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Chapter 1 Sociology and the Sociological Perspective

True/False Questions

1. Americans have freedom, but the freedom to think and act is constrained at least to some degree by society's standards and expectations.
True; Easy
2. Society totally determines our attitudes and behavior.
False; Easy
3. Our social background does not affect our chances of being healthy, wealthy, well-educated and so on.
False; Easy
4. The likelihood of an individual committing suicide depends at least partly on various aspects of their social backgrounds.
True; Easy
5. The degree to which people succeed in life in such areas as education, income, and health is termed as life chances.
True; Easy
6. Sociology is the scientific study of social behavior and social institutions.
True; Moderate
7. Social support networks help people deal with personal problems.
True; Easy
8. Sociological perspective is a general term for social backgrounds and other aspects of the society.
False; Moderate
9. Social environment is the belief that people's social backgrounds influence their attitudes, behaviors, and life chances.
False; Easy
10. The theme of sociology in which the aim is to go beyond superficial understandings of social reality is termed as sociological imagination.
False; Moderate
11. One of the main goals of sociology is to discover the multiple meanings of social reality.
True; Moderate
12. Social structure can be horizontal or vertical.
True; Easy
13. Vertical social structure refers to the social relationships and social and physical characteristics of communities to which individuals belong.
False; Moderate

14. Problems in society help account for problems that individuals experience.
True; Easy
15. During severe economic downturn, unemployment is best understood as a personal trouble rather than a public issue.
False; Easy
16. Although eating disorders often stem from personal problems, they also may reflect a cultural emphasis for women to have slender bodies. In this scenario, eating disorders are best understood as a public issue, not just as a personal trouble.
True; Moderate
17. Sociology emphasizes that social problems like poverty and crime stem from structural problems in the larger society and not from the personal failings of the people suffering them.
True; Moderate
18. The horizontal social structure is also known as social inequality.
False; Moderate
19. People's positions in society's hierarchy often have profound consequences for their attitudes, behaviors, and life chances, both for themselves and for their children.
True; Moderate
20. Macrosociologists focus on the big picture, which usually means such things as social structure, social institutions, and social, political, and economic change.
True; Moderate
21. There are two main perspectives in microsociology: functionalism and conflict theory.
False; Moderate
22. Socialization helps to integrate us into society and to reinforce our respect for its rules.
True; Moderate
23. The conflict theory perspective uses the human body as a model for understanding society.
False; Moderate
24. Functionalism is often regarded as a conservative perspective.
True; Moderate
25. In a capitalist society, the proletariat's interest lies in overthrowing the bourgeoisie to create an egalitarian society.
True; Moderate
26. Radical feminists view gender inequality as present in all societies.
True; Moderate
27. A major problem with the conflict theory is that it tends to support the status quo and thus seems to favor existing inequalities based on race, social class, and gender.
False; Moderate

28. The macro perspectives pay relatively little attention to the reasons for, and possible solutions to, such “large” and fundamentally important issues as poverty, racism, sexism, and social change.
False; Moderate
29. The conversation between two women inside a restaurant is most likely to be examined by a macrosociologist.
False; Moderate
30. One of the major assumptions of functionalism is that the society is characterized by pervasive inequality based on social class, gender, and other factors.
False; Moderate

Multiple Choice Questions

31. _____ is a general term for social backgrounds and other aspects of society.
a. Social environment
b. Social network
c. Social circle
d. Social pyramid
e. Social mobility
a; Moderate
32. The belief that people’s social backgrounds influence their attitudes, behaviors, and life chances is referred to as:
a. Social environment
b. Social network
c. Social fact
d. Sociological perspective
e. Social mobility
d; Moderate
33. Which of the following refers to the scientific study of social behavior and social institutions?
a. Social environment
b. Sociological perspective
c. Sociology
d. Social mobility
e. Social fact
c; Moderate
34. _____ refer(s) to the degree to which people succeed in life in such areas as education, income, and health.
a. The sociological perspective
b. Life chances
c. Generalizations
d. Quality of life
e. Systematization
b; Moderate
35. A group of people who live within a defined territory and who share a culture can be referred to as a:

