

Chapter 1

Multiple Choice

1. A _____ is defined as a situation or event causing stress.

- A. crisis
- B. stressor
- C. distress event
- D. catalyst

(Correct response: B; definition, easy, p. 4)

2. In _____, one person is married to another person of the opposite sex.

- A. polygamous marriage
- B. arranged marriage
- C. monogamous marriage
- D. proper marriage

(Correct response: C; definition, easy, p. 5)

3. In _____, one person is married to multiple husbands or wives.

- A. polygamous marriage
- B. arranged marriage
- C. monogamous marriage
- D. proper marriage

(Correct response: A; definition, easy, p. 5)

4. _____ is a type of marriage in which the families of the bride and groom negotiate an arrangement before the two parties enter into a relationship.

- A. Polygamous marriage
- B. Arranged marriage
- C. Monogamous marriage
- D. Traditional marriage

(Correct response: B; definition, easy, p. 5)

5. Which of the following is NOT true about marriage, generally speaking, in the United States?

- A. It is a legal contract as well as a ceremony
- B. It is expected to be permanent, although participants may dissolve it
- C. It is open to any couple, so long as they are of opposite sex (e.g., one man and one woman)
- D. Our understanding of marriage is actually quite narrow and excludes many committed partnerships that function as marriages in all but the legal sense.

(Correct response: C; concept, medium, p. 5)

6. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 Current Population Survey, which of these family forms is least common in the United States?

- A. Single mother households
- B. **Married couples with children**
- C. Unmarried parent couple households
- D. Married couples without children

(Correct response: C; concept, medium, p. 6)

7. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, which of the following groups would NOT count as “family”?

- A. a married couple who live together but do not have children
- B. an unmarried woman and her adopted daughter
- C. adult siblings who live in the same rented house while attending college at the same university
- D. romantic partners who have been together for ten years and own a home together

(Correct response: D; application, difficult, p. 6)

8. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, which of the following groups would NOT count as a “household”?

- A. a mother, father, and six kids living in a rented apartment
- B. two single, unrelated, adult men who are not in a relationship with one another but who share an apartment for financial reasons
- C. six sorority sisters who live together in a large home that one of them owns
- D. all of these groups would count as a “household” under Census definitions

(Correct response: D; application, difficult, p. 6)

9. Danny and Karen are young working professionals raising two children under the age of six. They rely heavily on the help of a neighbor, Marie, who the children call “Grannie Marie” and who is often included at family events like holiday celebrations. According to your text, Grannie Marie would count as

- A. family.
- B. part of the household.
- C. affiliated kin.
- D. none of these.

(Correct response: C; application, difficult, p. 7)

10. The term _____ refers to nonrelated individuals who are accepted by family members as part of the family.

- A. fictional family
- B. affiliated kin
- C. household members
- D. faux family

(Correct response: B; definition, easy, p. 7)

11. If you were to travel back in time to the colonial period of U.S. history, who would you expect to find in the average Colonial American household?

- A. husbands and wives and children only; small households
- B. very large households with extended family including grandparents, inlaws, and aunts and uncles
- C. nuclear family members plus unrelated apprentices, workers, and hired laborers
- D. all of these would have been commonly found in Colonial America

(Correct response: C; application, moderate, p. 7)

12. Applying your text's description of households in the colonial period of U.S. history, which of the following sounds most like a typical Colonial American household?
- A. the Smith family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Smith and their two children
 - B. the Jones family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Jones' elderly mother, Mr. Jones' widowed sister, three Jones children, and Mr. Jones' sister's infant son
 - C. the Cooper family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, their four children under the age of 13, one fifteen-year-old son of a neighbor who was apprenticing under Mr. Cooper to learn how to brew beer and ale
 - D. any of these would be equally likely in Colonial America
- (Correct response: C; application, difficult, p. 7)

13. Which of the following is true about the experience of childhood in Colonial America?
- A. childhood was a protected time during which children were sheltered from physical violence and political turmoil
 - B. childhood was a privileged time during which the young person spent his or her time learning to read and write and prepare to contribute to the family by beginning work in the household at around age 12
 - C. childhood was a much shorter and harsher experience than we would recognize, with most children being asked to contribute labor to the family household around age 6 and being sent away to apprentice with other families around age 14
 - D. childhood was a much longer and yet harsher experience than we would recognize, with most children kept under the stringent control and supervision of the father until they were 18
- (Correct response: C; application, difficult, p. 7)

