - b) False

Short Answer Questions:

1. Define theory and its use in science.
2. Explain the social nature of facts.
3. Explain the distinction between sociological theories and those from the other branches of science.
4. Why is it important to read primary works?
5. Discuss the Enlightenment and its impact on sociology.
6. Explain the connection between reason and science.
7. Discuss the role Durkheim played in the formation of sociology.
8. Explain the Industrial Revolution's impact on sociology.
9. Define and explain the question of order.
10. Define and explain the question of action.

Essay Questions:

1. Define theories and explain how they differ from ideas found in religion and philosophy. Next, use these definitions as a foundation for the contemporary debate about evolution, "intelligent design" and the separation between church and state in U.S. schools.
2. Define and briefly explain both the Enlightenment and counter-Enlightenment. In addition, explain how each of sociology's founding fathers' work embodies both movements.
3. Define the term "social facts" and using your own life as a framework, briefly describe the "social facts" present in your own life, and how they operate.
4. First, briefly explain the Industrial Revolution's impact on the birth of sociology. Then, discuss how the digital revolution of the late 20th century has affected both society and the

ways we continue to study society. Do you feel the digital revolution has impacted society and sociology to the same extent as the Industrial Revolution? Why or why not?

5. List and define each of the authors' four coordinates of action and order for mapping theory, then create a question regarding an activity in our society and provide the possible answers or reasons for this activity by utilizing each of the four coordinates.

Answer Key

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. a
2. b
3. c
4. d
5. a
6. b
7. c
8. b
9. c
10. d
11. a
12. c
13. d
14. b
15. b
16. c
17. b
18. b
19. c
20. d
21. c
22. b
23. d
24. d

True/False Questions:

1. a
2. a
3. a
4. a
5. b
6. b
7. a
8. a

- 9. b
- 10. a
- 11. a
- 12. a
- 13. b
- 14. b
- 15. b

Essay Questions:

1.
 - Theories are a system of generalized statements or propositions about phenomena
 - Two features distinguish them from religion and philosophy:
 - Ability to explain and predict the phenomena in question
 - Ability to produce testable and thus falsifiable hypotheses
 - Whereas religion can be defined as: a cause, principle, or system of beliefs held to with ardor and *faith*
 - Whereas philosophy can be defined as: a search for a general understanding of values and reality by chiefly speculative *rather than observational* means
 - Evolution can be defined as: the historical development of a biological group (as a race or species) and is most popularly associated with Charles Darwin's work from the 1850s.
 - "Intelligent Design" came into use after a late 1980s Supreme Court case. "ID" can be defined as: a belief that certain features of the universe and of living things are best explained by an intelligent cause, not an undirected process such as natural selection.
 - Separation of church and state is a long tradition in the U.S. in order to ensure the secularity of government and at the same time insure individual religious freedom for its citizens.
2.
 - The Enlightenment was a period of remarkable intellectual development that occurred in Europe during the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.
 - The development of civil society (open spaces of debate relatively free from government control) enabled a critical mass of literate citizens to think about the economic, political, and cultural conditions that shaped society.
 - One of the most important aspects of this new attitude was an emphasis on *reason*. Central to this new attitude was questioning and reexamining received ideas and values. The Enlightenment emphasis on reason was part and parcel of the rise of science.
 - Counter-Enlightenment - in the late eighteenth century, a conservative reaction to the Enlightenment took place. Under the influence of Jean-Jacques Rousseau the unabashed embrace of rationality, technology, and progress was challenged. Against the emphasis on reason, counter-Enlighteners highlighted the significance of nonrational factors, such as tradition, emotions, ritual, and ceremony. Most importantly, counter-Enlighteners were concerned that the accelerating pace of industrialization and urbanization and the growing pervasiveness of bureaucratization were producing profoundly disorganizing effects.

- Durkheim was interested in both objective or external social facts and the more subjective elements of society, such as feelings of solidarity or commitment to a moral code.
- Karl Marx fashioned an economic philosophy that was at once rooted in science and humanist prophecy.
- Max Weber combined a methodical, scientific approach with a concern about both the material conditions and idea systems of modern societies.

3.

- Durkheim emphasized that, while the primary domain of psychology is to understand processes internal to the individual (e.g., personality or instincts), the primary domain of sociology is “social facts”: that is, conditions and circumstances external to the individual that, nevertheless, determine that individual’s course of action. As a scientist, Durkheim advocated a systematic and methodical examination of social facts and their impact on individuals.
- Individual students’ answers will vary but each should identify some power, force, or institution within his or her own life which plays a part in how he or she acts, feels, or thinks.

4.

- A period of enormous change that began in England in the eighteenth century. The term “Industrial Revolution” refers to the application of power-driven machinery to agriculture, transportation, and manufacturing. Although industrialization began in remote times and continues today, this process completely transformed Europe in the eighteenth century. It turned Europe from a predominantly agricultural to a predominantly industrial society. It not only radically altered how goods were produced and distributed, but galvanized the system of capitalism as well.
- Specifically, large numbers of people left farms and agricultural work to become wage earners in factories in the rapidly growing cities.
- At the same time, factories were transformed by a long series of technological changes. Ever-more efficient machines were adopted, and tasks were routinized.
- However, this rise in efficiency came at a tremendous human cost. Mechanized production reduced both the number of jobs available and the technical skills needed for work in the factory. A few profited enormously, but most worked long hours for low wages. Accidents were frequent and often quite serious. Workers were harshly punished and their wages were docked for the slightest mistakes. Women and children worked alongside men in noisy, unsafe conditions. Most factories were dirty, poorly ventilated and lit, and dangerous.
- The digital revolution occurred during the last twenty years (although some may debate the exact start) of the twentieth century. Building on and improving existing analog communication technology, digital micro-chip based technologies allowed for the rise in computers especially personal computing. An array of personal technology products have changed the way people live their lives while society’s bureaucratic infrastructure is now built on a backbone of various software programs and server systems (especially banking, records, etc.). This digital revolution has changed how we interact with one another, in some ways strengthening our bonds (i.e. cell phones) while in others masking our “real”

selves and adding layers of abstraction to our interactions (chat rooms, the Internet, etc.). When we now study society we must study both the “real” and “virtual” worlds we inhabit – or are they becoming one and the same?

- Students’ answers to which revolution is more profound on society will vary.

5.

- Order - It asks what accounts for the patterns or predictability of behavior that lead us to experience social life as routine.
 - Collective - Society is thus pictured as an overarching system that works *down* on individuals and groups to determine the shape of the social order. Society is understood as a reality *sui generis* that operates according to its own logic distinct from the will of individuals.
 - Individual - Here, it is individuals and groups creating, recreating, or altering the social order that works *up* to produce society. This position grants more autonomy to actors, because they are seen as relatively free to reproduce the patterns and routines of social life (i.e., the social order) or transform them.
- Action - the factors that motivate individuals or groups to act. The forces held to be responsible for steering individual or group behavior in a particular direction.
 - Nonrational - the individual takes his bearings from subjective ideals, symbolic codes, values, morals, norms, traditions, the quest for meaning, unconscious desires, or emotional states, or a combination of these.
 - Rational - It contends that individual and group actions are motivated primarily by the attempt to maximize rewards while minimizing costs. Here, individuals and groups are viewed essentially as calculating and strategic as they seek to achieve the “selfish” goal of improving their position.
- Some possible questions might include:
 - “Why do we put citizens in prison for life sentences?”
 - “Why do people even bother to use the self-checkout line and not steal the item?”
 - “Why do people pay annual federal income taxes?”
 - “Why do people have multiple children in the 21st century?”