CHAPTER 1

Introduction

Chapter 1 Multiple Choice

1. A theory that is assessed by measurement and testing is referred to as:
   a. Metatheory.
   b. Quantitative.
   c. Qualitative.
   d. Microtheory.

Answer: b
Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 4
Level: Basic

2. Qualitative theory excludes which one of the following factors:
   a. Logical soundness
   b. Sensitizing ability
   c. The ability to make sense of conflicting positions
   d. The ability to be tested statistically

Answer: d
Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 4
Level: Intermediate

3. Theories about theories are known as:
   a. Unit theories.
   b. Metatheories.
   c. Macrotheories.
   d. Bridging theories.

Answer: b
Objective: Compare and contrast major types of theories.
Page number: 6
Level: Basic

4. Microtheories are similar to which one of the following:
   a. Process theories
   b. Structure theories
   c. Unit theories
   d. Bridging theories

Answer: a
Objective: Compare and contrast major types of theories.
Page number: 7
Level: Intermediate

5. Classical theories do **not** focus on:
   a. Legal statutes.
   b. The rights of humans.
   c. The pathology of criminal behavior.
   d. Governmental structures.

Answer: c
Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 8
Level: Intermediate

6. Structural theories of crime propose that:
   a. The process of how one becomes a criminal is a crucial focus of the theory.
   b. Crime rates will vary as social organization changes.
   c. Theories should be created piece-by-piece like buildings.
   d. All of the above

Answer: b
Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 8
Level: Intermediate

7. The most common approach to determining a "good" theory is the:
   a. Degree to which the theory may sensitize people.
   b. Testability and fit to the research evidence.
   c. Logical soundness.
   d. Ability to make sense out of several conflicting positions.

Answer: b
Objective: Describe some of the characteristics of a good theory.
Page number: 4
Level: Basic

8. Which of the following terms applies to a theory that is not really macro or micro, but rather in-between?
   a. Bridging theory
   b. Combinational theory
   c. Multi-factor theory
   d. Synthetic theory

Answer: a
Objective: Explain the difference between a macro and a micro theory.
Page number: 7
Level: Basic

9. The textbook suggests that the proper order for solving problems of crime and criminal justice would be:
   a. Research→ theory→ policy
   b. Policy → research → theory
   c. Theory→ research → policy

d. Theory → policy → research

Answer: c
Objective: Discuss the relationship between theory, research, and policy.
Page number: 11
Level: Intermediate

10. Processual theories of crime generally:
    a. Propose that people process information rationally.
    b. Propose that people are largely driven by deterministic factors.
    c. Are concerned with how people become deviant.
    d. Are concerned with the forces that generate crime and how the authorities process that information.

Answer: c
Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 9
Level: Intermediate

Chapter 1 True-False

1. Thomas Kuhn purported that new theories which get accepted are those which make sense out of conflicting evidence that old theories cannot explain. [p. 5]
    a. True
    b. False

Answer: a
Objective: Describe some of the characteristics of a good theory.
Page number: 5
Level: Basic

2. Microtheories are the most abstract of all theories.
    a. True
    b. False

Answer: b
Objective: Explain the difference between a macro and a micro theory.
Page number: 7
Level: Intermediate

3. Most of today's theories are positivist ones.
    a. True
    b. False

Answer: a
Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 8
Level: Basic

4. The most common approach to determining a "good" theory is to test it and see how well

it fits the research evidence.
  a. True
  b. False
Answer: a
Objective: Describe some of the characteristics of a good theory.
Page number: 4
Level: Intermediate

5. The major difference between metatheory and unit theory is that metatheory discusses
   process and unit theory discusses structure.
  a. True
  b. False
Answer: b
Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 6
Level: Intermediate

Chapter 1 Fill in the Blank

1. A good theory is one that best fits the research evidence and can be _____.

Answer: tested
Objective: Describe some of the characteristics of a good theory.
Page number: 4
Level: Basic

2. Theory context has two major forms: social and _____.

Answer: intellectual
Objective: Explain what is meant by the social context of a crime theory.
Page number: 10
Level: Intermediate

3. According to Gouldner, the effect of _____ in theory can be like "blinders on a
   horse."

Answer: assumptions
Objective: Explain what is meant by the social context of a crime theory.
Page number: 9
Level: Intermediate

4. A _____ theory is one that assumes that people are naturally in agreement on what
   constitutes crime and criminal behavior.