- a. social network.
- b. social mobility.
- c. life chance.
- d. social imagination.
- e. society.

e; Moderate

36. Which of the following can help people deal with personal problems and deter them from committing suicide?

- a. Functionalism
- b. Conflict theory
- c. The debunking motif
- d. Anomie
- e. Social support network

e; Moderate

37. According to sociologist Peter L. Berger, a theme of sociology in which the aim is to go beyond superficial understandings of social reality is termed as:

- a. debunking motif
- b. anomie
- c. sociological perspective
- d. collective conscience
- e. conflict theory

a; Moderate

38. _____ is a term that refers to the concept that individuals are generally blamed, and may even blame themselves, for problems affecting them.

- a. Personal troubles
- b. Conflict theory
- c. Debunking motif
- d. Sociological imagination
- e. Anomie

a; Moderate

39. According to sociologist C. Wright Mills, _____ involves the realization that personal troubles are rooted in public issues.

- a. value orientation
- b. the sociological imagination
- c. abstract empiricism
- d. grand theory
- e. social fact

b; Moderate

40. The vertical social structure is also known as:

- a. social network.
- b. social inequality.
- c. anomie.
- d. sociological imagination.
- e. functionalism.

b; Moderate

41. The social patterns through which a society is organized is called:
- a. the debunking motif
 - b. an anomie
 - c. sociological perspective
 - d. social structure
 - e. social network aggregation
- d; Moderate**
42. The social relationships and social and physical characteristics of communities to which individuals belong is referred to as:
- a. Vertical social structure
 - b. Anomie
 - c. Social inequality
 - d. The debunking motif
 - e. Horizontal social structure
- e; Moderate**
43. The ways in which a society or group ranks people in a hierarchy, with some more “equal” than others, is referred to as:
- a. Anomie
 - b. The debunking motif
 - c. Vertical social structure
 - d. Generalization
 - e. Horizontal social structure
- c; Moderate**
44. William Ryan pointed out that Americans typically “_____” when they think about the reasons for social problems like poverty, unemployment, and crime.
- a. blame the victim
 - b. blame value systems
 - c. blame the system
 - d. blame cultural patterns
 - e. blame inefficient systems
- a; Moderate**
45. The use of sociological insights and findings to address social issues and achieve social change is termed as:
- a. Activist sociology
 - b. Professional sociology
 - c. Academic sociology
 - d. Public sociology
 - e. Stratification theory
- d; Moderate**
46. Macrosociologists:
- a. study social interaction.
 - b. sometimes focus on economic change.
 - c. look at how families interact.
 - d. focus on why co-workers interact the way they do.
 - e. consider how small groups of people interpret the meanings of their interaction.

b; Moderate

47. Which of the following is a major assumption of the functionalism theory?
- a. Slow social change is desirable, but rapid social change threatens social order.
 - b. Far-reaching social change is needed to reduce social inequality and to create an egalitarian society.
 - c. Individuals negotiate their definitions of the situations in which they find themselves and socially construct the reality of these situations.
 - d. Social order is possible because people realize it will be in their best interests to cooperate and to make compromises when necessary.
 - e. Society is characterized by pervasive inequality based on social class, gender, and other factors.

a; Hard

48. Social facts:
- a. help us learn society's rules and the need to cooperate.
 - b. are our ties to other people and to social institutions such as religion and the family.
 - c. help to socialize us, integrate us into society, and reinforce our respect for its rules.
 - d. are forces external to the individual that affect and constrain individual attitudes and behavior.
 - e. focus on the interaction of individuals and on how they interpret their interaction.

