Exam #1

1.(t/f) Classical theorists believed that a theory is a coherent set of propositions that explained universal laws.

2.(t/f) Classical social theorists were influenced by natural scientists and their theories. An example of this influence was Auguste Comte calling his theory the Law of Three Stages.

3.(m/c) All of the following are characteristics of social evolutionism EXCEPT:

a. all societies follow a sequence of stages. b. each society is unique

c. humanity is progressing towards utopia d. European societies are the most advanced

e. none are exceptions

4.(t/f) The Great Chain of Being legitimated social position in Feudal society.

5.(m/c) All of the following were social forces at work during the Great Transformation EXCEPT:

a. Protestant Reformation b. scientific discoveries and theories c. political revolutions

d. World War I e. none are exceptions

6.(t/f) Social theorists believed that theoretical knowledge would give human beings the power to shape society into a utopia.

7.(m/c) All of the following are characteristics of Classical theory EXCEPT:

a. scientific method leads to the discovery of universal laws b. theory construction has instrumental value.

c. theory construction is rule governed d. belief in objective reality governed by laws of nature.

e. none are exceptions

8.(m/c) All of the following are characteristics of the Enlightenment EXCEPT:

a. belief in Reason b. optimism c. belief in progress towards a utopia

d. Revelation as the basis of knowledge e. none are exceptions

9.(m/c) According to Ritzer, thinkers of the counter-Enlightenment argued all of the following EXCEPT:

a. Social theory should focus on the individual as the most important phenomenon of sociological inquiry.

b. Society has an existence of its own outside of individuals.

c. The parts of society, its institutions, are interrelated and interdependent.

d. Change is a threat to society (social order). e. none are exceptions

10.(m/c) According to Ritzer, the dominant intellectual influence on Karl Marx was:

a. Schleirmacher b. Feuerbach c. Barth d. Hegel e. Kierkegaard

11.(m/c) According to Ritzer, the classical sociologist who coined the term “survival of the fittest” was:

a. Herbert Spencer b. Adam Smith c. David Ricardo d. Auguste Comte

12.(t/f) Classical economists like Adam Smith believed that economics was a science just like physics and that the market was a natural phenomenon governed by laws of cause and effect.

13.(t/f) According to Adam Smith, a freely competitive economy will regulate itself by the invisible hand of the market place.

14.(m/c) All of the following are characteristics of capitalism EXCEPT:

a. private ownership b. production and distribution of goods for profit c. laissez faire

d. equality e. none are exceptions

15.(m/c) Which of the following are rights under capitalism?

a. profit b. housing c. health care d. food e. all of above

16.(t/f) According to Smith, the Second Law of the market place, the accumulation of profit, guarantees that capitalists will reinvest profit in technologies of production.

17.(m/c) According to Adam Smith, capitalism is the best economic system because:

a. it allows the market place to function without interference.

b. it understands the truth about human nature. c. it guarantees every one will be a winner.

d. a and b e. all of above

18.(m/c) According to Smith, the Law of Supply and Demand guarantees which of the following?

a. market place demands will be met by capitalist entrepreneurs.

b. competition will guarantee that the market place will provide the quality products at low prices.

c. all social needs will be met d. a and b e. all of above

19.(t/f) According to the Third Law of the market place, when the capitalist does well so will the worker.

20.(t/f) The Fourth Law of the market place, laissez faire, is that the government should only intervene in the market place when it is necessary to bail out a corporation that is too big to fail.

21.(m/c) According to Smith, the role of the government in creating an environment for a nation’s economic system involves all of the following EXCEPT:

a. creation of a system of finance b. tariffs to protect domestic industries

c. creation of a physical infrastructure d. financing and raising a military e. none are exceptions

22.(t/f) Milton Friedman, like Adam Smith, believes that capitalism is the best economic system but he also believes that it necessarily leads to religious and political freedom.

23.(t/f) Milton Friedman believes that public education is socialism.

