

**Chapter 01 – Thinking about Social Problems**

1. When supporters of a political party are entrenched in their party's policies, with no motive to compromise with opposing political views, this is referred to as

- a. the social context.
- b. state of the union.
- c. a social problem.
- d. political partisanship.

**ANSWER:**

d

2. Far-right political systems are often characterized by

- a. a strong central authority.
- b. an encouragement of civil liberties.
- c. limited executive powers.
- d. strong checks and balances.

**ANSWER:**

a

3. Which of the following claim to represent "the people" rather than government elites and their political parties?

- a. Fascists
- b. Communists
- c. Populist movements
- d. Centrists

**ANSWER:**

c

4. The objective element of a social problem refers to

- a. our attitudes about social conditions.
- b. the existence of a social condition.
- c. the belief that a particular social condition is harmful to society.
- d. our beliefs about the importance of a condition.

**ANSWER:**

b

5. Given the position of social identity, when someone has unquestioning loyalty to a political ideology or belief, this is known as

- a. political tribalism.
- b. social group.
- c. anomie.
- d. culture.

**ANSWER:**

a

6. Which of the following best illustrates the subjective element of a social problem?

- a. U.S. Census statistics showing the percentage of the U.S. population living in poverty
- b. Reports that show the percentage of people who have lost their jobs because of the closing of factories in the United States
- c. The percentage of Americans who believe the availability of child pornography on the Internet is harmful to society
- d. World Health Organization estimates of the number of people in the world who have died of the AIDS virus

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in the last five years

**ANSWER:**

c

7. Which of the following best describes trends in media trust and misinformation?
- a. In general, younger Americans are more likely to trust news from social media than older Americans.
  - b. In general, older Americans are more likely to trust news from social media than younger Americans.
  - c. TikTok, Facebook, and Snapchat are considered the most trusted social media platforms.
  - d. Donald Trump’s Truth Social is the most trusted social media among Democrats.

**ANSWER:**

a

8. Which is the best example of the objective element of a social problem?
- a. In 2012, over 650,000 daytime drivers operated an electronic device while driving.
  - b. Surveyed Americans most frequently selected inequality as the greatest social problem in the world.
  - c. Some husbands believe they have a right to discipline and control their wives.
  - d. Europeans are less likely than Asians to consider pollution the greatest social problem in the world.

**ANSWER:**

a

9. Which of the following is an example of a subjective element of a social problem?
- a. The poverty rate in the country has been consistently measured at 15% over the past decade.
  - b. A sociologist collects data on the percentage of people experiencing food insecurity.
  - c. A politician argues that the increasing wealth gap requires government intervention.
  - d. A research study finds that pollution levels in urban areas exceed health guidelines.

**ANSWER:**

c

10. Society's structure is made up of
- a. the people who share a culture.
  - b. institutions, social groups, norms, and symbols.
  - c. beliefs, values, norms, and symbols.
  - d. institutions, social groups, statuses, and roles.

**ANSWER:**

d

11. Which of the following illustrates part of the social structure of a society?
- a. The health care system
  - b. A belief in God
  - c. The value placed on education
  - d. The primary language used

**ANSWER:**

a

12. The way a society is organized, is called its
- a. structure.
  - b. culture.
  - c. ethos.
  - d. sociological imagination.

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**ANSWER:** a

13. An established pattern of relationships constitutes a(n)
- a. institution.
  - b. culture.
  - c. social complex.
  - d. social element.

**ANSWER:** a

14. You have been part of a volunteer organization for several months. While you collaborate on tasks, your interactions remain formal and focused on your shared mission rather than personal relationships. This group is an example of a:
- a. primary group.
  - b. social institution.
  - c. secondary group.
  - d. status group.

**ANSWER:** c

15. Which of the following is a social group?
- a. All of the people in your favorite shopping mall at noon on Saturday
  - b. People who usually watch *NBC Nightly News*
  - c. Your college sociology class
  - d. Fans of the Yankee baseball team

**ANSWER:** c

16. Which of the following is more likely to be found in primary rather than secondary groups?
- a. Task-oriented actions
  - b. Impersonal interactions
  - c. Intimate relationships
  - d. Formal statuses and roles

**ANSWER:** c

17. Which of the following illustrates a primary group?
- a. A husband, wife, and child
  - b. Your sociology class
  - c. The college or university you are attending
  - d. Your hometown

**ANSWER:** a

18. Sociologists refer to the position a person holds in a group as their
- a. status.
  - b. folkway.
  - c. institution.
  - d. role.