d; Hard

49. When _____ sets in, people become more unclear about how to deal with problems in their life.
- a. the collective conscience
 - b. class consciousness
 - c. social inequality
 - d. the debunking motif
 - e. anomie

e; Moderate

50. What does functionalism emphasize?
- a. Rapid social change and other major social upheaval.
 - b. Traditional assumptions have given way to more repressive assumptions.
 - c. The importance of social institutions for producing a stable society.
 - d. Different groups in society have different interests stemming from their diverse social positions.
 - e. The importance of social change to reduce inequality.

c; Moderate

51. According to Marx and Engels, revolution is inevitable in a capitalist society because:
- a. people act to maximize their pleasure and to reduce their pain.
 - b. of structural contradictions arising from the very nature of capitalism.
 - c. when people interact, they seek to maximize the benefits they gain from the interaction and to reduce the advantages.
 - d. it tends to support the status quo and thus seems to favor existing inequalities based on race, social class, and gender.
 - e. capitalism overlooks the large degree of consensus on many important issues.

b; Hard

52. What is the main goal of capitalism?

- a. Profit
- b. Collective conscience
- c. Social reform
- d. Reduce the effects of poverty
- e. Reduce socioeconomic segregation

a; Moderate

53. Why is the conflict theory considered more of a progressive perspective than the functionalist theory?

- a. It focuses on the interaction of individuals and on how they interpret their interaction.
- b. It emphasizes the benefits of the various parts of society for ongoing social stability.
- c. It views as overly deterministic the view of human thought and action.
- d. It favors social change to reduce inequality.
- e. It stresses that the various parts of society contribute to the ongoing stability of society.

d; Hard

54. According to symbolic interactionists:

- a. every society is divided into two classes based on the ownership of the means of production.
- b. people act rationally and decide before they act whether their behavior will cause them more pleasure or pain.
- c. all theories emphasize that society is filled with gender inequality such that women are the subordinate sex in many dimensions of social, political, and economic life.
- d. when people interact, they seek to maximize the benefits they gain from the interaction and to reduce the disadvantages.
- e. social order is possible because people learn what various symbols mean and apply these meanings to different kinds of situations.

e; Moderate

55. _____ is a general view of human behavior that says people act to maximize their pleasure and to reduce their pain.

- a. Kantian ethics
- b. Ethnocentrism
- c. Cultural relativism
- d. Utilitarianism
- e. Stereotype

d; Moderate

56. In explaining armed robbery, exchange theory:

- a. would state that armed robbery creates many jobs for police, the construction companies that build prisons, and the various businesses that provide products the public buys to help protect itself against crime.
- b. might suggest armed robbery and other crime actually serve positive functions for society.
- c. might note that most "street criminals" are poor and thus emphasize that armed robbery is the result of the frustration of living in poverty and facing a lack of jobs and other opportunities for economic and social success.
- d. would focus on how armed robbers make such decisions as when and where to rob someone and on how their interactions with other criminals reinforce their own criminal tendencies.
- e. would emphasize that armed robbers and other criminals are rational actors who carefully plan their crimes and who would be deterred by a strong threat of swift and severe punishment.

e; Hard

57. According to Marx and Engels, the particular class of people in a capitalist society who are the ruling class and own the means of production are termed as the:
- a. class conscious.
 - b. bourgeoisie.
 - c. aristocrats.
 - d. proletariat.
 - e. serf.
- b; Hard**

58. One of the major assumptions of utilitarianism is that:
- a. people construct their roles as they interact; they do not merely learn the roles that society has set out for them.
 - b. society is characterized by pervasive inequality based on social class, gender, and other factors.
 - c. people act to maximize their advantages in a given situation and to reduce their disadvantages.
 - d. social stability is necessary to have a strong society, and adequate socialization and social integration are necessary to achieve social stability.
 - e. it may not contain data on all the variables in which a sociologist may be interested.
- c; Hard**