Answer: consensus

Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 9
Level: Basic

   5. A structural theory is also likely to be called a _____ theory because we often
   assume it to be a characteristic of a disorganized society that leads to crime.

Answer: Strain
Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 11
Level: Basic

Chapter 1 Matching

Match the type of theory in Column1 with its best description in Column 2.

1. Macrotheory	a. Based on the idea that people disagree and only powerful groups benefit from law
2. Metatheory	b. Looks at both how social structure operates and how individuals become criminal
3. Bridging Theory	c. Broad explanations of social structure effects with emphasis on rates of crime (epidemiology)
4. Conflict Theory	d. Focus on pathology using scientific methods to treat and prevent crime
5. Microtheory	e. Etiological explanations for individual and small groups' criminal behavior
6. Positivist Theory	f. Less testable theories about theory itself

Answer:
         1. *c
         2. *f
         3. *b
         4. *a
         5. *e
         6. *d
Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Explain the difference between a macro and a micro theory.
Page number: 6-9
Level: Intermediate

Chapter 1 Essay

   1. Define and discuss what theory is, and what its purpose is.

Answer: Key points may include:

* Theory explains behavior and events, trends and processes.
* Theory is based on research evidence tested with scientific methods.
* Theory helps us determine factors related to crime so that we can treat and prevent.
* Theory can be macro or micro and involve structural or process components.
* Theory can be concrete or abstract.
* Theory can be rooted in biology, psychology, or sociology traditions.

Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Explain the difference between a macro and a micro theory.
Page number: 2 - 3
Level: Difficult

2. Discuss what we mean by the "context" of a theory.

Answer: Key points may include:
*The context of a theory may be social or intellectual.
* Social forces are informal surroundings and significant events taking place, like war.
* Intellectual refers to learning ideas that influence our thinking, such as from teachers.
* Assumptions may bias our interpretation of events.
* When events occur in time influences the theorist and his or her readers.
* Writers of theory may follow in the footsteps of their predecessors.
* Conservative or liberal sentiments may change over time and influence theory.

Objective: Explain what is meant by the social context of a crime theory.
Page number: 9 - 10
Level: Intermediate

3. Explain the relationship between theory, research, and policy.

Answer: Key points may include:
* The relationship is linear, with theory being the logical start.
* Policy should be the end result, not the beginning.
* Theory helps us develop meaningful research.
* Policy should be based on the results of experimental research and evaluation.
* There is a feedback loop that represents further clarification of theory based on research.
* Examples like scared straight, three-strikes, and boot camps illustrate how policymakers did not address research or theory.

Objective: Discuss the relationship between theory, research, and policy.
Page number: 10 -11
Level: Difficult

Chapter 1 Short Answer

1. Give a reason why a theory might be discarded.

Answer: [key points to be made]

- Doesn't fit evidence
- Can't be tested in any meaningful way
- Isn't popular, too ahead of or behind its time
- Isn't able to make sense out of conflicting evidence or positions
- Isn't logically sound

Objective: Describe some of the characteristics of a good theory.
Page number: 2- 6
Level: Difficult

2. Explain what is meant by a theory having the ability to sensitize. [p. 5]

Answer: [key points to be made]
- Gets people's attention
- Reacquaints theorists with broader range of issues related to a theory
- Helps us look at problems in newer ways, avoiding bias or blinders

Objective: Describe some of the characteristics of a good theory.
Page number: 2- 6
Level: Difficult

3. Identify the different ways that theories can be classified. [p. 6]

Answer: [key points to be made]
- Abstract v. Concrete
- Classical v. Positivist
- Macro v. Micro v. Bridging
- Meta v. Unit
- Structural v. Process
- Conflict v. Consensus

Objective: Summarize the various ways to classify criminological theories.
Page number: 2- 6
Level: Intermediate