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**ANSWER:** a

19. Which of the following is an ascribed status?

- a. Native American
- b. Single parent
- c. High school graduate
- d. Football player

**ANSWER:** a

20. Edward is a 26 year old Black man who married his high school sweetheart after they graduated from college. He is now the father of two children and is employed as a chemical engineer. Which of the following is one of Edward's achieved statuses?

- a. Black
- b. Man
- c. Chemical engineer
- d. Adult

**ANSWER:** c

21. What type of status is assigned on the basis of some characteristic or behavior over which the individual has some control?

- a. Ascribed
- b. Elementary
- c. Achieved
- d. Rational

**ANSWER:** c

22. A nurse interacts differently with doctors, nursing assistants, and patients. This is primarily because

- a. everyone is a unique individual.
- b. many roles are associated with a specific status.
- c. institutions are fluid social structures.
- d. of cultural constraints.

**ANSWER:** b

23. A family teaches their children that education is the key to success and should always be pursued. This perspective is best categorized as a

- a. belief.
- b. role.
- c. values.
- d. sanction.

**ANSWER:** a

24. Which of the following are norms with a moral basis?

- a. Laws
- b. Mores

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- c. Values
- d. Beliefs

**ANSWER:** b

25. Which term refers to ideas about what is desirable in a social setting?

- a. Norms
- b. Values
- c. Roles
- d. Beliefs

**ANSWER:** b

26. "Violence in movies and on television leads to increased aggression in children." This statement is an example of a

- a. belief.
- b. value.
- c. folkway.
- d. more.

**ANSWER:** a

27. Which of the following serve as guidelines for our behavior and for our expectations of the behavior of others?

- a. Beliefs
- b. Values
- c. Norms
- d. Sanctions

**ANSWER:** c

28. Folkways, laws, and mores are three types of

- a. sanctions.
- b. norms.
- c. values.
- d. statuses.

**ANSWER:** b

29. A parent left their child inside the car on a hot sunny day. The parent

- a. violated a more.
- b. violated a folkway.
- c. underscored a value.
- d. performed a sanction.

**ANSWER:** a

30. Frequently, social conditions are viewed as social problems when

- a. the conditions are compatible with closely held values.
- b. the conditions are incompatible with closely held values.
- c. they do not affect large portions of the population.

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d. the conditions benefit only a small group of people.

ANSWER:

b

31. Cheating on a spouse is a violation of a

- a. folkway.
- b. more.
- c. value.
- d. belief.

ANSWER:

b

32. Which of the following are norms that are formalized and backed by political authority?

- a. Folkways
- b. Mores
- c. Laws
- d. Values

ANSWER:

c

33. Social consequences for conforming to or violating norms are

- a. values.
- b. folkways.
- c. mores.
- d. sanctions.

ANSWER:

d

34. A person was caught speeding and given a fine. The fine is an example of a(n)

- a. value.
- b. folkway.
- c. informal sanction.
- d. formal sanction.

ANSWER:

d

35. An individual talks loudly on their phone during a movie, causing other audience members to sigh, glare, and shush them. This illustrates

- a. values.
- b. folkways.
- c. informal sanctions.
- d. formal sanctions.

ANSWER:

c

36. A student dieted and worked out, which led to a significant reduction in their size and weight. Which of the following is an informal positive sanction?

- a. They feel much better about themselves than they did before the weight loss.
- b. Friends tell them they look great.

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- c. They lost 25 pounds.
- d. They fit into a much smaller size of jeans.

**ANSWER:** b

37. The neighbors didn't invite Charlotte to the block barbecue because Charlotte's dog is often on the loose, making a mess on their lawns. Not inviting her is an example of a(n)

- a. formal positive sanction.
- b. informal positive sanction.
- c. formal negative sanction.
- d. informal negative sanction.

**ANSWER:** d

38. During a wedding ceremony, a couple exchanges rings as a sign of their commitment to each other. What are the rings an example of?

- a. Sanction
- b. More
- c. Folkway
- d. Symbol

**ANSWER:** d

39. Which of the following is an example of an ascribed status?

- a. Becoming a company's CEO after years of hard work
- b. Earning a college degree through dedication and study
- c. Being elected as the mayor of a city
- d. Being born into a financially-advantaged family

**ANSWER:** d

40. Which of the following conclusions best illustrates the use of the sociological imagination?

- a. Jody's parents are getting a divorce because they do not love each other anymore.
- b. Helen is not attending college because her parents do not have enough money to pay her expenses.
- c. Tony's college failure illustrates problems of inner-city children whose schools inadequately prepare them for the rigor of college courses.
- d. Megan has to request welfare payments because she lost her job.

