



Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

25 September 2022

Mid Semester Test (BTech Level 2)

Course No. HS 236

Weightage: 30

9 am – 11 am

Course Name: Sociological Perspectives on Modernity

Course Instructor: Sambit Mallick

Attempt any **ONE** question from **Section A**.

[1 × 20]

1. Elaborate on structuralist interpretation of modernity by Levi-Strauss and Althusser.
2. Marx and Weber reflected on modernity in European contexts. Elucidate. →

Section B (COMPULSORY)

[10 × 1]

3. What is not a characteristic of the critical modernist paradigm in sociology?
 - (a) Rationality
 - (b) Reflexivity
 - (c) Metaphysics •
 - (d) Totality
4. What does *verstehen* denote?
 - (a) Understanding
 - (b) Goal-oriented social action
 - (c) Explanation
 - (d) Value-oriented social action
5. 'Self-knowing' and 'self-creating' are the objectives of
 - (a) Holism or totality
 - (b) Reflexivity
 - (c) Rationality
 - (d) Social movements •
6. There is no role of human agency in
 - (a) Marxism •
 - (b) Weberian social theory
 - (c) Structuralism
 - (d) Western Marxism
7. There is no actual mode of production; only that we know is the *idea* of mode of production. Whose opinion is this?
 - (a) Levi-Strauss
 - (b) Louis Althusser
 - (c) Karl Marx •
 - (d) Max Weber •

8. What does Marx's 'modes of production' refer to?
- (a) Forces of production only
 - (b) Relations of production only
 - (c) A combination of forces of production and relations of production
 - (d) Historical materialism
9. What does Weber's 'instrumental rationality' refer to?
- (a) Value-rational action
 - (b) Goal-oriented action
 - (c) Affective or emotive action
 - (d) Traditional action
10. Who employed a linguistic analogy to treat culture, not just as a system of relations, but as a system of symbolic relations, such as myths?
- (a) Claude Levi-Strauss
 - (b) Louis Althusser
 - (c) C. Wright Mills
 - (d) Max Weber
11. _____ explanations are explanations of events in terms, not of their causes, but of their effects. Fill in the blank.
- (a) Marxist
 - (b) Conflicting
 - (c) Historical
 - (d) Functional
12. _____ phase is of the opinion, 'Madness is a medical condition'. Fill in the blank.
- (a) Renaissance
 - (b) Reformation
 - (c) Enlightenment → *Scientific Modern or Enlightenment*
 - (d) Metaphysical
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