59. The view that social institutions are important for their contributions to social stability is known as:
- a. functionalism.
 - b. conflict theory.
 - c. symbolic interactionism.
 - d. utilitarianism
 - e. exchange theory
- a; Moderate**

60. The micro perspective in sociology that focuses on the meanings people gain from social interaction is:
- a. utilitarianism.
 - b. functionalism.
 - c. feminist theory.
 - d. conflict theory.
 - e. symbolic interactionism.
- e; Moderate**

Short Answer Questions

61. With the secret ballot as an example, explain how the American democracy is not as “free” as we might think.

The secret ballot is one of the most cherished principles of American democracy. We vote in secret so that our choice of a candidate is made freely and without fear of punishment; but it is also possible to predict the candidate for whom any one individual will vote if enough is known about the individual. If so, perhaps that means our choice of a candidate is affected by many aspects of our social backgrounds and, in this sense, is not as “free” as we might think.

Moderate

62. Does society totally determine our attitudes and behavior? If yes, why and how?

Society shapes our attitudes and behavior even if it does not determine them altogether. We still have freedom, but that freedom is limited by society's expectations. Moreover, our views and behavior depend to some degree on our social location in society—our gender, race, social class, religion, and so forth. Thus, society as a whole, and our own social backgrounds, affect our attitudes and behaviors.

Moderate

63. Describe life chances.

Our social backgrounds affect one important part of our lives, and that is our life chances—our chances of being healthy, wealthy, well-educated, and, more generally, of living a good, happy life.

Easy

64. What is sociology? What is at the core of sociology?

Sociology is the scientific study of social behavior and social institutions. At the heart of sociology is the sociological perspective.

Easy

65. Define the sociological perspective.

At the heart of sociology is the sociological perspective, the view that our social backgrounds influence our attitudes, behavior, and life chances. In this regard, we are not just individuals, but rather social beings deeply enmeshed in society. Although we all differ from each other in many respects, we share with many other people basic aspects of our social backgrounds, especially gender, race and ethnicity, and social class. This similarity makes us more similar to each other than we would otherwise be.

Moderate

66. What is the debunking motif?

The debunking motif is a theme of sociology in which by looking for levels of reality other than those given in the official interpretations of society, sociology looks beyond on-the-surface understandings of social reality and helps us recognize the value of alternative understandings.

Easy

67. Compare and contrast between horizontal and vertical social structures.

Horizontal social structure refers to the social relationships and social and physical characteristics of communities to which individuals belong. Vertical social structure refers to ways in which a society or group ranks people in a hierarchy, with some more “equal” than others.

Moderate

68. Explain the terms “personal troubles” and “public issues”.

Personal troubles refer to a problem affecting individuals that the affected individual, as well as other members of society, typically blame on the individual's own failings. Examples include such different problems as eating disorders, divorce, and unemployment. Public issues, whose source lies in the social structure and culture of a society, refer to a social problem affecting many individuals. Thus, problems in society help account for problems that individuals experience.

Easy

69. What is sociological imagination?

In recognizing the importance of social structure, sociology stresses that individual problems are often rooted in problems stemming from the horizontal and vertical social structures of society. This key insight informed C. Wright Mills' classic distinction between personal troubles and public issues.

Easy

70. Explain the "blaming the victim" and "blaming the system" approaches with an example.

Americans typically "blame the victim" when they think about the reasons for social problems like poverty, unemployment, and crime. They feel that these problems stem from personal failings of the people suffering them, and not from structural problems in the larger society. If instead we blame the system, we would focus our attention on the various social conditions that account for these problems. Specific examples for each answer will vary.

Moderate

71. Describe public sociology.

In 2004, the president of the sociologist Michael Burawoy called for "public sociology," or the use of sociological insights and findings to address social issues and achieve social change. Early U.S. sociologists emphasized the use of sociological research to achieve social reform, and today's public sociology reflects the historical roots of sociology in this regard.

