Advanced Sociological Concepts

Sociology · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which sociologist introduced the concept of 'cultural capital,' referring to non-financial social assets that promote social mobility?

A) Pierre Bourdieu
B) Max Weber
C) Erving Goffman
D) Talcott Parsons

2. In the context of social stratification, what term describes the process by which a society becomes increasingly focused on efficiency, calculability, and predictability?

A) McDonaldization
B) Urbanization
C) Globalism
D) Secularization

3. Which theorist is primarily associated with the structural functionalist perspective, comparing society to a biological organism where each institution performs a specific function?

A) Herbert Spencer
B) C. Wright Mills
C) Karl Marx
D) W.E.B. Du Bois

4. According to Robert Merton's strain theory, what is the term for the response where an individual rejects both the culturally accepted goals and the institutionalized means of achieving them?

A) Retreatism
B) Innovation
C) Ritualism
D) Rebellion

5. What is the term for a social system in which individuals are awarded positions based on their demonstrated ability and effort rather than their social background?

A) Meritocracy
B) Plutocracy
C) Technocracy
D) Gerontocracy

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6. Which sociological concept, coined by W.E.B. Du Bois, describes the internal conflict experienced by subordinated groups in an oppressive society?

A) Double consciousness
B) False consciousness
C) Anomie
D) Looking-glass self

7. Which sociological framework focuses on how language and everyday interactions create and maintain the social reality of individuals?

A) Symbolic interactionism
B) Conflict theory
C) Functionalism
D) Evolutionary theory

8. What did Émile Durkheim define as a state of 'normlessness' where social regulation in a society breaks down?

A) Anomie
B) Alienation
C) Bureaucracy
D) Solidarity

9. Which concept describes the process whereby an individual's self-concept is derived from their perception of how others see them?

A) The looking-glass self
B) The generalized other
C) Impression management
D) Role conflict

10. In Max Weber's view, which characteristic is central to an 'ideal type' of bureaucracy?

A) Impersonal rules
B) Informal networks
C) Spontaneous leadership
D) Fluid hierarchies

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