

Practice Tests for

Henslin

Essentials of Sociology
A Down-to-Earth Approach
Third Edition



Prepared by Robert Thompson
and Harry Hoffman

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Essentials of Sociology **A Down-to-Earth Approach** Third Edition

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Preface



This practice test booklet gives you the advantage of studying the level and type of multiple choice questions found in the testbank your instructor has received to accompany the text. Some questions are factual and some are conceptual, but all reflect the style of multiple choice questions in the testbank provided your instructor. While using the practice test will not substitute for good, hard study, we hope it will provide a real tuneup for your exams.

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Chapter 1: The Sociological Perspective

1. *All except one* of the following are true concerning sociology. Which one should *not* be included?
 - a. It emerged out of social upheaval.
 - b. Its early founders focused on theory and research.
 - c. It applies the scientific to the social world.
 - d. It emerged during the mid-nineteenth century.
2. The idea of applying the scientific method to the social world is known as
 - a. social location.
 - b. positivism.
 - c. reform sociology.
 - d. pure sociology.
3. *All except one* of the following are true concerning the impact of the industrial revolution. Which one should *not* be included?
 - a. It broke the ties many had to the land.
 - b. It made traditional ways of thinking highly problematic.
 - c. It produced a child labor force.
 - d. It gave rise to feudalism.
4. The principle “the survival of the fittest” is attributed to
 - a. Auguste Comte.
 - b. Herbert Spencer.
 - c. Karl Marx.
 - d. Emile Durkheim.
5. Karl Marx believed that historical change is driven by
 - a. conspiracy.
 - b. the bourgeoisie.
 - c. structural strain.
 - d. class conflict.
6. The primary professional goal of Emile Durkheim was to
 - a. get sociology recognized as a separate academic discipline.
 - b. help found the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
 - c. actively opposed communism in the U.S.
 - d. violate governmental security regulations.

2 Chapter One

7. *All except one* of the following are true concerning capitalism according to Weber. Which one should *not* be included?

- a. It is more likely to flourish in Protestant countries.
- b. It arose first in India and China.
- c. It is closely tied to religion.
- d. It depended on the teaching of John Calvin.

8. Harriet Martineau

- a. studied social life both in the U.S. and Great Britain.
- b. was recognized during the 19th century as an important sociologist.
- c. was an active advocate of the abolition of slavery.
- d. founded Hull-House in Chicago in 1889.

9. *All except one* of the following are true concerning Jane Adams. Which one should *not* be included?

- a. She combined the role of sociologist with that of social reformer.
- b. She founded Hull-House in Chicago in 1889.
- c. Her work is used in modern conflict theory.
- d. She worked to improve the conditions of the poor.

10. C. Wright Mills argued that an immediate danger was posed by what he called the

- a. power elite.
- b. red menace.
- c. underclass.
- d. dialectic imperative.

11 Analyzing society versus working toward its reform created _____ within sociology that still exists today.

- a. harmony
- b. competition over scarce resources
- c. tension
- d. social upheaval

12. *All except one* of the following are true concerning clinical sociologists. Which one should *not* be included?

- a. They are likely to make recommendations for change.
- b. They are likely to become involved in problem solving.
- c. They are mainly concerned with the development of research.
- d. They have taken sociology closer to its roots.

13. To explain the U.S. divorce rate, symbolic interactionists look at
- a. who controls the most resources in the home.
 - b. the breakdown of the American family values.
 - c. the historical shifting of functions away from families.
 - d. how changing symbols change people's ideas and behavior.
14. Functionalists such as Auguste Comte and Herbert Spencer view society as
- a. similar to a living organism.
 - b. a competition over scarce resources.
 - c. a place where symbols are very important.
 - d. integrated through a division of labor.
15. *All except one* of the following are true concerning Karl Marx and/or Marxism. Which one should *not* be included?
- a. Marx's work is the basis of structural functionalism.
 - b. Marx claimed not to be a Marxist.
 - c. Marxism is not the same as communism.
 - d. Marx did not develop communism.
16. Ralf Dahrendorf contends that conflict in society normally centers around
- a. economics.
 - b. politics.
 - c. authority.
 - d. religion.
17. The traditional imbalance of power between men and women has been upset through power gained by women primarily through
- a. the women's rights movement.
 - b. their working for pay.
 - c. their being able to vote.
 - d. more acceptance by men.
18. The fourth step in scientific research is to
- a. formulate a hypothesis.
 - b. devise operational definitions.
 - c. choose a research method.
 - d. review the literature.
19. Sociologists are most concerned about validity and reliability when they
- a. collect data.
 - b. choose a research method.
 - c. formulate a hypothesis.
 - d. analyze data.

4 Chapter One

20. *All except one* of the following are true concerning conducting a survey. Which one should *not* be included? It is very important to

- a. select a random sample.
- b. question an entire population.
- c. establish rapport with respondents.
- d. ask neutral questions.

21. When everyone in the population has an equal chance of being included, it is called a

- a. complete sample.
- b. thorough sample.
- c. random sample.
- d. simple sample.