Easy

72. Compare and contrast macrosociology and microsociology.

Macro sociologists focus on the "large picture," like social structure, social institutions, and social, political, and economic change. They look at the large-scale social forces that change the course of human society and the lives of individuals. Micro sociologists, on the other hand, study social interaction. They look at how families, co-workers, and other small groups of people interact, at why they interact the way they do, and at how they interpret the meanings of their interaction and of the social settings in which they find themselves.

Easy

73. What are the major assumptions of the conflict theory?

According to the conflict theory, society is characterized by pervasive inequality based on social class, gender, and other factors. Far-reaching social change is needed to reduce or eliminate social inequality and to create an egalitarian society.

Moderate

74. What are the major assumptions of symbolic interactionism?

According to symbolic interactionism, people construct their roles as they interact; they do not merely learn the roles that society has set out for them. As this interaction occurs, individuals negotiate their definitions of the situations in which they find themselves and socially construct the reality of these situations. In so doing, they rely heavily on symbols such as words and gestures to reach a shared understanding of their interaction.

Moderate

75. What are the major assumptions of utilitarianism, also known as the rational-choice theory?

According to the rational-choice theory, people act to maximize their advantages in a given situation and to reduce their disadvantages. If they decide the benefits outweigh disadvantages, they will initiate the interaction or continue it if already underway. If they instead decide the disadvantages outweigh benefits, they will decline to begin interacting or stop the interaction if

already begun. Social order is possible because people realize it will be in their best interests to cooperate and to make compromises when necessary.

Moderate

76. Describe socialization.

Socialization helps us learn society's rules and the need to cooperate, as people end up generally agreeing on important norms and values.

Easy

77. Describe social integration.

Social integration relates to our ties to other people and to social institutions such as religion and the family. It helps to socialize us and to integrate us into society and reinforce our respect for the rules of society.

Easy

78. As per Emile Durkheim, how does society limit individual aspirations?

In general, society comprises many types of social facts, or forces external to the individual, that affect and thus constrain individual attitudes and behavior. Socialization and social integration help establish a strong collective conscience that is needed for a stable society. By so doing, society "creates a kind of cocoon around the individual, making him/her less individualistic, more a member of the group."

Hard

79. Explain why functionalism is often regarded as a conservative perspective.

Similar to the view of the conservative intellectuals from which it grew, functionalism is skeptical of rapid social change and other major social upheaval. Sudden and rapid changes in society and its social institutions are troublesome according to the functionalist perspective. Any sudden change in society thus threatens its stability and future. By taking a skeptical approach to social change, functionalism supports the status quo and is thus often regarded as a conservative perspective.

Hard

80. What do you understand by the term "anomie"?

Anomie can be defined as normlessness, a state in which social norms are unclear. It results from situations, such as periods of rapid social change, when social norms are weak and unclear or social ties are weak. When anomie sets in, people become more unclear about how to deal with problems in their life. Their aspirations are no longer limited by society's constraints and thus cannot be fulfilled.

Easy

81. What were the contributions of the French Revolution of 1789 and the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century towards the rise of functionalism?

Functionalism arose out of these two great revolutions of the 18th and 19th centuries. The intense violence and bloody terror of the French Revolution of 1789 shook Europe to its core. The aristocracy throughout Europe feared that revolution would spread to their own lands, and intellectuals feared that social order was crumbling. The Industrial Revolution of the 19th century reinforced these concerns. Starting first in Europe and then in the United States, the Industrial Revolution led to many changes, including the rise and growth of cities as people left their farms to live near factories. As the cities grew, people lived in increasingly poor, crowded, and decrepit conditions. One result of these conditions was mass violence, as mobs of the poor roamed the streets of European and American cities. They attacked bystanders, destroyed

property, and generally wreaked havoc. Here was additional evidence, if European intellectuals needed it, of the breakdown of social order.

