

Criminology (Justice Series), 5e (Schmalleger)

Chapter 2 Classical and Neoclassical Criminology: Choice and Consequences

2.1 Multiple Choice Questions

1) Which of the following is considered to be the first modern approach to making sense of crime and criminal behavior?

- A) Positivism
- B) Rational choice
- C) Classical School
- D) Neoclassicism

Answer: C

Page Ref: 21

Objective: Outline the principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

2) The Classical School of criminology attributes crime to _____.

- A) Spiritual shortcomings
- B) The exercise of free will
- C) Hard determinism
- D) Positivist outlooks

Answer: D

Page Ref: 21-22

Objective: Outline the principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

3) According to the key principles of the Classical School of criminology, the purpose of punishment is to _____.

- A) Treat offenders the way they deserve
- B) Treat offenders the same way that their victims were treated
- C) Deter offenders from future involvement in crime
- D) Rehabilitate offenders

Answer: C

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Level: Intermediate

4) According to Cesare Beccaria, punishment should be imposed to _____.

- A) Obtain revenge against the offender
- B) Prevent the offender from committing additional crimes
- C) Injure the offender in the same way that the offender injured the victim
- D) Rehabilitate the offender

Answer: B

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Basic

5) Which of the following statements would most likely be made by Cesare Beccaria?

- A) The torture of suspects is permitted to force the guilty to confess.
- B) There should be a delay between the commission of the crime and the imposition of

punishment, to prevent the wrongful conviction of the innocent.

C) Punishment should only be severe enough to outweigh the personal benefits derived from crime commission.

D) The primary purpose of punishment should be retribution.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Intermediate

6) Which of the following was/were influenced by Beccaria's ideas?

A) The French penal code of 1791

B) The U.S. Constitution

C) The Bill of Rights

D) All of the above

Answer: D

Page Ref: 22-23

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Intermediate

7) Jeremy Bentham's _____ approach emphasizes the determination of behavior based on the amount of pleasure or pain the behavior can be expected to produce.

A) Hedonistic calculus

B) Positivist

C) Common law

D) Just deserts

Answer: A

Page Ref: 23

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Basic

8) The Panopticon was designed by _____.

A) Cesare Beccaria

B) William Sumner

C) John Locke

D) Jeremy Bentham.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 23

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Basic

9) Positivism is based on an acceptance of _____ determinism.

- A) Classical
- B) Hard
- C) Positivist
- D) Soft

Answer: B

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

10) The nothing works doctrine contributed to the development of _____.

- A) Classical criminology
- B) Positivism
- C) Neoclassical criminology
- D) Biological criminology

Answer: C

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

11) The justice model is based on the idea that _____.

- A) Crime is the result of social conditions such as poverty
- B) Rehabilitation is the main purpose of punishment
- C) Offenders deserve punishment because of the choices they make
- D) Crime can be prevented by changing the conditions that produce criminality

Answer: C

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

12) The development of _____ was based on the justice model.

- A) Three-strikes laws
- B) Indeterminate sentencing
- C) Community-based treatment programs
- D) Rehabilitation programs

Answer: A

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

13) Which of the following would a rational choice theorist be most likely to consider a likely factor in crime causation?

- A) Poverty
- B) A poor home environment
- C) Inadequate socialization
- D) Individual choice

Answer: D

Page Ref: 35-36

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Intermediate

14) Situational choice theory is an example of _____.

- A) Hard determinism
- B) Free will
- C) Traditional classical criminology
- D) Soft determinism

Answer: D

Page Ref: 25

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

15) Which of the following crime prevention techniques would best meet the objective of reducing the rewards of crime?

- A) Closing residential streets to reduce offender access to homes
- B) Starting a neighborhood watch program to increase informal surveillance
- C) Engraving identification codes on items to facilitate the identification of stolen property
- D) Controlling access to alcohol and drugs

Answer: C

Page Ref: 26

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Difficult

16) Situational crime prevention is primarily concerned with _____.

- A) Why people commit crime
- B) Why crime occurs in specific settings
- C) Why some individuals are more likely to be victimized
- D) The disposition of offenders

Answer: B

Page Ref: 27

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Difficult

17) According to neoclassical criminology, the role of punishment is _____.

