

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY & SOCIAL WORK

FINAL EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER DECEMBER 2015

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY I
COURSE CODE: SOC 111
TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS
TOTAL MARKS: 100

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. SECTION A, ALL QUESTIONS ARE COMPULSORY.
2. SECTION A, TOTAL MARKS IS 40 (30+10).
3. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.
4. SECTION B TOTAL MARKS IS 60 (20+20+20).
5. TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES IS SIX (6) INCLUDING THE COVER PAGE.

THIS PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN
GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR

SECTION A

Total Marks for this section 40

Q. 1 Choose the correct answer from the following:

30 Marks

- (i) Which of the following historical changes is among the factors that stimulated the development of sociology as a discipline?
- (a) The founding of the Roman Catholic church.
 - (b) The power of tradition.
 - (c) The rise of industrial factories and cities.
 - (d) A belief that our futures are defined by “fate”.
- (ii) According to Emile Durkheim, a category of people with a higher suicide rate typically has:
- (a) greatest self-esteem.
 - (b) more clinical depression.
 - (c) less money, power and other resources.
 - (d) lower social integration.
- (iii) Which of the following early sociologists had an important influence on the development of the social conflict approach?
- (a) Karl Marx.
 - (b) Talcott Parsons.
 - (c) Herbert Spencer.
 - (d) Emile Durkheim.
- (iv) Which of the following statements is based on a symbolic-interaction analysis of sports?
- (a) Sports help develop important cultural values.
 - (b) Winning at sports means different things to different people.
 - (c) Some categories of people benefit more than others from sports.
 - (d) “Stacking” is a type of racial inequality in sports.
- (v) Which term was used by Ferdinand Tonnies to describe a traditional society?
- (a) Geselleschaft. (b) Mechanical solidarity.
 - (c) Gemeinschaft. (d) Organic solidarity.
- (vi) Sociologists use the term “empirical evidence” to refer to:
- (a) information that most people agree to be true
 - (b) information that squares with common sense
 - (c) information we can verify with our senses
 - (d) information that is based on society’s traditions.
- (vii) William Foote Whyte’s study of Cornerville (*Street Corner Society*) used which sociological research method?
- (a) Experiment
 - (b) Survey

(c) Participant observation

(d) Secondary analysis

(viii) Ethnocentrism refers to:

- (a) judging another culture using the standards of your own culture.
- (b) people taking pride in their ethnicity.
- (c) claiming that another culture is better than your own.
- (d) understanding another culture using its own standards and values.

(ix) Which of the following adds to the creation of a global culture?

- (a) the flow of goods from one country to another.
- (b) the flow of information around the world.
- (c) the flow of people from country to country.
- (d) All of the above are correct.

(x) Sociologists use the term “modernity” to refer to social patterns that emerged

- (a) With the first human civilizations.
- (b) After the fall of Rome.
- (c) After the Industrial Revolution.
- (d) Along with the Information Revolution.

(xi) Using Robert K. Merton’s strain theory, which of the following concepts correctly describes the behaviour of a radical activist who rejects about everything in the existing society in favour of some alternative system.

- (a) Rebel
- (b) Innovator
- (c) Retreatist
- (d) Ritualist.

(xii) Crime differs from deviance in that crime:

- (a) Is always more serious.
- (b) Is usually less serious.
- (c) Involves a large share of the population.
- (d) Refers to a violation of norms enacted into law.

(xiii) Every society tries to regulate the behaviour of individuals; this general process is called

- (a) Neighbourhood watch.
- (b) Self control.
- (c) Social control.
- (d) The legal system.

(xiv) An act of kindness, such as opening the door for an elderly person, illustrates conforming to:

- (a) Mores
- (b) taboos
- (c) folkways
- (d) prescriptive norms

(xv) Which of the following concepts refer to “the recognised violation of cultural norms”?

- (a) Deviance
- (b) Crime
- (c) Legal infraction
- (d) Juvenile delinquency.

