

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. While doing research on crime, Professor Middler notes that crime creates jobs in law enforcement and related careers. He also notices that crime reinforces community norms when criminals are caught and punished. Professor Middler has probably adopted a _____ approach to the study of crime.

- a. conflict theory
- b. social Darwinism
- c. structural functionalism
- d. ethnomethodology
- e. symbolic interactionism

ANS: C

PG: 36-37

TYPE: Conceptual

SOURCE: Pickup

2. Which of the following is NOT a function of theory for research?

- a. Theory helps to prevent our being taken in by flukes
- b. Theory helps to gloss over any shortcomings in research findings
- c. Theory helps us to make sense out of observed patterns
- d. Theory shapes and directs research efforts
- e. Theory helps us to explain occurrences

ANS: B

PG: 32

TYPE: Factual

SOURCE: Modified

3. A model or scheme for helping us organize and interpret the world is referred to as :

- a. paradigm
- b. theory
- c. hypothesis
- d. law
- e. concept

ANS: A

PG: 31

TYPE: Factual

SOURCE: Pickup

4. Which of the following topics would a macrotheorist be more likely to study than a microtheorist?

- a. The effect of judge's instructions on jury deliberations
- b. The relationships between government, family and the economy
- c. The grandparent-grandchild relationship
- d. Student-faculty interactions
- e. Dating behaviors

ANS: B

PG: 34

TYPE: Applied

SOURCE: Pickup

5. In a study of women the following notation was used: $Y = f(X)$ where Y represented fertility plans and X represented occupational plans. This states:

- a. that fertility plans are a function of (or are affected by) occupational plans
- b. that occupational plans are a function of (or are affected by) fertility plans
- c. a hypothesis
- d. that fertility plans are a function of (or are affected by) occupational plans and is an hypothesis

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- e. that occupational plans are a function of (or are affected by) fertility plans and is an hypothesis
ANS: D PG: 45 TYPE: Applied SOURCE: Pickup
6. The best example of a researcher who developed widely accepted theories based upon inductive reasoning is:
a. Erving Goffman
b. Emile Durkheim
c. Karl Marx
d. Max Weber
e. Guillermina Jasso
ANS: A PG: 51 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: New
7. Which of the following is NOT TRUE of paradigms?
a. Paradigms shape the kinds of observations we are likely to make
b. Paradigms determine the kinds of facts we will discover
c. Paradigms shape the conclusions that we draw from facts
d. Paradigms determine whether we look at micro or macro concerns
e. Paradigms are selected by a researcher to achieve desired results
ANS: E PG: 32-33 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Modified
8. Which of the following illustrates the use of the inductive method?
a. Hypothesis, observations, accept or reject hypothesis
b. Observations, pattern finding, and generalizations
c. Theory, hypothesis, observations, generalizations
d. Theory, observations, and generalizations
e. Generalizations, theory, and observations
ANS: B PG: 49-51 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Pickup
9. Chen is beginning a research study in which he has an idea of what he's looking to find, but is letting his own observations shape the specifics of his theory. What approach is he taking to constructing his research?
a. Inductive theory.
b. Grounded theory
c. Conflict theory
d. Ethnomethodology
e. Structural functionalism
ANS: B PG: 54-55 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: New
10. Maureen is performing a study in which she interviews disabled military veterans about how they are adapting to being back home. She is focusing on questions about what it means to be perceived by others as both "disabled" and a "veteran." What paradigm is Maureen's work most likely shaped by?
a. Ethnomethodology
b. Critical Race
c. Symbolic interactionism

