Second Thoughts Sociology Challenges Conventional Wisdom 7th edition Ruane Test Bank

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Introduction: The Sociological Perspective

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. *Second Thoughts* explains our resistance to the sociological perspective by citing _____.
A. our cultural emphasis on “me”
B. our preference for certain rather than probable answers
C. our innumeracy
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: D

2. Ruane and Cerulo attribute our resistance to the sociological eye to _____.
A. our culture’s “social” bias
B. our preference for “certain” over probable answers
C. the staid quality of social life
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: B

3. A major takeaway from the introduction is that conventional wisdom often fails us because _____.
A. it is advice out of context
B. the situation giving rise to the advice may not be generalizable
C. the advice may not transcend specific circumstances or experiences
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: D

4. Sociologists are interested in learning more about _____.
A. social context
B. individual motives
C. social statics
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: A

5. Michael Moss talks about the “bliss point” of food which refers to _____.
A. the point when our eating washes away our troubles
B. the precise amount of sweetness that makes foods most appealing to us
C. the point when our brains signal happiness
D. None of these choices are correct.
Ans: B

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6. According to *Second Thoughts*, which of the following account(s) for resisting the sociological perspective?
A. our rejection of commonsense approaches to understanding
B. our preference for the “me, me, me” focus
C. our brains being hardwired to reject the social
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: B

7. According to *Second Thoughts*, our current obesity crisis is in large measure due to _____.
A. lack of individual self-discipline
B. Earl Butz’ food policies
C. a genetic disorder
D. our love affair with the food network
Ans: B

8. According to *Second Thoughts*, our current obesity crisis is the result of _____.
A. changes in school budgets and curriculum
B. lifestyle changes that see more of us sedentary
C. changes in food production policies dating back to the 1970s
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: D

9. A self-fulfilling prophecy refers to the process whereby _____.
A. that which we think is true becomes true
B. if we can imagine it, it is possible
C. we see the “social” in everything
D. we are what we eat
Ans: A

10. The maxim “If we define situations as real, they are real in their consequences” is most consistent with _____.
A. the structural functional paradigm
B. the order paradigm
C. the conflict paradigm
D. a self-fulfilling prophecy
Ans: D

11. The sociological imagination refers to _____.
A. the ability to think outside the box
B. the ability to see the intersection between the personal, social, and historical
C. creative problem-solving
D. concept mapping
Ans: B

12. The sociological imagination _____.

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A. shows the influence of personal, historical, and social forces on our private lives
B. allows individuals to look at life from a psychological perspective
C. becomes less and less necessary as society becomes more technologically driven
D. helps us understand and solve our “troubles.”
Ans: A

13. A cultural value is best thought of as a _____.
A. belief
B. sentiment about what is right or wrong
C. morally charged idea
D. positive ideology
Ans: B

Essay 1: Numbers Don’t Lie

Multiple Choice

1. In “Numbers Don’t Lie,” the Bradley effect shows us that _____.
A. respondent dishonesty can be a problem with survey research
B. field workers sometimes “go native”
C. people involved in experiments will often change their behaviors to please the researchers
D. polls are never wrong
Ans: A

2. In “Numbers Don’t Lie,” the Roper research on the Holocaust indicates that _____.
A. the wording of questions can significantly alter survey findings
B. most surveys are well done
C. field work is more trustworthy than surveys
D. interviews produce better data than questionnaires
Ans: A

3. A representative sample _____.
A. consists of every single unit of the population
B. is one elected by the total population
C. permits accurate inferences about the overall population
D. is one selected to speak for the entire population
Ans: C

4. A representative sample is one that _____.
A. includes every known social group
B. “mirrors” the diversity found in the population
C. includes social minorities
D. is handpicked

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Ans: B

5. A valid measure is _____.
A. one that has stood the test of time
B. one that accurately documents the research concept
C. a measure that is consistent over time
D. a measure that is embraced by the public
Ans: B

6. In a word, reliable measures are _____.
A. consistent
B. valid
C. accurate
D. value-free
Ans: A

7. The term “survey” _____.
A. is synonymous with the term experiments
B. refers to any scientific data collection strategy
C. is an appropriate synonym for “study”
D. is a data collection strategy that relies on asking questions
Ans: D

8. A dyad is _____.
A. a group characterized by division
B. an oppositional group
C. a two-person group
D. any small group without a leader
Ans: C

9. The tendency to judge other cultures by the standards of one’s own is called _____.
A. cultural relativism
B. ethnocentrism
C. egocentrism
D. relativity
Ans: B

10. In the language of research, a population refers to _____.
A. all citizens of the United States
B. the total collection of elements under investigation
C. a subset of the group we are studying
D. our research topic
Ans: B

11. The ordering of survey questions can _____.
A. distract respondents from information most relevant to their answers

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B. prime respondents to answer questions in a certain way
C. preclude making the survey boring
D. None of these choices are correct.
Ans: B

12. Operationalization refers to _____.
A. being out in the field
B. ordering questions on a survey
C. how a researcher defines and measures the concept or variable of interest
D. None of these choices are correct.
Ans: C

True/False

1. The ordering of survey questions can influence respondents' answers.
Ans: T

2. According the Ruane and Cerulo, people's attitudes about things like the Holocaust or euthanasia can be biased by the working of survey questions.
Ans: T

Essay 2: Winning Is Everything

Multiple Choice

1. According to the essay on competition, research finds that competition _____.
A. leads to sophisticated and advanced thinking
B. increases overall success rates in-group projects
C. decreases prejudice
D. is inferior to cooperation as a general strategy of action
Ans: D