Hard

82. Describe conflict theory.

Conflict theory is the view that society is composed of groups with different interests arising from their placement in the social structure.

Easy

83. Describe the two classes based on the ownership of the means of production.

According to Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, every society is divided into two classes based on the ownership of the means of production—tools, factories, and the like. In a capitalist society, the bourgeoisie or ruling class owns the means of production, while the proletariat or working class does not own the means of production and instead is oppressed and exploited by the bourgeoisie. This difference creates automatic conflict of interests between the two groups. The bourgeoisie is interested in maintaining its position at the top of society, while the proletariat's interest lies in rising up from the bottom and overthrowing the bourgeoisie to create an egalitarian society.

Moderate

84. According to Marx and Engels, revolution is inevitable in a capitalist society. Explain.

Marx and Engels argue that in a capitalist society, revolution is inevitable because of structural contradictions arising from the very nature of capitalism. Because profit is the main goal of capitalism, the bourgeoisie's interest lies in maximizing profit. To do so, capitalists try to keep wages as low as possible and to spend as little money as possible on working conditions. This central fact of capitalism eventually prompts the rise of class consciousness, or an awareness of the reasons for their oppression, among workers. Their class consciousness in turn leads them to revolt against the bourgeoisie to eliminate the oppression and exploitation they suffer.

Moderate

85. Describe feminist theory.

Feminist theory is the view that society is filled with gender inequality characterized by women being the subordinate sex in the social, political, and economic dimensions of society.

Moderate

86. Describe symbolic interactionism.

Symbolic interactionism is a micro perspective in sociology regarding the meanings people gain from social interaction. This perspective focuses on the interaction of individuals and on how they interpret their interaction. Symbolic interactionists feel that people do not merely learn the roles that society has set out for them; instead they construct these roles as they interact. As they interact, they "negotiate" their definitions of the situations in which they find themselves and socially construct the reality of these situations. In so doing, they rely heavily on symbols such as words and gestures to reach a shared understanding of their interaction.

Hard

87. What derivations do symbolic interactionists draw from the work of Herbert Blumer?

Drawing on Blumer's work, symbolic interactionists feel that people do not merely learn the roles that society has set out for them; instead, they construct these roles as they interact. As they interact, they "negotiate" their definitions of the situations in which they find themselves and socially construct the reality of these situations. In so doing, they rely heavily on symbols such as words and gestures to reach a shared understanding of their interaction.

Moderate

88. Describe utilitarianism.

Utilitarianism is a general view of human behavior that says people act to maximize their pleasure (or benefits) and to reduce their pain (or disadvantages). If they decide the interaction's benefits outweigh its disadvantages, they will initiate the interaction or continue it if it is already underway. If they instead decide the interaction's disadvantages outweigh its benefits, they will decline to begin interacting or stop the interaction if already begun. Social order is possible because people realize it will be in their best interests to cooperate and to make compromises when necessary.

Moderate

89. How would you apply the concept of utilitarianism to a "dating relationship"?

Each partner in a dating relationship gives up a bit of autonomy in return for love and other benefits of being close to someone. Yet every relationship has its good and bad moments, and both partners make frequent compromises to ensure the relationship will endure. As long as the couple feels the good moments outweigh the bad moments, the relationship will continue. But once one or both partners decide the reverse is true, the relationship will end.

Moderate

90. Discuss some of the problems that arise from the conflict theory.

By emphasizing inequality and dissensus in society, conflict theory overlooks the large degree of consensus on many important issues. And by emphasizing the ways in which social institutions contribute to social inequality, conflict theory minimizes the ways in which these institutions are necessary for society's stability.

Moderate

Fill in the Blanks

91. Americans have freedom, but the freedom to think and act is constrained at least to some degree by society's standards and expectations and by the many aspects of our social ____.

backgrounds; Easy

92. ____ is the scientific study of social behavior and social institutions.