- (xvi) The concept of criminal recidivism refers to:
- (a) Young people growing up in a criminal environment.
 - (b) Efforts by police to enlist help from people in a local community.
 - (c) Later offenses by people previously convicted of crime.
 - (d) Ideas that crime does not pay.
- (xvii) Jean Piaget's focus was on:
- (a) How children develop their motor skills.
 - (b) How children are stimulated by their environment.
 - (c) The role heredity plays in shaping human behaviour.
 - (d) Cognition or how people think and understand.
- (xviii) Our basic drives or needs as humans are reflected in Freud's concept of:
- (a) Superego (b) Ego (c) Id (d) Generalised other.
- (xix) Family is important to the socialization process because:
- (a) Family members are often what Mead called "significant others".
 - (b) Families pass along to children social identity in terms of class, ethnicity, and religion.
 - (c) Parents greatly affect a child's sense of self.
 - (d) All of the above are correct.
- (xx) The tragic case of Anna, the isolated girl studied by Kingsley Davis, shows that:
- (a) Humans have most of the same instincts found in other animal species.
 - (b) Without social experience, a child is incapable of thought or meaningful action.
 - (c) Personality is present in humans at birth.
 - (d) Many human instincts disappear after the first few years.
- (xxi) What theory developed by the psychologist John B. Watson claims that human behaviour is not instinctive but learned within a social environment?
- (a) Behaviourism. (c) Biological psychology.
 - (b) Evolutionary psychology. (d) Naturalism.
- (xxii) Mead considered the "generalized other" to be:
- (a) Important individuals in a child's life.
 - (b) A person who provides complete care for a child.
 - (c) Any "significant other".
 - (d) Widespread cultural norms and values people take as their own.
- (xxiii) Which of the following statement comes closest to describing Erik H. Erikson's view of socialization?

- (a) Personality involves tensions between the forces of biology and forces of culture.
 - (b) We come to see ourselves as we think others see us.
 - (c) Personality develops over the entire life course.
 - (d) Most of our personality development takes place in childhood.
- (xxiv) The special importance of peer group is the fact that it:
- (a) Has a greater effect than parents on children's long term goals.
 - (b) Lets children escape the direct supervision of parents.
 - (c) Gives children experience in an important setting.
 - (d) All of the above are correct.
- (xxv) Sociologists use what concept to refer to behaviour people expect of someone who holds a particular status?
- (a) Role (b) Master status (c) Status set (d) Role set.
- (xxvi) As part of human culture, religion is an example of:
- (a) Material culture.
 - (b) Non material culture.
 - (c) Culture shock.
 - (d) Human nature.
- (xxvii) The basic idea behind the labelling theory is that;
- (a) Deviance is actually useful in a number of ways.
 - (b) Deviance arises not so much from what people do as how others respond to what they do.
 - (c) Power has much to do with how society defines deviance.
 - (d) All of the above are correct.
- (xxviii) Some people in Swaziland under age of 18 drink alcohol. This behaviour constitutes the violation of:
- (a) Value (b) Folkways (c) Sanction (d) Law
- (xxix) Which term refers to the unrecognized and unintended consequences of a social pattern?
- (a) Manifest functions.
 - (b) Dysfunctions.
 - (c) Malfunctions.
 - (d) Latent functions.
- (xxx) What research method was used in Philip Zimbardo's famous study, the "Stanford County Prison"?
- (a) Experiment (b) Survey

(c) Participant observation (d) Secondary analysis

Q. 2 Define any ten (10) of the following:

10 marks

- (i) Achieved status.
- (ii) Cultural lag.
- (iii) White collar crime.
- (iv) Organic Solidarity.
- (v) Positivism.
- (vi) White collar crime.
- (vii) 'Verstehen'
- (viii) 'Gesellschaft'
- (ix) Anomie.
- (x) Participant observation.
- (xi) Ascribed status.
- (xii) Mores.

SECTION B

ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 20 MARKS

- Q 3 What are the special contributions to human development made by the family, school, peer group and media? Do these agents of socialization always convey the same lessons to people? In your answer, provide examples.
- Q 4 How do cultural values differ in low-income and in high-income countries? What reasons can you provide for this difference?
- Q 5 What is meant by community-based corrections? What are the advantages of this approach compared to sending convicted offenders to prison? What are some of the limitations of this approach?
- Q 6 Explain the view that structural-functional approach is more focused on understanding society as it is, while the social conflict approach is more focused on social change.
- Q 7 The study of social change is one of the most important areas of interest to the sociologist. Taking examples from Swaziland and southern African countries discuss the pros and cons of social change.