**ANSWER:** c

41. An inner-city youth was caught burglarizing houses. Which of the following explanations views the youth's crime as a public issue?

- a. The youth was unable to find a job because most of the factories had moved out of the inner city.
- b. The person who did not receive a high school diploma or equivalent because he did not like his teachers.
- c. The youth's mother did not provide adequate supervision because she was more interested in her boyfriend.
- d. The youth thought burglarizing homes would be an easier way to make money than to work in a job.

**ANSWER:** a

42. According to C. Wright Mills, which of the following is the ability to see the connections between our personal lives

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and the social world?

- a. The functional perspective
- b. The sociological imagination
- c. An ascribed status
- d. Anomie

**ANSWER:**

b

43. The sociological imagination allows us to see the connections between private troubles and \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. social institutions
- b. sociology
- c. social problems
- d. public issues

**ANSWER:**

d

44. Structural functionalists

- a. emphasize the feelings of powerlessness of workers in industrialized societies.
- b. focus on how groups with different interests compete for scarce resources.
- c. view society as a system of interconnected parts that work together to maintain balance.
- d. focus on how a person's self-concept is formed by their interaction with others.

**ANSWER:**

c

45. Which of the following illustrates a latent function of education?

- a. The transmission of knowledge
- b. The development of reading and writing skills
- c. A source of friends and potential mates
- d. The high cost of a college education

**ANSWER:**

c

46. A person enrolls in college to gain the necessary skills and credentials for a successful career. The college provides structured courses, degrees, and training programs aimed at preparing students for the workforce. This is an example of

- a. a manifest function.
- b. a latent function.
- c. the sociological imagination.
- d. an anomie.

**ANSWER:**

a

47. According to the \_\_\_\_\_, which of the following, social problems result from a breakdown of the family, religious, economic, educational, or political institutions of a society?

- a. Symbolic interactionist perspective
- b. Social pathology model
- c. Marxist conflict theory
- d. Non-Marxist conflict theory

**ANSWER:**

b

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48. A society is in a state of "anomie" when

- a. norms become weak or are in conflict with one another.
- b. the major social institutions reinforce the same cultural values.
- c. there are more secondary groups than primary groups.
- d. some segments of society have more wealth than others.

ANSWER:

a

49. Which perspective sees the solution to social problems in slowing down change and strengthening norms?

- a. Labeling theory
- b. Social constructionism
- c. Social disorganization
- d. Social pathology

ANSWER:

c

50. Which perspective argues that the division of society into the "haves" and "have-nots" will create social problems?

- a. Functionalist
- b. Interactionist
- c. Conflict
- d. Anomie

ANSWER:

c

51. The two general types of conflict theories are

- a. labeling theory and social constructionism.
- b. social pathology and social disorganization.
- c. Marxist and non-Marxist.
- d. social recognition and social legitimation.

ANSWER:

c

52. Magda feels powerless in her job as a warehouse worker. She finds little meaning in her work. According to conflict theorists, Magda is experiencing

- a. anomie.
- b. dysfunction.
- c. alienation.
- d. social pathology.

ANSWER:

c

53. Which of the following is a major source of alienation in industrial societies, according to Marxist conflict theorists?

- a. A lack of socially shared symbols of communication
- b. The primary groups to which individuals belong
- c. Limited and repetitive tasks of specialized workers
- d. A lack of effective sanctions in society

ANSWER:

c

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54. Non-Marxist conflict theories focus on social conflict that results from

- a. weak norms.
- b. social disorganization.
- c. competing values and interests among groups.
- d. a lack of communication among groups.

**ANSWER:**

**c**

55. Which of the following are most likely to see the solution to social problems as solving differences through negotiation or mediation or agreeing to disagree?

- a. Non-Marxist conflict theorists
- b. Marxist conflict theorists
- c. Symbolic interactionists
- d. Structural functionalists

**ANSWER:**

**a**

56. A basic premise of symbolic interactionist theories of social problems is that a condition must be

- a. defined or recognized.
- b. measured statistically.
- c. accepted by members of society.
- d. solved by the government.