- A) Deterrence only
- B) Retribution only
- C) Both deterrence and retribution
- D) Neither deterrence nor retribution

Answer: C

Page Ref: 28

Objective: Describe how neoclassicalism views punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Level: Basic

18) The just deserts concept is inherent in which model?

- A) Justice model
- B) Rational choice
- C) Routine activities
- D) Lifestyle theory

Answer: A

Page Ref: 28

Objective: Describe how neoclassicalism views punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Level: Basic

19) _____ seeks to prevent a particular offender from engaging in repeat criminality.

- A) General deterrence
- B) Retribution
- C) Specific deterrence
- D) Recidivism

Answer: C

Page Ref: 28

Objective: Describe how neoclassicalism views punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Level: Basic

20) Which of the following statements would be most likely to be made by an opponent of capital punishment?

- A) Capital punishment deters crime.
- B) Capital punishment is more expensive than imprisonment.
- C) Capital punishment is widely accepted in the international community.
- D) There are no viable alternatives to capital punishment.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 30

Objective: Outline the arguments for and against the death penalty.

Level: Intermediate

- 21) According to advocates of capital punishment, a key question is _____.
- A) Whether ethnic differences exist in the rate of imposition of the death penalty
 - B) Whether the death penalty is fairly imposed
 - C) Whether there is a racial disparity in the ethnicity of murder victims in the United States
 - D) Whether the death penalty is too expensive

Answer: B

Page Ref: 31

Objective: Outline the arguments for and against the death penalty.

Level: Intermediate

- 22) The death penalty moratorium movement developed as a result of _____.
- A) Criminological research which showed that the death penalty was not an effective deterrent
 - B) Concerns that the death penalty was disproportionately imposed on minorities
 - C) DNA results which showed that a number of death row prisoners were innocent
 - D) Public concern over the cost of capital punishment

Answer: C

Page Ref: 32

Objective: Outline the arguments for and against the death penalty.

Level: Intermediate

- 23) _____ mandates a fixed amount of time to be served for each offense category.
- A) Truth in sentencing
 - B) Selective incapacitation
 - C) Determinate sentencing
 - D) Dangerousness

Answer: C

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Basic

- 24) Classical criminology has been criticized for lacking an explanation of _____.
- A) Dangerousness
 - B) Recidivism
 - C) Deviant behavior
 - D) Personal motivation

Answer: D

Page Ref: 34

Objective: Summarize the evaluations of classical and neoclassical theories.

Level: Intermediate

25) Rational choice theories have been criticized for _____.

- A) An overemphasis on individual choice
- B) An under emphasis on individual choice
- C) An overemphasis on the role of social factors in crime causation
- D) A focus on biological bases of criminal behavior

Answer: A

Page Ref: 35-36

Objective: Summarize the evaluations of classical and neoclassical theories.

Level: Basic

2.2 True/False Questions

1) Classical criminology holds that humans are fundamentally rational.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 21-22

Objective: Outline the principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

2) According to the Classical School, punishment serves to deter law violators.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

3) According to the Classical School of Criminology, the two key determining factors of human behavior are right and wrong.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

4) Cesare Beccaria considered the primary purpose of punishment to be retribution.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Basic

5) Cesare Beccaria was opposed to the use of torture.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Basic

6) According to Jeremy Bentham, punishment needs to be cruel and extreme in order to be an effective deterrent.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 23

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Basic

7) The original positivists completely rejected the notion of free will.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

8) The concept of hard determinism implies that offenders are not totally responsible for the crimes they commit.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

9) Robert Martinson's research suggests that programs designed to rehabilitate offenders do not work.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

10) The justice model led to the development of get-tough-on-crime campaigns.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

11) Jack Katz argues that crime may be sensually compelling to an offender.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 26

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

12) Situational crime prevention focuses on removing criminal opportunity.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 27

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

13) Modern neoclassical theorists argue that if a person chooses to commit a crime, that person deserves to be punished.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 28

Objective: Describe how neoclassicalism views punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Level: Basic

14) High recidivism rates suggest that current methods of punishment are not effective in deterring crime.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 29

Objective: Describe how neoclassicalism views punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Level: Basic

15) The death penalty appears to be an effective general deterrent.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 30-31

Objective: Outline the arguments for and against the death penalty.

Level: Basic

16) According to the Supreme Court, the fact that the death penalty is imposed disproportionately on racial minorities is a violation of the Constitution.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 32

Objective: Outline the arguments for and against the death penalty.