14. Which of the following is NOT one of the notable changes in the 19th century that your book cites as having affected family life and gender roles?
- A. technological advances leading to the mass production of goods
 - B. women campaigning for the right to vote and entering the workforce in greater numbers
 - C. medical advances lowering infant mortality rate and reducing the need for very large families
 - D. the development of the birth control pill, which allowed women to more accurately regulate their fertility and plan workforce participation
- (Correct response: D; concept, medium, p. 7)

15. The 19th century family ideal was the _____, no longer based on production, but instead on mutual affection, sexual fulfillment, and the sharing of domestic tasks and child rearing.
- A. pragmatic model
 - B. companionate model
 - C. compassionate model
 - D. affective model
- (Correct response: B; definition, easy, p. 7)

16. The "golden age" of the traditional American family, in the 1940s and 1950s, had which of the following characteristics:
- A. higher rates of teen pregnancy than today
 - B. large numbers of children who were not getting the medical care that they needed
 - C. a rapidly increasing divorce rate

D. all of these

(Correct response: D; concept, medium, p. 8)

17. According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Current Population Survey, which group has the highest percentage of married adults?

A. White

B. Black

C. Asian

D. Hispanic

(Correct response: C; concept, medium, p. 8)

18. According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Current Population Survey, which group has the highest percentage of never-married adults?

A. White

B. Black

C. Asian

D. Hispanic

(Correct response: B; concept, medium, p. 8)

19. Which of the following CANNOT be said of the modern American family, according to your text?

A. American families are overworked

B. American families have increasing birthrates compared to previous generations, due to increasing standard of living

C. A notable percentage of children live in families with a grandparent present

D. all of these statements can be made about American families

(Correct response: B; concept, medium, p. 8)

20. Applying what you have learned about the modern American family from your text, which of the following families does NOT fit one of the features of modern American family life?

A. the Walkers, who both have jobs and juggle parenting and work life

B. the Daytons, who are raising their son with the help of Mrs. Dayton's mother who lives with them

C. the Hacketts, a blended family where each parent had been previously married and now their three stepchildren live together with them in one household

D. none of these families are unusual examples of families found in modern America

(Correct response: D; application, difficult, p. 8)

21. Sociologist John Weeks believes that there are several reasons for the changing composition of the American household. Which of the following is NOT one of the reasons Weeks gives?

A. Increased life expectancy means 60 or even 70 years with the same person, increasing likelihood of marriages ending in divorce or widowhood.

B. Increased life expectancy reduces the pressure to marry and have children early.

C. Increased life expectancy enables people to attend college to earn advanced degrees, reducing the financial need for staying in an unfulfilling marriage.

D. All of these factors are mentioned by Weeks.

(Correct response: C; concept, medium, p. 9)

22. Sociologist John Weeks notes that the increased life expectancy we enjoy in modern America has contributed to what social phenomenon?

- A. economic instability due to expensive treatment needed at end of life
- B. economic benefit from ability of workers to work for longer periods of time
- C. increased likelihood of divorce or widowhood
- D. increased chances of racial or ethnic intermarriage

(Correct response: C; concept, medium, p. 9)

23. Approximately one in five American women remain _____, or involuntarily without children, or else _____, without children by choice.

- A. childless, unencumbered
- B. childfree, infertile
- C. childless, anti-child
- D. childless, child-free

(Correct response: D; definition, medium, p. 9)

24. The term _____ is used by your text to refer to being involuntarily without children.

- A. childfree
- B. childless
- C. infertile
- D. antinatalistic

(Correct response: B; definition, easy, p. 9)

25. The term _____ refers to being voluntarily without children.

- A. childless
- B. childfree
- C. infertile
- D. subfecund

(Correct response: B; definition, easy, p. 9)

26. The contraceptive pill was introduced in the _____, and gave women the ability to have relationships without fear of pregnancy or need to marry.

- A. 1930s
- B. 1940s
- C. 1950s
- D. 1960s

(Correct response: D; date, easy, p. 9)

27. The first state in the U.S. to pass legislation making same-sex marriage legal was.

- A. Massachusetts.
- B. Vermont.
- C. New York.
- D. Delaware.

(Correct response: A; identification, easy, p. 9)

28. According to your text, in 2005 roughly how many adopted children were living with a gay or lesbian parent?

- A. 5,000
- B. 6,000
- C. 55,000
- D. 65,000

(Correct response: D; identification, medium, p. 9)

29. Between 1950 and 2000, women's labor force participation in South America

- A. dropped slowly.
- B. dropped sharply.
- C. increased slowly.
- D. doubled.

(Correct response: D; concept, medium, p. 10)

30. In South America, recognition of women's reproductive rights is slow going due to opposition from

- A. men's rights organizations.
- B. the Catholic church.
- C. the government.
- D. family elders.

(Correct response: B; application, medium, p. 10)

31. Which of the following is NOT true about current family trends in South America?

- A. birth rates are dropping because of increasing acceptance of birth control and abortion
- B. cohabitation rates have risen
- C. marriage rates have dropped
- D. the number of single-person households is on the increase

(Correct response: A; identification, medium, p. 10)

32. In the 1930s, sociologist William Ogburn identified seven functions that families fulfill. Which of the following is NOT one of those seven functions?

- A. economic security
- B. social prestige and status
- C. recreation
- D. sexual pleasure

(Correct response: D; identification, medium, p. 11)

33. Matthew and Susan have been married for three years, and have a two-year-old child. They greatly value the feeling of being adult that being married parents provides them. William Ogburn would likely recognize their focus as being on which of his seven functions that families fulfill?

- A. economic security
- B. social prestige and status
- C. recreation
- D. religious tradition

(Correct response: B; application, medium, p. 11)

34. The _____ is the family in which an individual was raised.

- A. family of origin
- B. family of procreation
- C. kin network
- D. secondary group

(Correct response: A; definition, easy, p. 11)

35. Which of the following statements regarding potential negative impacts of families of origin is NOT true?

- A. early exposure to violence in the family correlates with positive attitudes toward marital violence
- B. mothers with maladaptive eating habits may increase chances that their daughters will develop eating disorders
- C. children from divorced families are more likely to get divorced themselves
- D. all of these are true

(Correct response: D; identification, medium, p. 11)

36. Which of the following statements regarding potential positive impacts of families of origin is NOT true?

- A. high levels of parental warmth during childhood are associated with better health in adulthood
- B. high levels of parental affection in childhood seems to help children regulate negative feelings
- C. parents who stay out of children's school activities encourage children to become more self-reliant and problem-solving
- D. all of these are potential positive impacts of families of origin as noted in your text

(Correct response: C; identification, medium, p. 11)

37. The term _____ refers to a group of people who are classified according to their phenotype.

- A. race
- B. ethnicity
- C. culture
- D. status group

(Correct response: A; definition, easy, p. 12)

38. The term _____ refers to a group of people characterized by cultural factors, such as language, religion, and shared customs, that are passed from one generation to the next.

- A. race
- B. ethnicity
- C. culture
- D. status group

(Correct response: B; definition, easy, p. 12)

39. Which of the following couples would be identified as having an interethnic marriage?

- A. John, who is white, and Paula, who is African-American
- B. Cory, who is Japanese-American, and Diane, who is white

- C. Juan, who is Mexican-American, and Melissa, who is African-American
- D. none of these

(Correct response: C; application, medium, p. 12)

40. Suppose you are a researcher who is classifying marriages for a research project. You come across the Hus. Edward Hu is Japanese American. His wife, Hsia, is Korean American. How would you classify their marriage?

- A. not interracial, but interethnic
- B. both interracial and interethnic
- C. neither interracial nor interethnic
- D. none of these

(Correct response: A; application, difficult, p. 12)

41. A phenotype is

- A. the genetic profile of an individual, which is unique enough to use for criminal identification.
- B. similar to blood type, but taking into account rh factor as well.
- C. anatomical and physical characteristics used to distinguish one race from another.
- D. anatomical and physical characteristics used to distinguish persons of one ethnicity from those of a different ethnicity.

(Correct response: C; definition, easy, p. 12)

42. _____ is the shaping of an individual's behavior to conform to social or cultural norms.

- A. Training
- B. Teaching
- C. Socialization
- D. Phenotyping

(Correct response: C; definition, easy, p. 12)

43. When parents teach young children about things like sharing, hygiene, and manners, this can be termed

- A. protection.
- B. socialization.
- C. capitalization.
- D. diversification.

(Correct response: B; identification, easy, p. 12)

44. When we compare divorce rates of African Americans to rates of other groups we find

- A. African Americans' divorce rates are lower because of religiosity.
- B. African Americans' divorce rates are lower because of economic need for two earners.
- C. African Americans' divorce rates are higher because of lower commitment to marriage.
- D. African Americans' divorce rates are higher but the difference is caused by poverty not race.

(Correct answer: D; concept, medium, p. 12)

45. _____ are the largest and fastest growing ethnic group in the United States.

- A. Asians
- B. African Americans
- C. Hispanics

D. Native Americans

(Correct response: C; identification, medium, p. 12)

46. Which of the following is NOT true about Hispanic families in the United States?

- A. They are part of the fastest growing ethnic group in the United States.
- B. There is sufficient diversity among different subgroups that making generalizations about the group is difficult.
- C. High birth rates and immigration contribute to the increasing numbers of persons of Hispanic background in the United States.
- D. All of the above are true about Hispanic families in the United States.

(Correct response: D; identification, medium, p. 12)

47. Which of the following is NOT true about Asian American families?

- A. Asian-Americans are twice as likely to be married than are their white counterparts.
- B. Asian-Americans are only half as likely to divorce as their white counterparts.
- C. Asian-Americans tend to have fewer children than other groups and to have them later and within marriage.
- D. Despite variations by ethnic subgroup (e.g., Japanese American, Korean American), overall Asian Americans are very family-oriented and place a high value on education and independence.

(Correct response: A; identification, medium, p. 12-13)

48. Which of the following is NOT true about American Indian families?

- A. Identification with particular tribes makes it impossible to make meaningful generalizations about this group.
- B. They often live in extended families that revolve around clan membership rather than birth, marriage, or adoption.
- C. They are increasingly marrying non-Indians.
- D. Conclusions about group characteristics are complicated by the group's low socioeconomic status.

(Correct response: A; identification, medium, p. 13)

49. According to your text, for two ethnic or racial groups, some group characteristics are actually associated with socioeconomic status rather than race. For which two groups is this true?

- A. Whites and African Americans
- B. African Americans and Asian Americans
- C. Hispanic and African Americans
- D. African Americans and American Indians

(Correct response: D; identification, medium, p. 12-13)

50. A _____ is a proposed explanation that has not yet been proven as fact.

- A. theory
- B. concept
- C. argument
- D. hypothesis

(Correct response: A; definition, easy, p. 14)

51. Talcott Parsons, the most influential structural-functionalist in modern sociology, argued what about the American family?

- A. It was irreparably broken and should be replaced by communal living.
- B. Gender is socially constructed and women's viewpoint must be taken into account to fully understand the family experience.
- C. The husband holds the breadwinner role in the family, while the wife is in charge of maintaining family relationships.
- D. People develop their sense of self through interaction with others, thus the family experience is one of the earliest and most critical components of making a 'self'.

(Correct response: B; concept, medium, p. 14-15)

52. There are two central assumptions in functionalist theory. What are they?

- A. Reality is a co-construction and that structure forms a critical aspect of co-construction of reality.
- B. Daily life involves power imbalance and that the structure of the modern family helps to reduce these imbalances.
- C. The main function of families is to procreate and socialize children that for the family to perform its needed function in society its basic structure needs to be maintained.
- D. None of the above.

(Correct response: C; concept, difficult, p. 14)

53. Structural-functionalist theory dwindled in the 1960s and 1970s with the increase in single-parent families, gay couples, and blended families. Why would these social changes affect structural-functionalist theory?

- A. Structural-functionalist theory was the prevailing theory in the 1950s and thus by contrast came to be seen as "uncool".
- B. Structural-functionalist theory was predicated on the idea of a set structure for institutions like the family and so single-parent families, gay couples, and blended families were invisible in this view.
- C. Structural-functionalist theory had no way to explain these differing family forms other than to label them "deviant," and the weaknesses of the theory became apparent.
- D. Structural-functionalist theory relied upon one man and one woman in a family for the concept of roles to work, and these new family forms did not allow for the concept of roles.

(Correct response: C; concept, difficult, p. 14)

54. Which branch of social theory sees conflict as inevitable and necessary?

- A. structural-functionalist theory
- B. feminist theory
- C. conflict theory
- D. symbolic interaction theory

(Correct response: C; concept, medium, p. 14)

55. According to conflict theory, people with power

- A. want to change things for the better.

- B. want to change things to their benefit.
 - C. want to maintain the status quo.
 - D. want to start a revolution.
- (Correct response: C; concept, medium, p. 14)

56. According to conflict theory, people without power
- A. want to change the system to make it better.
 - B. want to maintain the status quo.
 - C. want to drop out of the current system entirely.
 - D. want to decline further participation and interaction with their oppressors.
- (Correct response: A; concept, medium, p. 14)

57. According to conflict theory, the sources of power within a family include
- A. legitimacy, money, physical coercion, sex.
 - B. legitimacy, money, sex, love.
 - C. legitimacy, sex, love, physical coercion.
 - D. legitimacy, money, physical coercion, and love.
- (Correct response: D; concept, medium, p. 14)