22. Secretly taping conversations is an example of

- a. primary analysis.
- b. unobtrusive investigation.
- c. secondary analysis.
- d. participant observation.

23. *All except one* of the following are true concerning research ethics. Which one should *not* be included?

- a. Openness, honesty, and truth are required.
- b. It is important that participants not be harmed.
- c. Participants' anonymity must be protected.
- d. Results must be fully disclosed.

24. Many sociologists lean strongly toward _____ research, which has no goal beyond understanding social life and testing social theory.

- a. applied
- b. basic
- c. speculative
- d. intuitive

25. *All except one* of the following statements are true. Which one should *not* be included?

- a. Objectivity is a matter of debate among sociologists.
- b. Sociologists are completely objective.
- c. Replication can help uncover research bias.
- d. Reliability can be tested through replication.

Chapter 2: Culture

1. *All except one* of the following are included in culture. Which one should *not* be included?
 - a. material objects
 - b. reproduction
 - c. gestures
 - d. values

2. *All except one* of the following are true concerning ethnocentrism. Which one should *not* be included?
 - a. It should never be applied to other cultures.
 - b. It creates in-group loyalties.
 - c. It can lead to discrimination.
 - d. It involves using one's own group as a yardstick for judging others.

3. Cultural orientation is
 - a. partly instinctual.
 - b. partly genetic.
 - c. partly hormonal.
 - d. entirely learned.

4. *All except one* of the following are provided by culture. Which one should *not* be included?
 - a. a lens through which to view the social world
 - b. implicit assumptions that tell us what to do
 - c. a moral imperative
 - d. sensations of physical pain.

5. Investigation of another culture on its own terms is
 - a. cultural leveling.
 - b. cultural relativism.
 - c. ethnocentrism.
 - d. cultural universalism.

6. Anthropologist Robert Edgerton
 - a. argues that the cultural practices in some societies endanger people's health.
 - b. defends the concept of cultural relativism.
 - c. states that all cultures are morally equivalent.
 - d. contends that all cultural practices should be appreciated.

6 Chapter Two

7. _____ are considered useful shorthand ways to convey messages without using words.
- Norms
 - Folkways
 - Gestures
 - Mores
8. Gestures
- have fairly uniform meanings throughout the world.
 - can actually create emotions.
 - are found throughout the animal world.
 - mainly stem from two original systems—East and West
9. _____ is a system of symbols that can be strung together in an infinite number of ways.
- Language
 - Culture
 - Gesture
 - Leveling
10. Sociologist Douglas Massey argues concerning Miami that
- bilingualism will prevail.
 - the English language will prevail.
 - the Spanish language will prevail.
 - its battle over language is unique in American history.
11. A fine, harsh words, or a raised fist is an example of a
- cultural universal.
 - positive sanction.
 - cultural reinforcement.
 - negative sanction.
12. What kind of norms are often unenforced?
- mores
 - situational norms
 - folkways
 - real norms
13. Which of the following is clearly an example of the violations of a more?
- incest
 - overtime parking
 - bankruptcy
 - divorce

14. Which of the following illustrates the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis?
- a. People in China and Japan have different words for work.
 - b. Eskimos have many words for snow.
 - c. English is understood throughout the world.
 - d. There was no word for love in the Mayan language.
15. A _____ refers to a norm so strongly ingrained that violation is greeted with revulsion.
- a. more
 - b. folkway
 - c. taboo
 - d. law
16. Which group is an example of a counterculture?
- a. bodybuilders
 - b. construction workers
 - c. survivalists
 - d. Baptists
17. A _____ society is comprised of many different groups.
- a. pluralistic
 - b. homogeneous
 - c. naturalistic
 - d. progressive
18. According to Robin Williams, *all except one* of the following are core values in the U.S. Which one should *not* be included?
- a. achievement and success
 - b. progress
 - c. racial equality
 - d. freedom
19. In her study of Westerns, JoEllen Shively found that Native Americans
- a. hated Westerns because they identified with Indians.
 - b. hated Westerns because they identified with cowboys.
 - c. were ambivalent about Westerns.
 - d. tended to make cowboys honorary Indians.
20. The emergence of leisure as a core value is reflected in the
- a. rapidly growing recreation industry.
 - b. preoccupation with natural foods.
 - c. growing concern about being all one can be.
 - d. concern over the environment.

8 Chapter Two

21. Sociologists use the term _____ to refer to a group's values and norms that they actually follow.
- a. ideal culture
 - b. nonmaterial culture
 - c. high culture
 - d. real culture
22. The term _____ refers to the emerging technologies that have a significant impact on social life.
- a. value clusters
 - b. new technology
 - c. global technology
 - d. technological determinism
23. When nations throughout the world begin to share fads and fashions, they are exhibiting
- a. cultural degradation.
 - b. cultural leveling.
 - c. cultural relativism.
 - d. ethnocentrism.
24. *All except one* of the following are true concerning technology. Which one should *not* be included?
- a. Technology is more than simply a tool.
 - b. Technology sets a framework for a group's nonmaterial culture.
 - c. Technology usually lags behind material culture.
 - d. Changing a group's technology can change the way the group thinks.
25. The _____ emphasizes how values and special interests shape the development and use of technology.
- a. social construction of reality
 - b. social construction of technology
 - c. technological determinism thesis
 - d. delayed gratification thesis

Chapter 3: Socialization

1. Based on the story of Genie, we can conclude that intelligence
 - a. is dependent upon early interaction with other human beings.
 - b. is almost entirely genetically based.
 - c. develops independently of environmental influences.
 - d. is not permanently set until adolescence.

