

Sociology Foundations and Concepts

Sociology · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which sociologist is credited with coining the term 'the sociological imagination' in his 1959 book?

- A) Émile Durkheim
- B) C. Wright Mills**
- C) Max Weber
- D) Auguste Comte

2. In sociology, what is the term for the process through which people learn the values, norms, and behaviors of their society?

- A) Socialization**
- B) Stratification
- C) Enculturation
- D) Assimilation

3. According to Émile Durkheim, what is the term for a state of normlessness that occurs when social standards break down?

- A) Alienation
- B) Anomie**
- C) Ascription
- D) Acculturation

4. What is the term for the movement of individuals or groups between different social positions in a stratified society?

- A) Social mobility**
- B) Social cohesion
- C) Social capital
- D) Social stratification

5. Which concept refers to the cultural values that each generation passes on to the next?

- A) Cultural diffusion
- B) Cultural transmission**
- C) Cultural relativism
- D) Cultural lag

6. What did Karl Marx call the social class that owns the means of production in a capitalist society?

- A) Proletariat
- B) Bourgeoisie**
- C) Lumpenproletariat
- D) Intelligentsia

7. What is 'ethnocentrism' in a sociological context?

- A) Judging another culture by its own standards
- B) Believing one's own culture is superior to others**
- C) The study of ethnic diversity
- D) The blending of multiple cultures

8. In the context of social status, what is an 'achieved status'?

- A) A position earned through individual effort**
- B) A position assigned at birth
- C) A position inherited from parents
- D) A position based on physical appearance

9. Which term describes the informal norms that govern everyday behavior, such as etiquette or dress codes?

- A) Mores
- B) Taboos
- C) Folkways**
- D) Laws

10. Who developed the concept of 'the looking-glass self', suggesting our self-image is shaped by how others perceive us?

- A) George Herbert Mead
- B) Charles Horton Cooley**
- C) Erving Goffman
- D) Herbert Blumer

11. What is the sociological definition of a 'secondary group'?

- A) A small, intimate group based on personal ties
- B) A large, impersonal group focused on a specific goal**
- C) A group that rejects societal norms
- D) A group defined by geographic location

12. Which term describes a situation where an individual is forced to balance conflicting expectations from two or more social statuses?

- A) Role strain
- B) Role conflict**
- C) Status inconsistency
- D) Status set

13. What is 'cultural lag' as defined by William F. Ogburn?

- A) The delay between technological change and cultural adjustment**
- B) The difference in growth between urban and rural cultures
- C) The loss of traditional values in modern society
- D) The time it takes for immigrants to integrate

14. Which type of society is primarily characterized by the production of information and services rather than manufactured goods?

- A) Agrarian society
- B) Industrial society
- C) Post-industrial society**
- D) Hunting and gathering society

15. What is 'social capital' in the framework proposed by Robert Putnam?

- A) The total wealth of a nation
- B) The economic resources of an individual
- C) The value of social networks and the inclinations that arise from them**
- D) The political power held by elite groups

16. In sociology, what is the term for the systematic inequality between groups of people based on social categories?

- A) Social stratification**
- B) Social differentiation
- C) Social integration
- D) Social mobility

17. Erving Goffman's 'dramaturgical analysis' compares social interaction to what?

- A) A mathematical equation
- B) A theatrical performance**
- C) A biological ecosystem
- D) A mechanical process

18. What defines a 'counterculture'?

- A) A culture that is exactly the same as the dominant culture
- B) A culture whose values and norms are at odds with the dominant culture**
- C) A culture that only exists in rural areas
- D) A subculture that has gained mainstream acceptance

19. What does the 'Thomas Theorem' state regarding the social construction of reality?

- A) If men define situations as real, they are real in their consequences**
- B) Society is an organism that evolves over time
- C) Conflict is the primary driver of social change
- D) Individual actions have no impact on social structure

20. Which sociological perspective focuses on the power dynamics and competition for scarce resources?

- A) Functionalism
- B) Symbolic Interactionism
- C) Conflict Theory**
- D) Evolutionary Theory