Exam #1 Sociology 101

1.(m/c) All of the following are true about conventional wisdoms EXCEPT:

a. they are ideas and /or beliefs held about a society. b. the majority of society share them without question.

c. once they are proven to be false, people will stop believing them.

d. through socialization, they become part of the identity of members of society.

e. none are exceptions.

2.(m/c) The conventional wisdoms of the “individual” and “individualism” are fundamental to American society. They involve which of the following?

a. The belief that people are independent .

b. The outcome of each person’s life is determined by social forces.

c. They are tied to other conventional wisdoms, such as hard work equals personal success.

d. a and c e. all of above

3.m/c) 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

4.(m/c) The sociological perspective contradicts the conventional wisdoms of individual and individualism in which of the following ways?

a. The sociological perspective claims that society shapes what its members think, know and believe.

b. The sociological perspective claims that society determines its members’ imagination and life goals.

c. The sociological perspective claims society determines individual life chances.

d. a and b e. all of above

5.(t/f) Sociology is usually not taught in high school because it questions both social arrangements, religious, political, or economic, and raises questions about the truth of conventional wisdoms.

6.(m/c) Which of the following are social institutions ?

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 components of conflict theory?

a. Society is the site of conflict between groups.

b. Groups struggle for access to and control of society’s resources..

c. Inequality has a positive function because it gives subordinate groups incentive to improve themselves.

d. a and b e. all of above

9.(m/c) The theory that argues that education functions as a 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 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

11.(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

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

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

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 group’s 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. Technology, like television, that shapes a society’s way of life.

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 held by subordinate groups that are not in their interest.

18. material culture e. Social rules that define acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

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19.(t/f) The reality is that the United States, unlike all other societies, has allowed and does 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 arrangements 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 characteristics of the caste system of stratification EXCEPT:

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

d. social location 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.(m/c) The Titanic is a example of a system of stratification in which of the following ways?

a. The power to determine the course and speed of the ship was in the hands of the owners.

b. The rich had access to valued social goods and services to which the poor did not have access.

c. Life chances were determined by social location, the rich had a greater chance of surviving the catastrophe.

d. b and c e. all of above

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, because of their lack of ability, intelligence and/or effort..

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 putting tremendous stress on the middle class to maintain its position and it is making the poor poorer.

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 live in more polluted areas, attend poorly maintained schools and not have health care..

d. b and c e. All of above

35.(t/f) Despite, increasing inequality, the U.S. still has more intergenerational upward mobility than any other industrial country.

36.(m/c) Those people living at one half the poverty threshold are categorized as:

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) In the United States, 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. the rich because it diverts attention away from the real source of the problems, extreme and growing

inequality.. 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 FTES.

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. all of above

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.(t/f) 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 the 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