

Sociology Basics: Core Concepts

Sociology · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What is the primary focus of the academic discipline of sociology?

- A) The study of individual psychology
- B) The study of ancient civilizations
- C) The study of social life, social change, and human behavior**
- D) The study of geological formations

2. Which concept refers to the lifelong process of inheriting and disseminating norms, customs, and ideologies, providing an individual with the skills and habits necessary for participating within their own society?

- A) Innovation
- B) Socialization**
- C) Globalization
- D) Evolution

3. What term describes the shared beliefs, values, practices, behaviors, and material objects that constitute a people's way of life?

- A) Biology
- B) Geology
- C) Culture**
- D) Astronomy

4. In sociology, what is a 'social norm'?

- A) A type of mathematical equation
- B) A rule or expectation of behavior in society**
- C) A specific type of weather pattern
- D) A rare geological event

5. Which of the following is considered a major social institution in most societies?

- A) A single individual's hobby
- B) The weather forecast
- C) The family unit**
- D) A random group of strangers

6. Who is often credited with coining the term 'sociology' and is considered one of its foundational thinkers?

- A) Albert Einstein
- B) Isaac Newton
- C) Auguste Comte**
- D) Charles Darwin

7. What does the sociological concept of 'social stratification' primarily refer to?

- A) Layers of rock in the earth
- B) The study of stars
- C) A system by which society ranks categories of people in a hierarchy**
- D) The process of making a bed

8. What is a 'primary group' in sociology?

- A) A group of people meeting for the first time
- B) A large, impersonal social group
- C) A small social group whose members share personal and lasting relationships**
- D) A group of animals in the wild

9. What is 'deviance' in a sociological context?

- A) The act of following all societal rules
- B) Behavior that violates significant social norms**
- C) A type of musical instrument
- D) The study of plant life

10. Which of these would be an example of a 'material culture' component?

- A) A belief in ghosts
- B) The concept of freedom
- C) A smartphone**
- D) A traditional dance