24.(m/c) According to Milton Friedman, which of the following should be policy goals in a capitalist system?

a. complete deregulation so that the market can self-regulate. b. privatization

c. social programs like welfare and social security to help the poor d. a and b e. all of above

25.(t/f) Milton Friedman believed that shock in the form of a natural or man-made disaster might be necessary to get people to accept his policy goals because people are used to the government helping them.

26.(m/c) According to Friedman, shock therapy includes all of the following EXCEPT:

a. privatization of publicly owned industries b. elimination of all tariffs and subsidies

c. downsizing government d. elimination of unions e. none are exceptions

27.(t/f) Friedman thought that Hurricane Katrina presented a wonderful opportunity because it destroyed the public school system of New Orleans which meant that a new privatized educational system could be established.

28. (m/c) According to the documentary The Corporation, in early America the corporation was a subordinate institution in U.S. society. All of the following were limits place upon corporations at the time EXCEPT:

a. a corporation had to be chartered by the state to fulfill a social need.

b. a corporation had time limitation to its existence. c. shareholders were not liable

d. a corporation could not buy another corporation e. none are exceptions

29.(m/c) According to the documentary The Corporation, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Amendment to the Constitution was used by corporations to gain the status of legal persons.

a. 11th b. 12th c. 14th d. 18th e. 20th

30.(t/f) In the U.S., the sole legal obligation of a public corporation is to maximize profit.

31.(m/c) All of the following were beliefs in the 1950s concerning American society as a utopia EXCEPT:

a. American had no class divisions and was a middle class society.

b. There was no conflict between workers and owners, in fact there was a social contract between them.

c. The American political system was the best in the world.

d. There would be suburbs on the moon. e. none are exceptions

32.(m/c) In surveys \_\_\_\_\_ % of Americans in the 1950s said that happiness was not possible outside of marriage. a. 50 b. 77 c. 83 d. 90 e. none of above

33.(m/c) All of the following became part of the landscape of American society in the 1950s EXCEPT:

a. suburbs b. freeways c. fast foods d. shopping malls e. none are exceptions

34.(m/c) All of the following were beliefs about technology and progress in the 1950s EXCEPT:

a. atomic energy would be available to all at no cost.

b. hunger would be eliminated through the application of pesticides and other chemicals.

c. disease would be eliminated through antibiotics.

d. flying cars, automated houses would create a Jetson-like world.

e. none are exceptions

35.(m/c) All of the following are examples of government subsidies that contributed to American “utopia” in the 1950s EXCEPT:

a. GI Bill of Rights b. construction of air transportation system c. low interest home loans

d. federal funds to suburbs e. none are exceptions

36.(t/f) The main emphasis of structural functionalism is how to explain social change.

37.(t/f) According to structural functionalism, all components of a system are necessary and have a positive function.

38.(m/c) According to structural functionalism, the basic unit of analysis of the social system is the:

a. individual b. status role complex

39.(m/c) All of the following are functional imperatives of Parson’s Action System EXCEPT:

a. adaptation b. goal attainment c. integration d. latency e. none are exceptions

40.(m/c) All of the following are structural components of Parson’s Action System EXCEPT:

a. environmental system b. personality system c. social system d. cultural system

e. none are exceptions

41.(t/f) According to structural functionalism, the primary function of the family is socialization of children into the norms and values of society.

42.(m/c) All of the following are functions of education according to structural functionalism EXCEPT:

a. socialization b. teach citizenship c. teach knowledge and skills

d. teach students to question authority e. none are exceptions

43.(m/c) According to Davis-Moore theory of stratification, inequality in society is:

a. universal b. necessary c. positive

d. b and c e. all of above

44.(m/c) Which of the following contradicted the conventional wisdom of the 1950s that the U.S. was a utopia?

a. existence of significant levels of poverty b. increasing corporate power

c. rise of military-industrial complex d. b and c e. all of above

45.(t/f) There was a consensus between the Republican and the Democrat parties in the 1950s regarding domestic policy; it was that the government should subsidize corporations.

