

Chapter 2—The Organization of Work in Preindustrial Times
Test Bank

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which of the following is *not* a key source of an ascribed status?
 - a. Age
 - b. Race
 - c. Sex
 - d. Training
2. Rural families in preindustrial times usually engaged in
 - a. Treating illnesses that afflicted family members
 - b. Crop cultivation
 - c. Making clothing
 - d. All of the above
3. Nepotism is
 - a. A bizarre sexual practice
 - b. The use of family connections as a basis for hiring and promotion
 - c. The enslavement of people of different ethnicities
 - d. None of the above
4. Serfdom
 - a. Is a condition of being legally bound to the land one lived and worked on
 - b. Was prevalent in Russia through much of the 19th century
 - c. Was common in France until the Revolution of 1789
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above
5. Slavery in ancient Rome
 - a. Was based solely on race
 - b. Was an immutable condition
 - c. Was used only for agricultural work
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above
6. Some slave owners chose to free their slaves because:
 - a. They could no longer afford to keep them
 - b. They wanted their slaves to have the chance to become citizens
 - c. They lived in constant fear of slave rebellions
 - d. None of the above
7. It has been asserted that slavery _____ the _____ labor-saving technologies.
 - a. Helped; Advancement of
 - b. Decreased; Need for
 - c. Had no influence on; the use of
 - d. Inhibited; Development of
8. Caste in India
 - a. Is virtually identical with social class
 - b. Is often tied to particular occupations
 - c. Is the basis of endogamy
 - d. B and C only

- e. All of the above
9. Noneconomic features of a guild include:
- a. The social ties that result from guild membership
 - b. The provision of support for members in difficulties
 - c. The maintenance of high standards of craftsmanship
 - d. New skills acquired from other guild members
 - e. All of the above
10. Which of the following statements is an example of the restrictions reinforced by guilds?
- a. Guild members could not exhibit their wares in their shop windows.
 - b. Members of a guild were not allowed to participate in the festivals organized by members of different guilds.
 - c. Guild members could only marry daughters of fellow guild members
 - d. Working while using artificial sources of life was prohibited.
 - e. All of the above
11. Preparation for occupations such as _____ occurred in medieval universities setting.
- a. Accounting
 - b. Civil service
 - c. Law
 - d. All of the above
12. In 1835, guilds were abolished by legislative action in _____.
- a. The United States
 - b. England
 - c. Ireland
 - d. Italy
13. Individuals occupying first stage of guild membership were
- a. Novitiates
 - b. Journeymen
 - c. Apprentices
 - d. Servants

True / False Questions

14. Race is a fixed status based solely on biological characteristics
- a. True
 - b. False
15. Family ties were particularly important in pre-modern economic relationships because they provided a basis for trust
- a. True
 - b. False
16. In pre-industrial workplaces, there was little distinction between “family” and “work unit”.
- a. True
 - b. False
17. By their very nature, family connections cannot be used to exploit members of a family.
- a. True
 - b. False

18. Ethnicity is always based on the biological differences that separate different groups of people
 - a. True
 - b. False
19. Slavery was a major source of labor in ancient Mesopotamia and Egyptian societies.
 - a. True
 - b. False
20. Slavery in the New World was intimately connected to the development of plantation economies.
 - a. True
 - b. False
21. Another term used to describe the “untouchables” is Jati.
 - a. True
 - b. False
22. One reason for the weakening of the caste system has been the expansion of educational opportunities in India.
 - a. True
 - b. False
23. Guilds were the major form of work organization in medieval cities.
 - a. True
 - b. False
24. Guilds had a strong religious component.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Essay Questions

25. How was slavery in antiquity different from slavery in the New World?
26. In what ways did traditional guild organization affect the development and spread of innovative technologies?
27. Describe what is meant by an ascribed status. How has this been used to determine the division of labor in traditional societies?
28. How did family ties serve as a basis for the organization of work in pre-industrial societies?
 29. How did the organization and operation of guilds reflect the zero-sum economy that was typical of medieval Europe?
29. Describe the process by which an apprentice became a journeyman.

Answer Key

1. A
2. D
3. B
4. D
5. D
6. A
7. D
8. D

- 9. E
- 10. D
- 11. C
- 12. B
- 13. D
- 14. C
- 15. B
- 16. A
- 17. B
- 18. B
- 19. A
- 20. A
- 21. B
- 22. A
- 23. A
- 24. A