Level: Basic

17) Truth in sentencing laws require that offenders serve a large portion of their sentence before they can be released.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Basic

18) Marvin Wolfgang's study of chronic recidivists supports the crime control strategy of collective incapacitation.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Basic

19) The recent decrease in crime, which has followed the implementation of "get tough on crime" policies inspired by neoclassical principles, clearly supports the effectiveness of the neoclassical approach.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 34-35

Objective: Summarize the evaluations of classical and neoclassical theories.

Level: Difficult

20) Rational choice theories have been criticized for failing to consider the role of social factors in the causation of crime.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 35-36

Objective: Summarize the evaluations of classical and neoclassical theories.

Level: Basic

2.3 Fill in the Blank Questions

1) The _____ was an eighteenth century social and intellectual movement in Europe.

Answer: Enlightenment

Page Ref: 21

Objective: Outline the principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

2) According to the Classical School, law violators are deterred by _____.

Answer: Punishment

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

3) Beccaria viewed the purpose of punishment to be _____.

Answer: Deterrence

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Basic

4) Jeremy Bentham developed an approach known as hedonistic calculus or _____.

Answer: Utilitarianism

Page Ref: 23

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Basic

5) Jeremy Bentham's model prison was known as the _____.

Answer: Panopticon

Page Ref: 23

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Basic

6) _____ emphasizes the use of the scientific method to study criminality.

Answer: Positivism

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

7) _____ criminology focused on the importance of character, the dynamics of character development, and the rational choices people make when faced with opportunities for crime.

Answer: Neoclassical

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

8) The statement that offenders deserve punishment because of the choices they make is typical of the _____ model.

Answer: Justice

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

9) Situational choice theory is an example of _____ determinism.

Answer: Soft

Page Ref: 25

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

10) In addition to motivation, situational choice theory considers _____ as a key element of crime.

Answer: Opportunity

Page Ref: 25

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

11) According to Jack Katz, the primary motivation behind crime is _____.

Answer: Pleasure

Page Ref: 26

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Basic

12) _____ deterrence involves punishing an offender in the hopes that others will refrain from crime out of a desire to avoid a similar experience.

Answer: General

Page Ref: 28

Objective: Describe how neoclassicalism views punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Level: Basic

13) The _____ is the percentage of convicted offenders who have been released from prison and who are later rearrested for a new crime

Answer: Recidivism

Page Ref: 29

Objective: Describe how neoclassicalism views punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Level: Basic

14) The discovery that a number of death row-prisoners were innocent contributed to the _____ movement focused on reforming capital punishment laws.

Answer: Moratorium

Page Ref: 32

Objective: Outline the arguments for and against the death penalty.

Level: Basic

15) A fixed sentence of five years for the crime of burglary is an example of _____ sentencing.

Answer: Determinate

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Basic

16) Rational and situational choice theories have been criticized for resulting in the _____ of crime from one area to another.

Answer: Displacement

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Summarize the evaluations of classical and neoclassical theories.

Level: Basic

2.4 Matching Questions

Match the theorist to the theory or concept.

- A) Selective incapacitation
- B) Rational choice theory
- C) Seductions of crime
- D) Punishment as deterrence
- E) Nothing works
- F) Situational crime prevention
- G) Utilitarianism

1) Cesare Beccaria
Page Ref: 22-23
Objective: Multiple
Level: Difficult

2) Jeremy Bentham
Page Ref: 22-23
Objective: Multiple
Level: Difficult

3) Robert Martinson
Page Ref: 22-23
Objective: Multiple
Level: Difficult

4) Ronald Clarke and Derek Cornish
Page Ref: 22-23
Objective: Multiple
Level: Difficult

5) Jack Katz
Page Ref: 22-23
Objective: Multiple
Level: Difficult

6) David Weisburd
Page Ref: 22-23
Objective: Multiple
Level: Difficult

7) Marvin Wolfgang
Page Ref: 22-23
Objective: Multiple
Level: Difficult

Answers: 1) D 2) G 3) E 4) B 5) C 6) F 7) A

Match the situational crime control objective to a technique.

