

# Sociology Foundations and Concepts

Sociology · Practice Test · 20 Questions

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**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