Chapter 1: A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory: The Early Years

Test Bank

# Multiple Choice

1. Who wrote, “We are headed to an increasingly centralized world with less individual freedom”?

a. Alexis de Tocqueville

b. Herbert Spencer

c. Karl Marx

d. Emile Durkheim

Ans: A

Answer Location: A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Who wrote, “We are moving in the direction of a world dominated by science”?

a. Alexis de Tocqueville

b. Auguste Comte

c. Karl Marx

d. Emile Durkheim

Ans: B

Answer Location: A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Who wrote, “Capitalism is based on the exploitation of the workers by the capitalists”?

a. Alexis de Tocqueville

b. Herbert Spencer

c. Karl Marx

d. Emile Durkheim

Ans: C

Answer Location: A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Who wrote, “The modern world offers less moral cohesion than did earlier societies”?

a. Alexis de Tocqueville

b. Herbert Spencer

c. Karl Marx

d. Emile Durkheim

Ans: D

Answer Location: A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Who wrote, “The modern world is an iron cage of rational systems from which there is no escape”?

a. Alexis de Tocqueville

b. Emile Durkheim

c. Karl Marx

d. Max Weber

Ans: D

Answer Location: A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Who wrote, “Gender inequality explains most of individual experience, the ills in society, and history”?

a. Charlotte Perkins Gilman

b. Emile Durkheim

c. W. E. B. Du Bois

d. Alexis de Tocqueville

Ans: A

Answer Location: A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. Who wrote, “Race is one of the most important organizing categories of modern societies”?

a. Alexis de Tocqueville

b. George Simmel

c. George Herbert Mead

d. W. E. B. Du Bois

Ans: D

Answer Location: A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

8. Khaldun introduced which of the following in his most famous work, the *Muqaddimah*?

a. his ideas about social organization

b. a progressive explanation of social change

c. his ideas about race

d. an idealistic evolutionary theory

Ans: A

Answer Location: Premodern Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

9. When did thinkers who could be clearly identified as sociologists first appear?

a. the 1300s

b. the 1500s

c. the 1700s

d. the 1800s

Ans: D

Answer Location: Premodern Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. What was the most immediate social factor in the rise of sociological theorizing during the late 1800s?

a. political revolutions

b. the Industrial Revolution

c. the rise of capitalism

d. colonialism

Ans: A

Answer Location: Political Revolutions

Difficulty Level: Medium

11. Which of the following accompanied the Industrial Revolution?

a. the end of colonial expansion

b. the rise of capitalism

c. the rise of socialism

d. the rise of unionization

Ans: B

Answer Location: The Industrial Revolution and the Rise of Capitalism

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Which of the following reflects an attempt to legitimize European domination of African and indigenous populations?

a. the Industrial Revolution

b. feminism

c. socialism

d. Social Darwinism

Ans: D

Answer Location: Colonialism

Difficulty Level: Medium

13. Which two intellectual currents influenced Enlightenment thinkers above all?

a. philosophy and sociology

b. philosophy and science

c. science and economics

d. religion and emotionalism

Ans: B

Answer Location: The Enlightenment

Difficulty Level: Easy

14. Which of the following is TRUE of conservatives who opposed the Enlightenment?

a. They assigned the irrational aspects of social life negative value.

b. They regarded tradition, imagination, emotionalism, and religion as useful.

c. They championed the French Revolution.

d. They rejected beliefs in traditional authority.

Ans: B

Answer Location: The Conservative Reaction to the Enlightenment

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. Alexis de Tocqueville was a great advocate of which of the following?

a. freedom

b. equality

c. centralization

d. socialism

Ans: A

Answer Location: Alexis de Tocqueville (1805–1859)

Difficulty Level: Hard

16. Which French sociologist directed his positivist critique toward the French Revolution and its aftermath?

a. Alexis de Tocqueville

b. Claude Henri Saint-Simon

c. Auguste Comte

d. Emile Durkheim

Ans: C

Answer Location: Auguste Comte (1798–1857)

Difficulty Level: Medium

17. What was Emile Durkheim’s view of social disorder?

a. It is a necessary part of the modern world.

b. It is immune to social reforms.

c. It is inherent in society.

d. It is harmful and unnecessary.

