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Introduction to

Anthro- pology

OpenStax Introduction to Anthropology

Test Bank

Chapter 1

1. Which description BEST defines the overall field of anthropology?

- a. *the biological and social context of humans in a wide range of environmental and historical contexts
- b. the evolutionary history of *Homo sapiens* and other primates
- c. the cultural history of human beings
- d. the available archaeological evidence pertaining to prehistoric cultures

Text Section: 1.1

Bloom's Level: Understand

Difficulty: Moderate

2. Anthropologists are committed to describing and understanding the diversity of humans and their culture. Which of the following would NOT be considered a research area of anthropology?

- a. exploring ancient civilizations through excavation
- b. researching cultural behavior as it relates to social class
- c. *determining the relatedness of two different dinosaur species
- d. understanding gender roles in an Indigenous society

Text Section: 1.1

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

3. Anthropologists are interested in learning about the different types of relationships between groups, which are BEST described as which of the following?

- a. inherently harmonious in nature
- b. *cooperative, competitive, or combative
- c. egalitarian or hierarchical
- d. capitalist or socialist

Text Section: 1.1

Bloom's Level: Remember

Difficulty: Moderate

4. Which term describes the anthropological approach to understanding how the elements of a culture are interconnected?

- a. ethnocentrism
- b. *holism
- c. cultural relativism
- d. minimalism

Text Section: 1.1

Bloom's Level: Remember

Difficulty: Moderate

5. Why might an anthropologist be interested in the physical environment when studying a culture?

Sample answer: Culture and the environment are not separate but are interconnected, with each playing a major role in understanding our human past and development. Culture interacts with the natural world not only as a resource for survival but also as an expression of the natural world through cosmology, myth, and language. Anthropologists may also be interested in how changes in the environment such as climate change can impact culture, as well as how humans can impact biodiversity.

Text Section: 1.1

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

6. Which subfield of anthropology seeks to understand how prehistoric people understood celestial objects and events?

- a. *archaeoastronomy
- b. ethnobotany
- c. astronomy
- d. ethnoecology

Text Section: 1.1

Bloom's Level: Remember

Difficulty: Easy

7. Which subfield of anthropology examines how people in different cultures categorize and use plants for food, shelter, tools, transportation, art, and religion?

- a. ethnohistory
- b. *ethnobotany
- c. archaeoastronomy
- d. ethnomusicology

Text Section: 1.1

Bloom's Level: Remember

Difficulty: Easy

- 8. Which term describes an anthropologist who studies the human fossil record, genetics, and evolution to answer questions about human origins?**

- a. cultural anthropologist
- b. archaeologist
- c. linguistic anthropologist
- d. *biological anthropologist

Text Section: 1.2

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

- 9. Consider the following scenario. An energy company is planning to expand its business by adding buildings on the banks of the Ohio River. As they begin to survey the land, they notice pottery shards, spear points, and other artifacts scattered on the ground. What type of anthropologist would be notified?**

- a. cultural anthropologist
- b. *archaeologist
- c. linguistic anthropologist
- d. biological anthropologist

Text Section: 1.2 The Four Fields of Anthropology: Four Approaches within the Guiding Narrative

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

- 10. What type of anthropologist researches the organization and relationships of a culture through direct observation?**

- a. *cultural anthropologist
- b. archaeologist
- c. linguistic anthropologist
- d. biological anthropologist

Text Section: 1.2 The Four Fields of Anthropology: Four Approaches within the Guiding Narrative

Bloom's Level: Remember

Difficulty: Moderate

- 11. What type of anthropologist studies the origins of language, how language shapes thoughts, and the power of language in forming relationships and cultural worldviews?**

- a. cultural anthropologist
- b. archaeologist
- c. *linguistic anthropologist
- d. biological anthropologist

Text Section: 1.2

Bloom's Level: Remember

Difficulty: Easy

12. Which term describes the mindset or belief that one's own cultural knowledge, traditions, and beliefs are better than that of another culture?

- a. cultural relativism
- b. holism
- c. *ethnocentrism
- d. minimalism

Text Section: 1.3

Bloom's Level: Understand

Difficulty: Moderate

13. Which term refers to the process of acquiring knowledge about the norms and values of one's own culture?

- a. *enculturation
- b. participant observation
- c. ethnocentrism
- d. primitivism

Text Section: 1.3

Bloom's Level: Remember

Difficulty: Easy

14. Consider the following scenario. Noor and Aniya became roommates in a college dorm. Noor was raised Muslim, and Aniya grew up in a Catholic family. They both were taught ways to pray that reflected the rituals and beliefs of their respective cultures. As roommates, they found it was very difficult to understand each other and to accept their differences. The difficulty or inability to accept the practices or beliefs of another would be described as what?

