Exam #1 Sociology 101

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

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

c. once they are proven to be false, those who believed them will stop believing them.

d. they become an important part of a person’s identity.

e. none are exceptions.

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

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

3.m/c) According to C.Wright Mills, which of the following are assumptions of what he calls “the sociological imagination”?

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 b e. all of above

4.(m/c) All of the following are characteristics of McJobs EXCEPT:

a. part-time b. job insecurity c. benefits

d. low wages e. none are exceptions

5.(t/f) Sociology is usually not taught in high school because it leads students to question social institutions and the truths of conventional wisdoms.

6.(m/c) Which of the following are primary 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 parts are interdependent; they work together.

c. society’s parts 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) From the point of view of conflict theory, sports function in which of the following ways?

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

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

even asrookies in pro sports.

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

d. a and b e. all of above

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 .(m/c) For order theory, the ultimate value is:

a. society b. the individual

12..(m/c) The myth of peaceful progress is a conventional wisdom that reinforces the belief that:

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

b. if a group (racial group, for example) has problems, it is the group’s fault not society’s.

c. violence is not now, nor has it ever been, necessary in the history of the U.S. to improve the conditions for groups.

d. b and c e. all of above

13.(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

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

a. All societies are stratified to some degree. b. They are social arrangements of structured inequality.

c. They are systems of domination and subordination (power arrangements). d. a and b e. all of above

20.(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

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

a. At the bottom of the system are a group called “untouchables.”

b. Those in the higher caste are considered more pure.

c. Marriage between members of different castes is the only way to upward mobility. d. a and b e. all of above

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

a. Power, for example, the power to determine the course and speed of the ship, was in the hands of the owners.

b. The rich had luxurious living arrangements, servants, and beautiful dinning arrangements; those in steerage did not

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

23.(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

24.(m/c) The achievement norms, hard work and a positive attitude, are the norms of a :

a. caste system b. class system

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

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

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Match the terms to its definition

Term Definition

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

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

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

physical characteristics.

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

30. gender e. The chances throughout one’s life cycle to enjoy the good things of life.

31.(m/c) All of the following are conventional wisdoms that justify the system of stratification in the U.S.?

a. It is a system which offers equality of opportunity to 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 are most qualified, and have worked hardest.

d. Those at the bottom deserve to be at the bottom, because of their lack of ability, intelligence and/or effort.

e. none are exceptions

32.(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 inequality of wealth of any industrial country.

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

d. Inequality has been decreasing since the Great Recession.

e. none are exceptions.

33. (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. a and c e. all of above

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

35.(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.

36.(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 keep wages low.

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.

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

a. private ownership b. pursuit of profit c. competition

d. equality of outcome e. none are exceptions

38.(m/c) All of the following are characteristics of a socialist economic system EXCEPT:

a. public ownership of the means of production b. egalitarianism

c. institutions controlled by elites. d. economic production for social needs.. e. none are exceptions

39.(t/f) An economic system determines the division of labor; that is, the types of jobs that are available to workers in a society.

40.(m/c) All of the following are characteristics of the U.S. economic system EXCEPT:

a. increasing concentration of ownership . b. interlocking directorates

c. shared monopolies. d. corporations as legal persons. e. none are exceptions

41.(t/f) *Laissez faire* means that the government must not interfere in the market place, except to subsidize important industries, like agriculture and pharmaceutics.

42.(m/c) All of the following are examples of “wealthfare” EXCEPT:

a. Work Opportunity Tax Credit b. low income housing subsidies

c. public funding of research and development for the pharmaceutical industry.

d. bailout of the financial industry e. none are exceptions

43.(m/c) All of the following have been consequences of monopoly capitalism for workers and families EXCEPT:

a. increase in real household income b. increase in dual worker families

c. increase in household debt d. increase in student debt e. none are exceptions

44.(m/c) The legislation that made monopolies illegal was the:

a. Sherman Anti-Trust Act b. Clayton Act c. Glass-Steagall Act

d. Citizens United

45.(t/f) Corporations in the U.S. have two legal obligations: first, to maximize profit, and second, to create jobs that provide good wages and benefits for workers.

46.(m/c) In the Daily Show episode, “Fear Factory,” the U.S. company for whom Foxconn was manufacturing products was:

a. Nike b. Microsoft c. Apple d. Wal-Mart e. Disney

47.(m/c) The company that owned aluminum, owned warehouses where it was stored and was able to manipulate the supply of aluminum to artificially raise its price was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. Goldman Sachs b. Lehman Brothers c. Alcoa d. U.S. Steel

48.(m/c) The company that employs the most workers in the U.S. is?

a. Apple b. McDonald’s c. Walmart d. Subway e. Manpower

49.(t/f) According to the text, white collar jobs, as opposed to blue collar jobs, are not alienating.

50.(m/c) Corporations have increased their power over workers in all of the following ways EXCEPT:

a. downsizing b. off shoring c. outsourcing

d. automation e. none are exceptions