Ans: D

Answer Location: Emile Durkheim (1858–1917)

Difficulty Level: Medium

18. Durkheim referred to which of the following as forces and structures that are external to, and coercive of, the individual?

a. social problems

b. social disorders

c. social institutions

d. social facts

Ans: D

Answer Location: Social Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

19. Which German philosopher developed dialectics and idealism to examine the dynamic aspects of society?

a. G. W. F. Hegel

b. Ludwig Feuerbach

c. Karl Marx

d. Max Weber

Ans: A

Answer Location: Hegel

Difficulty Level: Medium

20. Which German thinker developed a materialist philosophy he then applied toward understanding consciousness and religion?

a. G. W. F. Hegel

b. Ludwig Feuerbach

c. Karl Marx

d. Max Weber

Ans: B

Answer Location: Feuerbach

Difficulty Level: Medium

21. Which of the following is TRUE of Karl Marx?

a. He looked only at abstract mental labor.

b. He believed that evolution was occurring beyond the control of people and their activities.

c. He adopted a materialist orientation.

d. He focused on the religious world.

Ans: C

Answer Location: Marx, Hegel, and Feuerbach

Difficulty Level: Easy

22. According to Marx, which of the following is the breakdown of the natural interconnection among people and between people and what they produce?

a. dialectical materialism

b. capitalism

c. alienation

d. anomie

Ans: C

Answer Location: Marx’s Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

23. Which German thinker emphasized rationality in his social theory that he famously applied to religion, economics, and bureaucracy?

a. G. W. F. Hegel

b. Ludwig Feuerbach

c. Karl Marx

d. Max Weber

Ans: D

Answer Location: The Roots and Nature of the Theories of Max Weber (1864–1920) and Georg Simmel (1858–1918)

Difficulty Level: Easy

24. Who is best known for his or her work on smaller-scale issues, particularly individual action and interaction?

a. Max Weber

b. Karl Marx

c. Georg Simmel

d. Harriet Martineau

Ans: C

Answer Location: Simmel’s Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

25. Which of the following was one of Harriet Martineau’s goals?

a. to develop broad abstract laws of social life

b. to eradicate laissez-faire economics

c. to outline a large-scale theory of social evolution

d. to describe societies and assess whether or not they had lived up to their own ideals

Ans: D

Answer Location: Harriet Martineau (1802–1876)

Difficulty Level: Medium

26. What was Vilfred Pareto’s lasting contribution to sociology?

a. his rejection of Marx

b. his elite theory of social change

c. his scientific conception of sociology

d. his interest in social morality

Ans: C

Answer Location: The Key Figure in Early Italian Sociology

Difficulty Level: Hard

27. For the most part, discussion of which of the following is absent in classical sociological theory?

a. disorder

b. colonialism

c. capitalism

d. socialism

Ans: B

Answer Location: Non-European Classical Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

# Multiple Response

1. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. Which of the following make a sociological theory a classic?

a. great scope

b. ambition

c. a central role in the development of sociology

d. continued relevance today

Ans: A, B, C, D

Answer Location: Introduction

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. According to Max Weber, which of the following are dimensions of stratification?

a. social class

b. prestige

c. power

d. gender

Ans: A, B, C

Answer Location: Weber and Marx

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. Which of the following intellectual currents were embraced by early British sociologists?

a. ameliorism

b. political economy

c. socialism

d. social evolution

Ans: A, B, D

Answer Location: Political Economy, Ameliorism, and Social Evolution

Difficulty Level: Medium

4. SELECT ALL THAT APPY. Herbert Spencer accepted which of the following?

a. a cyclical theory of social change

b. a laissez-faire doctrine

c. Social Darwinism

d. Comte’s Law of the Three Stages

Ans: B, C

Answer Location: Herbert Spencer (1820–1903)

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. According to Tiryakian, what makes a sociological work a classic?

a. It is considered a “must read” for new sociologists.

b. It demonstrates the imaginative power of sociology.

c. It is useful to contemporary theorists and researchers.

d. It is considered a “must reread” by established sociologists.