Sociology; Easy

93. A ____ is a group of people who live within a defined territory and who share a culture.

society; Easy

94. A person's ____ influences but does not totally determine his or her attitudes and behavior.

social background; Easy

95. ____ is the degree to which people succeed in life in such areas as education, income, and health.

Life chance; Easy

96. Our ____ is a general term for social backgrounds and other aspects of society.

social environment; Easy

97. The concept that our social backgrounds influence a person's attitudes, behaviors, and life chances is _____.
sociological perspective; Easy
98. The _____ from Peter L. Berger refers to a theme of sociology in which the aim is to go beyond superficial understandings of social reality.
debunking motif; Moderate
99. The social and physical characteristics of the communities to which we belong is the _____ social structure.
horizontal; Moderate
100. _____ Vertical social structure is more commonly called _____.
social inequality; Moderate
101. _____ refer to problems affecting individuals that the individuals affected, as well as other members of society, typically blame on the individual's own failings.
Personal troubles; Easy
102. The cultural attitude toward women and weight and the subsequent issues with eating disorders can be understood by _____.
sociological imagination; Moderate
103. _____ refer to social problems affecting many individuals whose source lies in the social structure and culture of a society.
Public issues; Easy
104. _____ is the belief that personal difficulties stem from problems in society.
Blaming the system; Easy
105. _____ is the belief that people experiencing difficulties are to blame for their own personal troubles.
Blaming the victim; Easy
106. The use of sociological insights and findings to achieve social change and address issues was promoted by _____ as public sociology.
Michael Burawoy; Moderate
107. The term coined by C. Wright Mills to refer to the ability to appreciate the structural basis for individual problems is _____.
sociological imagination; Moderate
108. _____ sociologists focus on the "large picture," which usually means things like social structure, social institutions, and social, political, and economic change.
Macro; Easy
109. Rational-choice theory is also known as the _____ theory.
exchange; Easy
110. According to Durkheim, in general, society comprises many types of _____, or forces external to the individual, that affect and thus constrain individual attitudes and behavior.

social facts; Easy

111. _____ refers to the combined norms of society.

Collective conscience; Easy

112. Anomie or _____, results from situations, such as periods of rapid social change, when social norms are weak and unclear or social ties themselves are weak.

normlessness; Easy

113. By taking a skeptical approach to social change, _____ supports the status quo and is thus often regarded as a conservative perspective.

functionalism; Moderate

114. _____ helps us learn society's rules and the need to cooperate, as people end up generally agreeing on important norms and values.

Socialization; Easy

115. _____ helps socialize us and integrate us into society and reinforce our respect for its rules.

Social integration; Easy

116. _____ theory refers to the view that society is composed of groups with different interests arising from their placement in the social structure.

Conflict; Moderate

117. Acting to minimize disadvantages and maximize advantages is the _____ theory.

utilitarianism; Easy

118. _____ refers to tools, factories, and other objects and processes by which a society carries out its economy.

Means of production; Easy

119. In a capitalist society, the _____ or ruling class owns the means of production.

bourgeoisie; Easy

120. In a capitalist society, the _____ or working class does not own the means of production and instead is oppressed and exploited by the bourgeoisie.

proletariat; Easy

121. _____ are inherent problems in capitalism that lead to the development of class consciousness and eventually to revolution.

Structural contradictions; Moderate

122. _____ is the awareness of one's placement in the social structure and the interests arising from this placement.

Class consciousness; Moderate

123. The _____ theory is the view that society is filled with gender inequality characterized by women being the subordinate sex in the social, political, and economic dimensions of society.

feminist; Moderate

124. _____ is a micro approach that focuses on the interaction of individuals and on how they interpret their interaction.

Symbolic interactionism; Moderate

125. The fact that social order is possible because people realize it will be in their best interests to cooperate and to make compromises when necessary is one of the major assumptions of the _____ theory.

utilitarianism; Moderate