2. Research on the "Prisoner's Dilemma" shows that _____.
A. Both players win when they cooperate.
B. Most people choose to go the game alone.
C. Both players win when they cooperate and most people choose to go the game alone.
D. None of these choices are correct.
Ans: C

3. In their essay on "Winning Is Everything," Ruane and Cerulo argue that _____.
A. research consistently reveals that competition always enhances the quality of group interactions

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B. cooperation promotes higher individual achievement and group productivity
C. prejudice actually declines under conditions of competition
D. cooperation is a fixed action pattern
Ans: B

4. Research indicates that once people become aware of the benefits of cooperation, they _____.
A. immediately become more cooperative
B. often continue to utilize a competitive strategy of action
C. become more prejudice
D. become more group-oriented
Ans: B

5. A review of over 200 studies of human performance finds that cooperation leads to _____.
A. higher individual achievement
B. higher group productivity
C. better problem-solving
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: D

6. Culture against people refers to _____.
A. prejudicial culture
B. culture that promotes or leads to harmful consequences
C. dangerous countercultures like ELF or White supremacists
D. ideal culture
Ans: B

7. An example of culture against people reviewed in *Second Thought*s is _____.
A. Americans' commitment to competition
B. Americans' devaluing of age
C. our human tendency to trust others
D. our attraction to high stakes gambling
Ans: A

8. When it comes to vacations _____.
A. Americans lead the world in the number of days we take off for vacation
B. the United States leads the world in its policy mandating paid vacations
C. the United States mandates that all workers receive some vacation
D. unlike its European counterparts, the United States does not require paid vacation time for workers
Ans: D

9. Statements or ideas about what is worthwhile or good are _____.
A. beliefs
B. values

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C. norms
D. ideals
Ans: B

10. Prejudice refers to _____.
A. discriminatory behaviors toward minorities
B. prejudgment of individuals because of their social statuses
C. behavior void of thought
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: B

11. Research indicates that in order to promote sophisticated thinking or reasoning, we should _____.
A. encourage cooperation
B. promote competition
C. encourage “outside the box” thinking
D. discourage dialectic reasoning
Ans: A

12. In dialectic thinking, individuals _____.
A. consider contradictions and their solutions
B. zero in on solutions as soon as possible
C. maintain neutral positions and avoid decision making
D. None of these choices are correct.
Ans: A

True/False

1. In general, study findings indicate that cooperation tends to hurt performance outcomes.
Ans: F

Essay 3: Children Are Our Most Precious Commodity

Multiple Choice

1. The infant mortality rate _____.
A. is very low in the United States
B. is not considered an important indicator of how a society treats its children
C. gauges the number of deaths per 1,000 live births for children under 1 year of age
D. is typically lowest in developing nations
Ans: C

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2. The U.S. infant mortality rate is on par with the rate found in _____.
A. Chile
B. Cuba
C. Canada
D. Iceland
Ans: A

3. In their essay on children, Ruane and Cerulo argue that _____.
A. U.S. infant mortality rates indicate a discrepancy between our "ideal" and "real" cultural values about children
B. U.S. culture is remarkably consistent with regard to its views of and treatment of children
C. high fertility rates in the United States are a clear indicator of the positive value we place on children
D. the United States is the only industrialized nation of the world that has fertility rates above "replacement level"
Ans: A

4. According to the *Second Thoughts* essay on children _____.
A. compared to other nations of the world, the United States has a very impressive record at fighting childhood poverty
B. the United States spends more money than other OECD nations fighting childhood poverty
C. in the US "group" portrait of the poor, more than one-third of the faces belong to children
D. compared to other nations of the world, the United States has a very impressive record at fighting childhood poverty and the United States spends more money than other OECD nations fighting childhood poverty
Ans: C

5. Replacement-level fertility _____.
A. is the level needed for a population to renew itself without growing
B. becomes less important an issue as populations age
C. is more of an academic issue than a real policy concern
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: A

6. Technically, low-income families are _____.
A. those found to be below the federal poverty level
B. those above the federal poverty level but below that deemed necessary for meeting basic needs
C. those utilizing TANF
D. those that *qualify* for TANF
Ans: B

7. The U.S. birth rate _____.

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A. is significantly above replacement-level fertility
B. is significantly below replacement-level fertility
C. hovers around replacement-level fertility
D. has been steadily increasing over the last few decades
Ans: C

8. Among the rich OECD nations of the world _____.
A. the United States does the best job of fighting childhood poverty
B. the United States employs a very modern metric for calculating poverty
C. the United States has the highest childhood poverty rate
D. All of these choices are correct.
Ans: C

9. According to *Second Thoughts*, a leading cause of death for U.S. babies is _____.
A. guns
B. injuries from auto accidents
C. emotional abuse
D. suicides
Ans: B

10. Ideal culture refers to _____.
A. actual cultural practices
B. a culture dominated by ideal types
C. real culture
D. aspirational culture
Ans: D

11. Real culture refers to _____.
A. the culture that is actually practiced
B. the “underside” of any culture
C. the values, beliefs, and norms to which we aspire
D. culture void of values
Ans: A

12. Currently, the U.S. birth rate is _____.
A. at an all-time high
B. at an all-time low
C. is above that needed for replacement of the population
D. is rising
Ans: B

13. The general fertility rate in the United States _____.
A. has been trending downward for years
B. has been increasing since the great recession
C. is also known as the total fertility rate
D. hit an all-time low at the turn of the 20th century

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