Exam #1

1.(m/c) Sociology is the study of society which involves a unique perspective. Which of the following are assumptions of the sociological perspective?

a. Individuals are social by nature. b. Individuals are, for the most part, socially determined.

c. Human agency allows people to change society d. a and c e. all of above

2.(m/c) Sociologists study all of the following social phenomena EXCEPT

a. social structure b. social processes c. social change d. culture e. none are exceptions

3.(m/c) Which of the following are components of the sociological imagination?

a. Willingness to view the world from the point of view of others.

b. Ability to see societal patterns that influence one’s life.

c. Willingness to question social arrangements that shape one’s life. d. a and b e. all of above

4.(t/f) Sociology is subversive because it questions all social arrangements, religious, political, or economic,

and raises questions about the truth of conventional wisdoms.

5.(m/c) All of the following are examples of sociological methods EXCEPT?

a. surveys b. experiments c. observation d. collection of existing data e. none are exceptions

6.(m/c) Which of the following are primary institutions in society?

a. education b. family c. political system d. economy e. all of above

7.(m/c) All of the following are components of structural functional theory (order theory) EXCEPT;

a. society is a harmoniously functioning ordered and stable system.

b. society’s institutions are interdependent

c. society’s institutions have a positive function towards maintaining social stability.

d. inequality has a negative function that undermines social order.

e. none are exceptions

8.(m/c) Which of the following are the components of conflict theory?

a. Society is the site of conflict between groups.

b. Groups struggle for control of society’s resources (power).

c. Social institutions reproduce the inequality established by the winners of the struggle.

d. a and b e. all of above

9.(m/c) The theory that argues that education functions as gatekeeper, keeping the rich and powerful,

rich and powerful, and the poor, poor and without power, is:

a. structural functionalism b. conflict theory

10.(m/c) From the point of view of order theory, sport serves which of the following functions?

a. It symbolizes the American way of life-competitive individualism and achievement.

b. It functions to socialize young people into norms of obedience and respect for authority.

c. It promotes social solidarity through the use of nationalistic rituals like the nation anthem.

d. a and c e. all of above

11.(t/f) The myth of peaceful progress is the incorrect belief that throughout U.S. history disadvantaged

groups have gained their share of power, prosperity, and respectability without resorting to violence.

12.(m/c) From the point of view of conflict theory, sport functions in which of the following ways?

a. It validates conventional wisdom of capitalist society, anyone can succeed through hard work.

b. It serves to divert attention away from social issues.

c. It gives false hope to the oppressed members of society, .01% of high school athletes will play as

rookies in pro sports.

d. It is heavily subsidized by public funding which diverts money from education to private wealth.

e. all of above

13.(m/c) Because Americans accept without question the myth of peaceful progress, they:

a. fail to understand minority or subordinate group protest.

b. believe any group can achieve prosperity in the U.S. by embracing achievement norms.

c. believe that it is the groups fault for their problems not the social organization of inequality.

d. a and c e. all of above

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Match the following term to its definition

Term Definition

14. false consciousness a. Idea or belief the majority of a society accepts without question.

15. social role b. Position within institution that involves expectations.

16. norms c. Process by which person becomes a social self.

17. socialization d. Ideas and or beliefs held by subordinate groups that are not in their interest.

18. conventional wisdom e. Social rules that define acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

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19.(t/f) The reality is that the United States, like all other societies, has not allowed and does not allow for the nonviolent transfer of power.

20.(m/c) All of the following groups have used violence to achieve social, economic, or political objectives in the U.S. EXCEPT:

a. American revolutionary colonists. b. Native Americans c. farmers

d. organized labor e. none are exceptions

21.(m/c) Stratification is a system of ranking individuals and groups hierarchically. Which of the following are true about systems of stratification?

a. They are universal. b. They are social arrangement of structured inequality.

c. They are systems of domination and subordination. d. a and b e. all of above

22.(m/c) All of the following are examples of the caste system of stratification EXCEPT:

a. no social mobility b. achieved status c. strict behavioral norms

d. system determined by birth e. none are exceptions

23.(m/c) Which of the following is a characteristic of the Indian caste system (outlawed in 1950 but still prevalent in rural areas)?

a. At the bottom of the system are the “untouchables.” b. Those in the higher caste are considered more pure.

c. Birth into a particular family determines one’s destiny. d. a and c e. all of above

24.(t/f) The religious belief in reincarnation strongly reinforces the caste system in India.