Ans: A, B, C, D

Answer Location: The Contemporary Relevance of Classical Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

# True/False

1. According to Kaldun, *‘asibayya’* (group feeling) is the strongest in sedentary societies.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Premodern Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Most classic sociologists rejected religion for the scientific rationalism offered by more secular styles of thinking.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Religion

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. The majority of early sociologists favored socialism over capitalism.

Ans: F

Answer Location: The Rise of Socialism

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. There was a debate among early sociologists about how much social science should mirror the natural sciences.

Ans: T

Answer Location: The Growth of Science

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Most enlightenment thinkers embraced traditional authorities.

Ans: F

Answer Location: The Enlightenment

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. French Catholic counterrevolutionary philosophy challenged the Enlightenment by arguing that tradition, imagination, emotionalism, and religion are useful and even needed for social life.

Ans: T

Answer Location: The Conservative Reaction to the Enlightenment

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. Alexis de Tocqueville claimed to invent the concept of individualism.

Ans: T

Answer Location: Alexis de Tocqueville (1805–1859)

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Claude Henri Saint-Simon wanted to undo the Enlightenment and return society to the Middle-Ages.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Claude Henri Saint-Simon (1760–1825)

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. Auguste Comte believed that social statics (existing social structures) is more important than social dynamics (social change).

Ans: F

Answer Location: Auguste Comte (1798–1857)

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. Emile Durkheim asserted that the complexities of modern society had caused a decline in the strength of the collective conscience.

Ans: T

Answer Location: Social Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. Primarily because of Karl Max’s controversial yet influential work, early sociology was much more fragmented in Germany than it was in France.

Ans: T

Answer Location: The Development of German Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Max Weber believed that the trend in the West was toward systems of charismatic authority.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Weber’s Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

13. Like most German sociologists, George Simmel worked predominately at the macro level.

Ans: F

Answer Location: The Development of German Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

14. Herbert Spencer had a more critical perspective of laissez-faire economics than Harriet Martineau.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Harriet Martineau (1802–1876)

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. Vilfredo Pareto characterized society as being comprised of interdependent parts where a change in one part results in a change in another part so that equilibrium is maintained.

Ans: T

Answer Location: The Key Figure in Early Italian Sociology

Difficulty Level: Easy

# Essay

1. Which social factor was the most important in the rise of sociology and why?

Ans:

* Explain whether political revolutions, the Industrial Revolution and the rise of capitalism, colonialism, socialism, feminism, urbanization, religion or science were of great influence in the rise of sociology

Answer Location: Intellectual Forces and the Rise of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Explain how counter-enlightenment thought in addition to Enlightenment philosophy and science was also important to the development of sociology.

Ans:

* + Sociology embraced the rational empiricism espoused as part of the Enlightenment
  + Sociology did not embrace the emphasis on the individual that was central to the Enlightenment

Answer Location: Intellectual Forces and the Rise of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Explain how the unique social contexts in France, Germany, and Britain led to the development of unique sociological thought.

Ans:

* The sociology in France was primarily a reaction to the French Revolution and the Enlightenment
* The sociology in Germany was first a reaction to Hegel, and then a reaction to Karl Marx
* In not experiencing much of the upheaval that plagued continental Europe, British sociology generally applauded industrial capitalism while looking to reform individuals, not society

Answer Location: Intellectual Forces and the Rise of Sociological Theory

Difficulty Level: Hard