**ANSWER:**

**a**

57. Symbolic interactionism emphasizes that

- a. societal institutions meet the needs of people in society.
- b. institutional inequalities cause social problems.
- c. human behavior is influenced by meanings that are created through social interaction.
- d. the important symbols of society are distributed unequally.

**ANSWER:**

**c**

58. Micro-sociologists, such as W. I. Thomas, believe that human behavior is influenced mostly by

- a. the social organization of a social situation.
- b. the definitions of a situation.
- c. the objective inequalities that exist in a situation.
- d. the feelings of alienation that occur from a lack of power.

**ANSWER:**

**b**

59. Which perspective claims our identity or sense of self is shaped by social interaction?

- a. Social disorganization
- b. Social pathology
- c. Symbolic interactionism
- d. Non-Marxist conflict theory

**ANSWER:**

**c**

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60. Which perspective is most likely to look at the dynamics of interpersonal relationships in small groups?

- a. Conflict theory
- b. Structural functionalism
- c. Symbolic interactionism
- d. Marxist theory

ANSWER:

c

61. Which of the following concepts from Max Weber implies that, in conducting research, social scientists must try to understand others' view of reality and the subjective aspects of their experiences, such as symbols, values, and beliefs?

- a. Anomie
- b. The looking glass self
- c. *Verstehen*
- d. Alienation

ANSWER:

c

62. According to Herbert Blumer, the first stage of a social problem is

- a. mobilization for action.
- b. societal recognition.
- c. implementation of a plan.
- d. social legitimation.

ANSWER:

b

63. Symbolic interactionist Herbert Blumer said that social problems develop in stages. In which of the following stages is a condition recognized as a social problem by the larger community, such as media, schools, and churches?

- a. Objectification
- b. Social legitimation
- c. Mobilization
- d. Implementation

ANSWER:

b

64. A student struggles with math in elementary school. Teachers and classmates often refer to them as "bad at math," leading the student to believe they are incapable of improving, despite their potential. This is an example of

- a. labeling theory.
- b. social pathology.
- c. social disorganization.
- d. conflict theory.

ANSWER:

a

65. Which of the following theories often questions the origin and evolution of social problems and examines how research institutes, government agencies, and the media influence the public's view of social problems?

- a. Labeling theory
- b. The social pathology model
- c. The social disorganization model
- d. Social constructionism

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**ANSWER:** d

66. Which of the following topics is most likely to be the topic of study of a social constructionist?
- a. Why marijuana use, but not alcohol and nicotine use, is illegal.
  - b. How rapid social change weakened traditional rules about sexual behavior.
  - c. How the economic structure of society influences elections.
  - d. How different social classes view the police.

**ANSWER:** a

67. Which theoretical perspective emphasizes that a condition must be defined or recognized as a social problem in order to be a social problem?
- a. Structural functionalism
  - b. Marxist conflict theory
  - c. Non-Marxist conflict theory
  - d. Symbolic interactionism

**ANSWER:** d

68. Which of the following social policies is most likely to be advocated by a conflict theorist?
- a. Repair weak institutions.
  - b. Assure proper socialization.
  - c. Create an equitable system for the distribution of resources.
  - d. Reduce the pace of social change.

**ANSWER:** c

69. Conflict theory is more likely than structural functionalism or symbolic interactionism to view the cause of social problems as
- a. rapid social change.
  - b. different interpretations of social roles.
  - c. inequality.
  - d. inadequate socialization.

**ANSWER:** c

70. The first stage in conducting a research study is
- a. reviewing the literature.
  - b. formulating a research question.
  - c. formulating a hypothesis.
  - d. defining variables.

**ANSWER:** b

71. In a research study, gender, self-esteem, crime rates, and religiosity are examples of
- a. variables.
  - b. hypotheses.
  - c. operational definitions.

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d. samples.

**ANSWER:**

a

72. Which of the following is an example of an independent variable in a study?

- a. The amount of study time in an experiment measuring its effect on test scores
- b. A student’s final exam score in a study on academic performance
- c. The level of stress experienced by employees in a workplace study
- d. The rate of illness in a study examining the impact of pollution on health

**ANSWER:**

a

73. A company compares its customer service response times against the industry average to evaluate performance. What sociological concept does this best represent?

- a. Hypothesis
- b. Experiment
- c. Benchmark
- d. Variable

**ANSWER:**

c

74. In research, an operational definition

- a. defines variables that cannot be directly observed.
- b. explains the relationship between two variables.
- c. defines the researcher's hypothesis.
- d. refers to any variable that cannot be measured.