25.(m/c) All of the following are characteristics of the class system of stratification EXCEPT:

a. social mobility b. ascribed status c. meritocracy

d. achievement norms e. none are exceptions

26.(m/c) The work ethic, success through education , and a positive attitude are the norms of a :

a. caste system b. class system

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Match the terms to its definition

Term Definition

27. life chances a. Those occupying the same economic rank in a system of stratification.

28. social class b. Distribution of goods, services and situations that are highly valued.

29. privilege c. Socially defined common genetic heritage resulting in shared

physical characteristics.

30. race d. Patterning differences and domination through distinctions between men and women.

31. gender e. Opportunity to enjoy the social goods of a society.

32.(m/c) What are the conventional wisdoms that justify the system of stratification in the U.S.?

a. It is a system which offers equality of opportunity for all.

b. It is a system that guarantees upward mobility for those who embrace achievement norms.

c. Those at the top deserve the benefits and privileges because they have worked hard for them.

d. Those at the bottom deserve to be at the bottom, which is not that bad in the U.S. any way.

e. All of above.

33.(m/c) All of the following are true about the U.S. system of stratification EXCEPT:

a. Wealth is highly concentrated in the top 1% of the population.

b. The U.S. has the highest concentration of income among industrial nations.

c. In the last few years, 90% of income gains have gone to the top 1%.

d. It is having an impact on the structure of society, increases in private schooling and gated communities.

e. All of above.

34. (m/c) The system of stratification in the U.S. has which of the following consequences for those at the bottom?

a. They are more likely to join the military. b. They are more likely to die before the age of one.

c. They are more likely to not have health care, live in more polluted areas and attend poorly maintained schools.

d. b and c e. All of above

35.(t/f) The U.S. has greater intergenerational upward mobility than any other country.

36.(m/c) Those people living at one-half the poverty level or less are:

a. severely poor b. working poor c. near poor

37.(m/c) Only one-half of poor families receive any benefits. For those who receive cash benefits the average monthly payment is:

a. $1053 b. $510 c.$372 d.$2000 e.$1537.

38.(t/f) More public money goes to the rich and middle class (“wealthfare”) than to the poor (welfare).

39.(m/c) All of the following benefit from poverty EXCEPT:

a. welfare moms who keep having babies to increase their monthly payments.

b. employers because the poor are an unemployed workforce that keep wages depressed.

c. society because there is someone to do the dirty and dangerous jobs.

d. businesses who charge higher prices on goods and services in poor areas.

e. none of above.

40.(m/c) Which of the following characterize the state of higher education in the U.S. at the present?

a. University administrations are preoccupied with “output efficiency.”

b. University faculty are preoccupied with research.

c. Students are apathetic about education d. a and c e. all of above

41.(t/f) No Child Left Behind and Race to the Top are designed to encourage critical thinking.

42.(m/c) Which of the following characterize the U.S. system of education:

a. It is compulsory up to certain grade or age depending on the state.

b. It is fragmented into public, private, charter, and religious schools.

c. It is locally controlled. d. b and c e. none are exceptions

43.(m/c) In “Crisis of Democracy,” Samuel Huntington concludes that the goal of the power elite in relation to higher education ought to be :

a. depoliticize the university b. transform the university into a vocational institution

c. make the students passive d. a and b e. all of above

44.(m/c) Which of the following are reasons that Huntington identified the university as a subversive institution?

a. Students are taught subversive ideas. b. Students are encouraged to think critically.

c. Students are exposed to new ideas and new ways of understanding American society.

d. a and b e. all of above

45.(m/c) According to Huntington, if the university is successfully restructured students will be apathetic, passive and disengaged.

46.(m/c) Which of the following are ways that the university has been restructured to achieve the goals of those in power?

a. It has become a gatekeeper through under funding and increased cost.

b. It has emphasized its function in relation to business community.

c. It has marginalized the humanities.

d. It has dehumanized the university with large classes and on line courses e. all of above

47.(m/c) Applying the business model to the University means which of the following ?

a. University should function like any business.

b. The degree is a product that the University/owner sells to student/consumers.

c. Education is a production process, the mass production of degrees d. a and b e. all of above

48.(t/f) According to the U.S. Supreme Court, the Constitution guarantees equality of education.

49.(m/c) Which of the following are problems with local control of schools in the U.S.?

a. Differences in the local tax bases of school districts lead to inequality in funding.

b. Local school boards do not represent the population; the business and professional sectors are overrepresented.

c. Religious views of the majority of the local board may become part of the curriculum.

d. a and b e. all of above

50.(m/c) All of the following are consequences for underfunded schools and their students EXCEPT:

a. less qualified teachers b. inadequate resources c. larger classes d. elimination of extracurricular activities

e. none are exceptions