2. We can conclude from the Harlow experiments that
 - a. humans are very similar to monkeys.
 - b. monkeys isolated for six month or more were unable to readjust
 - c. sexual activity is not dependent on socialization in monkeys.
 - d. the mothering instinct overcomes impaired socialization.

3. When sociologists say "society makes us human," they are referring to the process of
 - a. generalization.
 - b. gaming playing.
 - c. socialization.
 - d. degradation.

4. Which of the following is not one of the stages proposed by George Herbert Mead?
 - a. imitation
 - b. operational
 - c. play
 - d. game

5. According to Mead, a child who is learning to take the role of several others at the same time in a baseball game is in
 - a. the game stage.
 - b. the concrete operations stage.
 - c. the phallic stage.
 - d. the play stage.

6. In Mead's theory, the "I" is
 - a. the self we are aware of.
 - b. the self as social object.
 - c. the spontaneous, creative part of the self.
 - d. the other-directed part of the self.

10 Chapter Three

7 According to Mead, _____ refers to our perception of how people as a whole think of us.

- a. significant other
- b. determining other
- c. generalized other
- d. reference group

8. Mead stressed that

- a. not only the self but the human mind is a social product.
- b. people can think without the use of symbols.
- c. children pass through four stages as they develop the ability to reason.
- d. the mind as a social product is not universal.

9. According to Piaget, children develop the ability to use symbols during the

- a. sensorimotor stage.
- b. preoperational stage.
- c. concrete operational stage.
- d. formal operational stage.

10. According to Piaget, a child having difficulty understanding such concepts as numbers, size, speed, weight, or causation is probably in what stage of development?

- a. fixed operational
- b. formal operational
- c. sensorimotor
- d. preoperational

11. In Freud's theory of personality, the superego represents

- a. the culture within us.
- b. the inborn drive for self-gratification.
- c. the connection with reality.
- d. a balancing force of the other components.

12. Freud used the term _____ to refer to the balancing force between instinctual demands and the demands of society is the

- a. superego
- b. ego
- c. id
- d. libido

13. Regarding Freud's analysis of socialization, sociologists in general
- a. appreciate his approach.
 - b. object to his view that human behavior rests on unconscious motivations.
 - c. do not believe his approach can be applied cross culturally.
 - d. reject his concept of superego.
14. Which of the following is a function of emotions for society?
- a. producing personal freedom
 - b. preventing sterile rationality
 - c. providing social control
 - d. bonding families together
15. Sociological research has demonstrated that the effects of video games on ideas about gender
- a. have a strong impact on both genders.
 - b. are not clear.
 - c. have greater impact on females than on males.
 - d. have greater impact on males than on females.
16. The family, religion, school, peers, mass media, and workplace are
- a. agents of socialization.
 - b. total institutions.
 - c. arenas of development.
 - d. emotion inhibitors.
17. *All except one* of the following are true concerning the mass media. Which one should *not* be included?
- a. It reflects gender stereotypes.
 - b. It plays a major role in changing gender stereotypes.
 - c. It is an effective socializing agent.
 - d. It is a less effective socializer than schools.
18. In the United States, religion
- a. plays a key role in people's understanding of right and wrong.
 - b. is only significant to those who attend worship services.
 - c. is no longer a primary agent of socialization.
 - d. is only important in teaching people about the afterlife.

12 Chapter Three

19. Middle class parents
- strongly encourage their children to be neat, clean, and to stay out of trouble.
 - use physical punishment to get their children to obey.
 - are very concerned about developing their children's curiosity.
 - are not likely to reason with their children.
20. *All except one* of the following can be concluded from available research on the effects of day care. Which one should *not* be included?
- Children whose families move frequently can benefit.
 - Children living in poverty can benefit.
 - Children from broken homes can benefit.
 - Children from stable homes receive little benefit.
21. *All except one* of the following are included in the idea of anticipatory socialization. Which one should *not* be included?
- learning to play a role before entering it
 - learning about the expectations and rewards of a role
 - constructing a generalized other
 - rehearsal for future activity
22. Boot camp is an example of a
- degradation facility.
 - total institution.
 - involuntary establishment.
 - humiliation camp.
23. *All except one* of the following are included in degradation ceremonies. Which one should *not* be included?
- They attempt to remake the self by giving an individual a new identity
 - They are applied only to social deviants.
 - They may involve the wearing of uniforms
 - They may involve fingerprinting and head shaving
24. The stages of life from birth to death are called the
- socialization process.
 - life course.
 - biosocial periods.
 - age progression.