- a. *ethnocentrism
- b. holism
- c. cultural relativism
- d. enculturation

Text Section: 1.3

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Difficult

15. How did 18th-century European explorers and missionaries view Indigenous people when they encountered them?

Sample answer: European explorers and missionaries viewed Indigenous people as savages who were ignorant, inferior, simple-minded, and not civilized. This behavior became associated with the term *primitivism*. Likewise, Europeans who traveled to the Middle East and Asia identified those cultures as being mystical, fanatical, lawless, and irrational, which became associated with the term *orientalism*.

Text Section: 1.3

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Difficult

16. Which description would be an example of cultural bias?

- a. asking permission to attend religious services with a friend from another cultural background out of a desire to learn more about their culture
- b. learning to speak a second language to make yourself more employable
- c. *refusing to taste the food served to you when visiting friends who emigrated from another country because the food is unfamiliar
- d. helping a friend who recently became a US citizen register to vote

Text Section: 1.4

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Difficult

17. Which anthropologist was largely responsible for changing many of the misrepresentations of Indigenous people common in the late 19th and early 20th centuries?

- a. Francis La Flesche
- b. Bronisław Malinowski
- c. Alfred Kroeber
- d. *Franz Boas

Text Section: 1.4 Western Bias in Our Assumptions about Humanity

Bloom's Level: Remember

Difficulty: Easy

18. As a cultural anthropologist researching an Indigenous culture in the Amazon, how would you integrate *holism* into your research?

Sample answer: An anthropologist seeking to utilize a holistic approach would look not only at those things that keep a society together, but also those things that have the potential to create conflict and change. In looking at Indigenous cultures in the Amazon, you would want to examine the dynamics within the culture as well as external influences such as the threats of capitalist industries and habitat loss. For example, how

might the destruction of the rain forests impact the survival of Indigenous cultures who depend on the forests for their survival?

Text Section: 1.5

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Difficult

19. What is meant by the statement "Each culture around the world is an integrated whole"?

Sample answer: All the elements of culture are interconnected and can influence each other. Whenever a new element (such as a new religion) is introduced into a society, it may be either adaptive or maladaptive for that specific culture.

Text Section: 1.5

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Difficult

20. Which of the following items BEST describes culture?

- a. sedentary and fixed
- b. *dynamic and changing
- c. stabilizing and collaborative
- d. conflict-based and combative

Text Section: 1.5

Bloom's Level: Understand

Difficulty: Easy

21. Which term refers to the practice of understanding elements of a culture within the context of that particular culture?

- a. ethnocentrism
- b. holism
- c. *cultural relativism
- d. collaboration

Text Section: 1.5

Bloom's Level: Remember

Difficulty: Moderate

22. Do you think that anthropologists should take an "anything goes" approach to cultural relativism, or are there situations for which there needs to be a line? Defend your answer using material from the text.

Sample answer: Cultural relativism is a tool used by anthropologists so that they may temporarily suspend cultural biases in order to properly analyze and gain greater understanding of a specific conflict or human behavior that may be encountered in a culture. That, however, does not mean *anything goes*. Clearly there are some things,

such as the atrocities of the Holocaust and WWII, that would prove to be too challenging to fully implement cultural relativism.

Text Section: 1.6

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Difficult

23. The primary goal of an anthropologist is best described as which of the following?

- a. to research and publish
- b. *to ethically and accurately represent a culture through the perspective and worldview of the culture studied
- c. to introduce Western culture and new ways of doing things to the culture being studied
- d. to analyze and interpret a culture from the scientific perspective

Text Section: 1.7

Bloom's Level: Understand

Difficulty: Moderate

24. Which action would BEST help address the challenges of cultural bias as anthropologists strive for the "insider's point of view"?

- a. interviewing people in the community
- b. creating documentation to record observations and narratives
- c. utilizing university students to obtain multiple perspectives
- d. *engaging in collaborative ethnography that engages members of the community in the research

Text Section: 1.7

Bloom's Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate