UNIT 1: CULTURE & SOCIAL STRUCTURE

CH 1: WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

Assignment: Write & define/explain terms, & write & answer questions. Skip a line between or highlight each term, identify, & question. The completed assignment is worth 100 points. It will be used as the basis for discussion, to answer questions on quizzes & tests, & as a reference for various class projects worth additional points.

Chapter 1 Section 1: Examining Social Life (pp. 4-7)
Identify: C. Wright Mills
1. Name the six fields categorized as social sciences.
2. What is the primary interest of sociologists? How does this impact their focus?
3. Copy & complete the chart below:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Similarities with Sociology</th>
<th>Differences from Sociology</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anthropology</td>
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<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>History</td>
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4. Give & explain how adopting a sociological perspective leads to better understanding of social issues.

Chapter 1 Section 2: The Development of Sociology (pp. 8-14)
Define: social Darwinism – function – Verstehen – ideal type
1. Explain how the following factors contributed to the development of sociology in the 1800s: a) Industrial Revolution, b) rapid urbanization, c) political movements of the time
2. Why is Comte considered the founder of sociology? Explain Comte’s ideas regarding social order & social change.
3. In what two ways did Society in America establish standards for sociological research? Explain Martineau’s view on scholars & how this impacted her life.
4. Explain how Spencer applied Darwin’s evolution theory to society. What phrase is commonly credited to him because of this?
5. According to Marx, social structure is influenced by what factor? Give & describe the two social classes he identified. What did Marx believe was the primary cause of social change?
6. Explain Durkheim’s view of society, including the concept of a function. Which element of society particularly interested him & why? What were his beliefs regarding the scientific analysis of society?
7. What was the first true sociological study & when was it conducted?
8. Explain two ways in which Weber’s focus on society differed from other sociologists. What method did Weber employ to uncover people’s underlying feelings & thoughts?
9. Describe the interest of Chicago school sociologists. What did they believe regarding their study?
10. What major social forces were discussed in Addams’ Hull House Maps & Papers?
11. What social issue did Du Bois focus on in American society?
Chapter 1 Section 3: Modern Perspectives (pp. 15-18)
1. How do theories help sociologists in their work?
2. Give the 3 broad theoretical perspectives in modern sociology.
3. How do functionalists view society?
   a. Which sociologists’ ideas form the foundation of the functionalist perspective?
   b. Explain the role of consensus.
   c. Give an example of a dysfunctional element of society. What can dysfunction lead to?
   d. Give an example of both a manifest & latent function.
4. What do conflict theorists focus on?
   a. Which sociologist’s ideas form the foundation of the conflict perspective?
   b. According to conflict theorists, what is the basis for social conflict? Explain how this leads to social change.
5. Describe the interest of interactionist theorists.
   a. Which sociologist’s ideas form the foundation of the interactionist perspective?
   b. Give & explain the 3 essential elements of symbolic interaction.
6. Identify which level of analysis each of the 3 perspectives utilizes.
7. How are sociologists beginning to shift their focus of society in our modern world?

Chapter 1 Section 4: Conducting Sociological Research (pp. 20-27)
1. Give & explain the type of research used to answer sociological questions.
2. Give 3 issues researchers must be aware of when employing the scientific method.
3. Give the 7 steps of the scientific research process.
4. What is an operational definition?
5. How do sociologists study cause & effect? When does a causal relationship exist?
6. Give & explain the 2 types of variables used to study cause & effect.
7. Are correlations causal? Give & explain the 3 types of correlations.
8. Explain the purpose of controls on research.
9. Give the 4 broad categories of research methods used to collect data.
10. Give the 2 techniques used to gather survey data. Explain their advantages & disadvantages.
11. Explain how samples are chosen for surveys to ensure their usefulness.
12. Give the 2 techniques for analyzing existing sources. Explain the advantages of each.
13. Give & explain the two methods of data collection in observational studies. What are the advantages/disadvantages of each?
14. Explain when case studies are particularly useful.
15. Explain why two separate groups are used during experiments. Give the limitations of experiments.
16. Give & explain the 3 measures of central tendency in statistical analysis.
17. Identify the organization responsible for establishing ethical standards in sociological research.
18. Give & explain the 3 issues that ethical guidelines typically focus on.
19. What is meant by informed consent?