**ANSWER:**

a

75. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ of religiosity could be the number of times respondents report going to church or synagogue in a month or year.

- a. theory
- b. operational definition
- c. hypothesis
- d. sample

**ANSWER:**

b

76. A researcher's hypothesis

- a. identifies a sample to use for the research.
- b. explains how to measure variables.
- c. summarizes the review of literature.
- d. predicts a relationship between variables.

**ANSWER:**

d

77. A researcher is studying whether drug use contributes to lower academic achievement of high school youth. In this scenario, the independent variable is

- a. youth.
- b. drug use.

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- c. high school.
- d. academic achievement.

**ANSWER:** b

78. Operational definitions are particularly important for defining variables that

- a. cannot be directly observed.
- b. can be directly observed.
- c. are universally agreed upon.
- d. do not change over the time period.

**ANSWER:** a

79. Which research method involves manipulating a variable in order to determine how it affects another variable?

- a. Experiment
- b. Field research
- c. Survey
- d. Secondary data

**ANSWER:** a

80. A researcher is curious about the impact of remote work on employees' job satisfaction. Before starting the study, they analyze previous research papers, journal articles, and existing data on the topic to understand what has already been discovered. At which stage of the sociological research process is this researcher?

- a. Defining variables
- b. Reviewing the literature
- c. Formulating a hypothesis
- d. Formulating a research question

**ANSWER:** b

81. The major strength of the experimental method is that

- a. experimental research findings are easily generalized to larger groups in society.
- b. it provides evidence for causal relationships.
- c. it shows an association between the variables of interest.
- d. it is an easy way to collect information on almost all sociological variables.

**ANSWER:** b

82. For which method of data collection is it most important to select a representative sample so that the information may be generalized to a larger population?

- a. An experiment
- b. A survey
- c. A participant observation
- d. A case study

**ANSWER:** b

83. The method of data collection in which a researcher asks respondents a series of questions and makes written notes or recordings to be analyzed later is called a(n)

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- a. questionnaire.
- b. experiment.
- c. secondary data analysis.
- d. interview.

**ANSWER:**

d

84. For which data collection method is response rate the major problem?

- a. An experiment
- b. Field research
- c. A questionnaire
- d. Secondary data research

**ANSWER:**

c

85. A study aims to explore the effects of sleep deprivation on student performance. To ensure the study is measurable, the researcher decides to define "sleep deprivation" as getting fewer than five hours of sleep per night and "student performance" as the GPA of each participant. Which stage of the sociological research process does this represent?

- a. Reviewing the literature
- b. Formulating a hypothesis
- c. Defining variables
- d. Formulating a research question

**ANSWER:**

c

86. Researchers observe social behavior in the settings in which it occurs naturally when using which of the following methods of data collection?

- a. Experiment
- b. Questionnaire
- c. Field research
- d. Secondary data analysis

**ANSWER:**

c

87. To study the interaction between prison guards and incarcerated individuals, a sociologist lived in a prison for several months. Only the warden and a few other administrators knew he had not been convicted of a crime. This is an example of

- a. secondary data research.
- b. nonparticipant observation.
- c. participant observation.
- d. an experiment.

**ANSWER:**

c

88. Studying white power groups by observing their activities without participating in their activities is considered an example of

- a. secondary data.
- b. an experiment.
- c. a survey.
- d. field research.

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**ANSWER:** d

89. One of the biggest disadvantages of secondary data research is that the
- a. sample seldom represents the population of interest to the researcher.
  - b. researcher is limited to data already collected.
  - c. researcher may become too involved with the group to remain unbiased.
  - d. participants may act differently in a laboratory setting.

**ANSWER:** b

90. Instead of conducting personal or phone interviews, some researchers develop surveys that can be either mailed, posted online, or given to a sample of respondents as
- a. questionnaires.
  - b. samples.
  - c. beliefs.
  - d. observations.

**ANSWER:** a

91. A researcher is interested in studying the effects of income inequality on mental health. The first step they take is identifying a specific focus, such as how financial stress influences anxiety levels in low-income households. Which stage of the sociological research process does this represent?
- a. Reviewing the literature
  - b. Formulating a hypothesis
  - c. Defining variables
  - d. Formulating a research question

**ANSWER:** d

92. In a research study, instead of asking all middle school children about their delinquent activity, the researcher asked a representative sample of them and assumes that those who were not questioned would give similar responses. This is an example of a(n)
- a. sample.
  - b. benchmark.
  - c. experiment.
  - d. population.