- A) Close streets
- B) Control drugs/alcohol
- C) Strengthen surveillance
- D) Identify property
- E) Reduce emotional arousal

8) Increase the effort

Page Ref: 26

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Intermediate

9) Increase the risk

Page Ref: 26

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Intermediate

10) Reduce the rewards

Page Ref: 26

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Intermediate

11) Reduce provocations

Page Ref: 26

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Intermediate

12) Remove the excuses

Page Ref: 26

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Intermediate

Answers: 8) A 9) C 10) D 11) E 12) B

Match the policy to its definition.

- A) A punishment strategy that mandates a specified fixed amount of time to be served for each offense category
- B) A close correspondence between the sentence imposed upon an offender and the actual time served
- C) The use of imprisonment or other means to reduce the likelihood that an offender will be capable of committing future offenses
- D) A strategy of imprisoning specific individuals to control crime
- E) Imprisoning entire groups of individuals judged to be dangerous as a way of removing them from society

13) Truth in sentencing

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Intermediate

14) Determinate sentencing

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Intermediate

15) Selective incapacitation

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Intermediate

16) Incapacitation

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Intermediate

17) Collective incapacitation

Page Ref: 33

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Intermediate

Answers: 13) B 14) A 15) D 16) C 17) E

2.5 Essay Questions

1) List four of the key principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Answer: Answers will vary but should list four of the key principles outlined in Figure 2-1 in the text.

Page Ref: 22

Objective: Outline the principles of classical and neoclassical criminology.

Level: Intermediate

2) Explain the utilitarianism view of punishment conceptualized by Jeremy Bentham

Answer: Answers should define utilitarianism (hedonistic calculus) as the belief that behavior holds value to any individual undertaking it according to the amount of pleasure or pain it can be expected to produce for that person, and should discuss how individuals weigh the consequences of their behavior and then act to maximize pleasure and minimize pain.

Page Ref: 23

Objective: Outline the history of classical thought.

Level: Intermediate

3) What is neoclassical criminology. What is the role of positivism in neoclassical criminology?

Answer: Answers should define neoclassical criminology as an expansion of classical criminology, which focused on the importance of character, the dynamics of character development, and the rational choices people make when faced with opportunities for crime. Positivism was based on an acceptance of hard determinism, the belief that much human behavior (including crime) results from forces that are beyond the individual's control, and suggested that crime could be prevented by changing the conditions that produced criminality. Answers should explain that positivist assumptions were challenged by research such as Martinson's survey of rehabilitation programs that suggested "nothing works," leading to the development of neoclassical criminology.

Page Ref: 24

Objective: Outline the development of neoclassical criminology.

Level: Difficult

4) Explain the difference between general deterrence and specific deterrence. Explain why deterrence does not work.

Answer: Answers should explain that specific deterrence focuses on a particular offender and attempts to prevent that offender from engaging in repeat crime. Conversely, general deterrence works by example and focuses on preventing others from committing crime. Answers should explain that for punishment to be an effective deterrent, it must be swift, certain, and severe enough to outweigh the rewards of crime. However, punishments today rarely meet these criteria.

Page Ref: 28-29

Objective: Describe how neoclassicalism views punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Level: Difficult

5) List and explain two modern programs that have been influenced by the Classical School.
Answer: Answers will vary but should discuss two of the following programs: Determinate sentencing; truth in sentencing; incapacitation (including both selective and collective incapacitation).

Page Ref: 333

Objective: Explain how the Classical School affects policy.

Level: Difficult

2.6 Critical Thinking Questions

1) For punishment to deter, it must be swift, certain, and severe. Explain why our criminal justice system does not meet these conditions and suggest ways that the system might be changed so that punishment will become a more effective deterrent.

Answer: Answers will vary but should include a discussion of the problems with the current criminal justice system, including the slow handling of cases and punishments, the complete lack of certainty of punishment, and the reduced severity of punishment due to factors such as early release. Answers should also discuss how the system could be changed to address these problems.

Page Ref: 28-29

Objective: Describe how neoclassicalism views punishment as a deterrent to crime.

Level: Difficult

2) Over 160 people have been released from death rows across the United States after proof of their innocence became available. Discuss how this has affected the use of the death penalty. Why do you think the death penalty is still in use if so many errors are made in capital cases?

Answer: Answers will vary but should include a discussion of the moratorium movement and the focus on DNA testing to corroborate guilt or exonerate the innocent. Answers should also discuss why the death penalty has not been abolished in the United States.

Page Ref: 32-33

Objective: Outline the arguments for and against the death penalty.

Level: Difficult