46.(t/f) There was a consensus between the Republican and Democrat parties in the 1950s regarding foreign policy; it was that the U.S. was an empire and should pursue its imperial interests.

47.(t/f) The phrase permanent war economy refers all of the following EXCEPT:

a. WWI B. Cold War c. Korean War d. Vietnam War e. none are exceptions

48.(m/c) C. Wright Mills was influenced by which of the following classical theorists?

a. Durkheim b. Marx c. Weber d. b and c e. all of above

49. (m/c) In “White Collar” Mills identified all of the following as problems EXCEPT:

a. increasing size of institutions b. increasing division of labor

c. nature of jobs d. “incorporation” of the human spirit e. none are exceptions

50.(m/c) Mills characterized white collar jobs in all of the following ways EXCEPT:

a. routinized b. rule governed c. more authority

d. less autonomy e. none are exceptions

51.(m/c) Mills argued that success in white collar jobs depended on all of the following EXCEPT:

a. appearance b. being married c. attending the right social functions

d. hard work e. none are exceptions

52.(t/f) Which of the following are types of power according to C. Wright Mills?

a. force b. authority c. manipulation d. a and b e. all of above

53.(m/c) Mills argues in the “Power Elite” that power in the U.S. is gained and maintained primarily through:

a. force b. authority c. manipulation

54.(t/f) Mills argues that the 1950s is the first time in U.S. history that there has been rule by an elite.

55.(t/f) According to Mills, the role of the people in a system governed by a power elite is to ratify decisions made by the power elite, to shop and to watch television.

56.(m/c) According to Mills, U.S. society is ruled by a power elite composed of people from all of the following groups EXCEPT:

a. politics b. economy c. universities d. military e. none are exceptions

57.(m/c) Mills’ analysis of large bureaucracies in the U.S. in the 1950s was influenced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ analysis of bureaucracy. a. Durkheim’s b. Weber’s

58.(m/c) According to Mills, war is good for the power elite for all of the following reasons EXCEPT:

a. creates wealth for weapons contractors b. creates environment for manipulation

c. creates a distraction d. eliminates dissent e. none are exceptions

59.(m/c) According to Mills, the power elite can act in a coordinated and cooperative way because:

a. they have common economic interests b. common world view

c. common policy goals d. a and b e. all of above

60 (t/f) Mills argues that the power elite govern by holding command positions.

61.(t/f) The power elite make what Mills calls the “trunk decisions”; these are the decisions that determine major domestic and foreign policy for the U.S.

62.(m/c) According to Mills’ theory, in reality the mass media has all of the following functions EXCEPT:

a. inform the public b. manipulate the public c. distract the public

d. scare the public e. none are exceptions

63.(t/f) According to Mills, the educational system is the only system that is not shaped by the power elite.

64.(m/c) According to Mills, all of the following are consequences for the individual in this system of power EXCEPT:

a. alienated b. apathetic c. loss of freedom and reason

d. morally insensible e. none are exceptions

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Match the following theorists to the quote from their work.

65. Mills 66. Freud 67. Collins 68. Parsons

a. “We recognize as cultural all activities and resources which are useful to men for making the earth serviceable to them, for protecting them against the violence of the forces of nature.”

b. “The power structure of this society is based upon a privately incorporated economy that is also a permanent war economy.

c. “The most crucial difference among work situations is the power relations involved. Occupational classes are essentially power classes within the realm of work.”

d. “Interactive relationships analyzed in terms of statuses and roles occur as we have seen in systems.”

69.(m/c) According to Weber, all of the following are characteristics of rationalization EXCEPT:

a. efficiency b. control c. calculability d. predictability e. none are exceptions

70.(m/c) According to Weber, all of the following are characteristics of the ideal typical bureaucracy EXCEPT:

a. hierarchy b. rules and regulations c. offices with limited function

d. positions based on expertise e. none are exceptions

71.-75. Mills argues that historically a power elite has governed in the U.S. He says that at different times the power elite is dominated by members of one of the groups. Applying Mills’ theory to the present, the members of what group dominate American society today?