- d. Structural functionalism
- e. Conflict

ANS: C

PG: 35

TYPE: Applied

SOURCE: New

11. A sociologist with a symbolic interactionist orientation would be MOST likely to do research on which of the following question(s)?
- a. Is conflict inevitable in the sibling relationship?
 - b. What function does marriage serve for society?
 - c. What is the effect of economic conditions on the crime rate?
 - d. Which unstated norms govern the interactions between family members?
 - e. All of these choices are equally likely to be asked by a symbolic interactionist.
- ANS: D PG: 35 TYPE: Applied SOURCE: Pickup
12. Which of the following outlines the steps in the traditional of science model?
- a. Empirical observations, theoretical understanding, operationalization of concepts, a testable hypothesis
 - b. Theoretical understanding, a testable hypothesis, operationalization of concepts, empirical observations
 - c. Theoretical understanding, operationalization of concepts, a testable hypothesis, empirical observations
 - d. Operationalization of concepts, a testable hypothesis, empirical observations, theoretical understanding
 - e. A testable hypothesis, operationalization of concepts, empirical testing, theoretical understanding
- ANS: C PG: 43-46 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
13. The *Minamata disease*, a disease which produced severe nervous disorders and birth defects, was traced to the fact that the Chisso Chemical Company dumped mercury into a bay where Japanese villagers fished. The villagers of Minamata, where the company was located, refused to sue the chemical company. However, the residents of Niigata, a fishing village forty miles up the river from the factory, sued the chemical company. Which of the following explanations flows from the conflict paradigm?
- a. The Minamata victims were less likely to be tied socially, economically, and physically to the company than were the Niigata victims.
 - b. The Japanese culture frowns on lawsuits
 - c. The chemical company controlled more of the village resources in Minamata than in Niigata
 - d. People in Niigata aren't as nice as people in Minamata
 - e. None of these choices
- ANS: C PG: 35 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Pickup
14. Studying the discrepancy in police response for burglary cases when compared to corporate embezzlement would likely be coming from a _____ paradigm.
- a. conflict
 - b. symbolic interactionist
 - c. feminist

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- d. ethnomethodologist
 - e. structural functionalist
- ANS: A PG: 34-35 TYPE: Applied SOURCE: New
15. A ____ is a testable statement about a relationship between two variables.
- a. theory
 - b. paradigm
 - c. relationship
 - d. empirical correlation
 - e. hypothesis
- ANS: E PG: 43 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
16. The idea that knowledge is based on observation made through one of the five senses rather than on belief alone is termed:
- a. conflict theory
 - b. social systems theory
 - c. structural functionalism
 - d. positivism
 - e. either structural functionalism or social systems theory
- ANS: D PG: 34 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
17. Which of the following scenarios best outline the concept of interest convergence:
- a. Lobbyists advocate for positions that help their constituency
 - b. Lobbyists lobby for causes that they think is a good idea
 - c. Lobbyists advocate causes that their constituency support the most
 - d. Lobbyists lobby for causes that they dislike for the sake of their constituency.
 - e. Lobbyists advocate for causes that their constituents support, but benefit them personally
- ANS: E PG: 39 TYPE: Applied SOURCE: New
18. Walking with an open umbrella on a beautiful day or going home on semester break and calling your mom or dad Mr. or Mrs. (with their surname) are techniques used by _____ to understand social norms or rules.
- a. structural functionalists
 - b. conflict theorists
 - c. feminists
 - d. ethnomethodologists
 - e. critical race theorists
- ANS: D PG: 36 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Pickup
19. Which of the following would be studied by a microtheorist, rather than a macrotheorist?
- a. Dating behaviors among college students
 - b. The ways in which the courts and the police departments interact within states
 - c. The effect of changes in welfare laws on urban poverty
 - d. Trends of minority representation within the military
 - e. Violent crime trends over a 30 year period

ANS: A PG: 33-34 TYPE: Applied SOURCE: New

20. Which of the following statements BEST exemplifies a null hypothesis?
- There is no relationship between gender and jury verdict
 - Men are more likely than women to vote to convict on juries
 - Women are more likely than men to vote to acquit on juries
 - Men are more likely to hang a jury (create a jury that cannot arrive at a verdict) than are women
 - Men are more likely than women to vote to convict and women are more likely than men to vote to acquit on juries

ANS: A PG: 47 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Pickup

21. Many cultures view the United States as a society committed to capitalism, an economic arrangement which they believe inevitably creates inequality. These views and feelings represent:
- an objective fact of nature
 - a law of nature
 - a paradigm
 - a theory
 - both an objective fact of nature and a law of nature

ANS: C PG: 341 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Pickup

21. Which of the following statements about paradigms is TRUE?
- Paradigms are either true or false
 - Paradigms are more or less useful
 - Paradigms that are true are clearly more useful than those that are false
 - Once one adopts a paradigm it becomes clear that other paradigms offer no new insights
 - Only one paradigm can be used for a research study