**ANSWER:** a

93. Which of the following is a disadvantage of field research?
- a. Provides limited details about values, rituals, norms, and behaviors of those being studied.
  - b. The researcher becomes too involved in the group to be objective.
  - c. Usually based on large samples, the findings may not be generalizable.
  - d. Usually, it is not conducted naturally.

**ANSWER:** a

94. According to which of the following, social problems result from some “sickness” in society?
- a. Social pathology model

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- b. Social disorganization view
- c. Conflict perspective
- d. Contemporary Marxist theorists

ANSWER: c

95. Elements of society are functional if they
- a. contribute to social stability.
  - b. disrupt social stability.
  - c. create conflict between social groups.
  - d. lead to unpredictable social change.

ANSWER: c

96. According to which of the following, the solution to social problems lies in slowing the pace of social change and strengthening social norms?
- a. Social pathology model
  - b. Social disorganization view
  - c. Conflict perspective
  - d. Contemporary Marxist theorists

ANSWER: b

97. Democrats and progressives are often referred to as being on the left, while Republicans and reactionaries are often referred to as being on the right.
- a. True
  - b. False

ANSWER: True

98. The definition of a social problem involves a combination of objective and subjective criteria.
- a. True
  - b. False

ANSWER: True

99. Recognized social problems vary by historical time period.
- a. True
  - b. False

ANSWER: True

100. If you are born into a low socioeconomic status, then it is an example of ascribed status.
- a. True
  - b. False

ANSWER: True

101. A single status, such as mother, can involve more than one role.
- a. True
  - b. False

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**ANSWER:** True

102. Values are characteristics of individuals rather than societies.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

103. Being praised by one’s neighbors for organizing a neighborhood recycling program is an example of a formal sanction.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

104. Karl Marx developed the structural-functionalist perspective.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

105. According to structural functionalists, social problems occur when some part of the structure or culture of a society fails to work properly.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

106. The social pathology model advocates proper socialization and moral education as a solution to social problems.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

107. Non-Marxist conflict theorists focus on order and stability in a society.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

108. According to Herbert Blumer, "social legitimation" of a social problem takes place when the problem achieves recognition by the larger community, such as the media.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

109. Emile Durkheim, Talcott Parsons, and Robert Merton are representatives of conflict theory.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

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110. The first stage of conducting a research study is developing a hypothesis.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

111. A dependent variable is the variable that the researcher believes contributes to a change in the variable of interest.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

112. A researcher who analyzes information collected by the U.S. Census Bureau is using primary data research.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

113. An advantage of experiments is that they typically take place in natural settings.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

114. The sociological imagination enables us to understand how social forces influence our personal misfortunes and failures.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

115. Field research involves observing and studying social behavior in a setting in which it occurs naturally. This could be done via participant observation and nonparticipant observation.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

116. Formulating a hypothesis involves manipulating the independent variable to determine how it affects the dependent variable.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

117. Select a social problem and identify possible objective and subjective elements of that social problem.

**ANSWER:** Will vary

118. Society is organized into different parts: institutions, social groups, statuses, and roles. Define and exemplify each part.

**ANSWER:** Will vary

**Chapter 01 – Thinking about Social Problems**

119. Choose a private trouble you have experienced. Use your "sociological imagination" to explain how this problem can also be viewed as a public issue.

**ANSWER:** Will vary

120. Explain the concept of *verstehen* and how it applies to social science research.

**ANSWER:** Will vary

121. Define the first four stages of conducting a research study.

**ANSWER:** Will vary

122. List five major social institutions in society and, for each, give an example of a possible breakdown in the institution and a social problem that might have resulted from that breakdown.

**ANSWER:** Will vary

123. What is the sociological imagination? Using two specific examples, explain how it can be used to understand social problems.

**ANSWER:** Will vary

124. Explain the similarities and differences between contemporary Marxist conflict theory and non-Marxist conflict theory. Choose a social problem and discuss possible explanations of the problem from each conflict perspective (Marxist and non-Marxist).

**ANSWER:** Will vary

125. Differentiate between dependent and independent variables in research with the help of examples.

**ANSWER:** Will vary

126. Chapter 1 includes a discussion of good reasons for students to study social problems. Discuss at least four of the reasons given.

**ANSWER:** Will vary