ANS: B PG: 31 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Modified

22. Sally was introduced to Robert and Robert immediately worries about what Sally thinks of him. Upon shaking her hand in greeting Robert notices that he grasps her hand more firmly than usual and quickly releases his grasp. He then finds himself chuckling at comments that he does not find amusing because he wants Sally to feel comfortable. A useful paradigm for analyzing Robert's behavior is:
- critical race theory
 - structural functionalism
 - conflict theory
 - ethnomethodology
 - symbolic interactionism

ANS: E PG: 35 TYPE: Applied SOURCE: Pickup

TRUE-FALSE QUESTIONS

Paradigms, Theory, and Research

1. Social scientists generally believe that the succession from one paradigm to another represents progress from a false view to a true one.
ANS: F PG: 31-32 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
2. In deduction we start from observed data and develop a generalization that explains the relationship between the observed concepts.
ANS: F PG: 51-52 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
3. The idea that knowledge is based on observations made through the five senses rather than on beliefs is called positivism.
ANS: T PG: 34 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
4. Scientific inquiry is a process involving an alternation of deduction and induction.
ANS: T PG: 43 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Pickup
5. Sophisticated positivists assume that humans will always act rationally.
ANS: F PG: 40 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
6. The traditional model of science uses inductive logic.
ANS: F PG: 46 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
7. While our subjectivity is individual, our search for objectivity is social.
ANS: T PG: 41 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
8. In the traditional scientific method, the first step is developing a theory.
ANS: T PG: 43 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: New
9. The conflict paradigm is limited to economic analysis.
ANS: F PG: 34-35 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Pickup
10. The deductive model tends to link to theory development and the inductive model to theory testing.
ANS: F PG: 56 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Modified
11. Feminist paradigms focus only on how inequities hurt women.
ANS: F PG: 37-38 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Pickup
12. All of our experiences are inescapably subjective.
ANS: T PG: 41 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
13. Theory is directly relevant to “why” questions.
ANS: F PG: 33 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: Pickup
14. You must always have a fully developed theory before beginning observations
ANS: F PG: 33 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: New

15. All quality social science research is tightly intertwined with social theory.
ANS: F PG: 32 TYPE: Factual SOURCE: Pickup
16. We always want to reject the null hypothesis when conducting research
ANS: F PG: 47 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: New
17. Deliberately choosing a specific research paradigm in order to get specific results is totally acceptable.
ANS: F PG: 57-58 TYPE: Conceptual SOURCE: New

SHORT ANSWERS/ESSAYS

1. **Contrast the inductive model of theory construction with the deductive model. Give examples of research that use each of these models.**

A typical answer might include a definition of induction (start from individual observations and move to the development of patterns) and a definition of deduction (start from general statements or theory and move to specific observations). Be sure that the examples reflect those starting and ending points.

PG: 46-55 SOURCE: Pickup

2. **How are theory and research linked? Give examples.**

A typical answer should include the three functions of theory for research: 1) theory helps to prevent our being taken in by flukes, 2) theories help to make sense of observed patterns, and 3) theory can shape and direct research efforts.

Students should also note that not all research is tightly intertwined with social theory. Some descriptive research and ethnographies are simply trying to describe the event rather than asking the theory relevant questions of “why?”

PG: 32 SOURCE: Pickup

3. **Select a topic (e.g., gun control, domestic violence, terrorism) and describe how a researcher might approach that topic using four of the following paradigms: conflict, symbolic interactionism, ethnomethodology, structural functionalism, feminist paradigms, and/or critical race theory.**

Answers will vary depending upon the selected topic. Be sure that students include the key ideas of the selected paradigms in their response. Using terrorism for example, an answer might include that a researcher using a symbolic interactionist paradigm one might study who calls the group terrorists and who calls them freedom fighters. Or, from a conflict paradigm a researcher might look at whether those who engage in acts of terrorism are more or less likely to be in powerful positions or economically developed countries.

PG: 34-40 SOURCE: Pickup

4. **Given the topic of institutionalized racial discrimination, have the students choose two different paradigms (conflict, symbolic interactionism, critical race theory, structural functionalism, feminist paradigms, ethnomethodology)**

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Answers will vary depending upon the paradigms chosen, but should clearly outline the presence of race, such as the control and repression issues of conflict, the use of negative terms and stereotypes for symbolic interactionism, the way in which organizations support racism in structural functionalism, etc.

PG: 34-40 SOURCE: New