58. Feminist scholars base their work on several assumptions. Which of the following is NOT one of those assumptions?
- A. Women's experiences are central to the understanding of family life as a whole.
 - B. The roles and responsibilities of husbands and wives are defined by society, not biology.
 - C. The nuclear family is the appropriate depiction of the modern family, despite this family form having many problems.
 - D. There is no such thing as neutral observation of humans.
- (Correct response: C; concept, medium, p. 14-15)

59. Symbolic Interactionists research human interaction on a(n) _____ level.
- A. macro
 - B. micro
 - C. nano
 - D. none of these
- (Correct response: B; concept, medium, p. 15)

60. You are a sociologist interested in studying how a child comes to believe in him- or herself as a "good girl" or "good boy" or not. What theoretical framework would best fit your project?
- A. conflict theory
 - B. symbolic interaction
 - C. structural-functionalism
 - D. family systems theory
- (Correct response: B; application, difficult, p. 14-16)

61. A sociologist who is interested in how each spouse's relative income contributes to who has more power and say in major family purchases is probably coming from which perspective?
- A. conflict theory

- B. symbolic interaction
- C. structural functionalism
- D. ecological theory

(Correct response: A; application, difficult, p. 14-16)

62. Dr. Moffat is a fictional sociologist who specializes in the study of parenting. Dr. Moffat's most well-known book looks at how parents participate in children's education. Dr. Moffat argues that parents are more likely to push children harder if they are male, and to encourage male children to pursue harder – and eventually more high-paying – fields like math and science. He argues that the pay differences that we find between men and women generally, and men and women within the same field, can be traced back to these tendencies in parenting. Dr. Moffat's work most closely falls into which of the theoretical frameworks mentioned by your text?

- A. symbolic interactionist
- B. conflict theory
- C. family systems theory
- D. ecological theory

(Correct response: B; application, difficult, p. 14)

63. Charles H. Cooley's concept of _____ refers to how the way in which we interpret people's opinions of us then becomes a dominant feature of our own identities.

- A. anomie
- B. power
- C. looking-glass self
- D. symbolic interaction

(Correct response: C; definition, easy, p. 15)

64. Tina goes to a party. When she leaves her house, she thinks that she has chosen a really cute outfit, and looks nice. When she gets to the party she receives some puzzled looks from others who are there, and she notices that she is much more 'dressed up' than they are. Another young woman walks by and says sarcastically, "nice dress." Tina decides that she does not actually look nice after all, and begins to feel foolish and leaves early. This example best illustrates

- A. conflict theory.
- B. looking-glass self.
- C. principle of least interest.
- D. none of these.

(Correct answer: B; application, difficult, p. 15)

65. Symbolic interaction involves three main concepts, according to your text. What are these three concepts?

- A. self, other, role
- B. self, role, status
- C. self, society, role
- D. self, society, status

(Correct response: C; concept, medium, p. 15)

66. According to symbolic interaction, _____ refers to the process of socialization in which we interpret meanings of symbols and learn about our roles.

- A. self
- B. society
- C. socialization
- D. status

(Correct response: B; definition, easy, p. 15)

67. Symbolic interactionists believe that _____ is a concept that develops through interactions with others.

- A. self
- B. society
- C. socialization
- D. status

(Correct response: A; concept, medium, p. 15)

68. The part we are expected to play in society, learned via interactions with others, is called our

- A. self.
- B. society.
- C. status.
- D. role.

(Correct response: D; concept, medium, p. 15)

69. _____ is the extent to which a system is able to adapt to changes in the environment.

- A. Costs
- B. Rewards
- C. Boundaries
- D. Variety

(Correct response: D; definition, easy, p. 16)

70. _____ is/are emotional barriers that define a system and separate the system from its environment and other systems.

- A. Costs
- B. Rewards
- C. Boundaries
- D. Variety

(Correct response: C; definition, easy, p. 16)

71. _____ is the culture in which an individual lives.

- A. Microsystem
- B. Mesosystem
- C. Exosystem
- D. Macrosystem

(Correct response: D; definition, easy, p. 16)

72. Timmy is three years old. He spends his day mostly with his parents, but also spends time at a preschool learning center named Time for Fun. According to ecological theory, Time for Fun's teachers are for Timmy a(n)

- A. microsystem.
- B. mesosystem.
- C. exosystem.
- D. macrosystem.

(Correct response: A; application, medium, p. 16)

73. If Timmy, who is three, attends preschool at a learning center called Time for Fun, then his parents' interactions with the teachers at Time for Fun comprise his _____, according to ecological theory.

- A. microsystem
- B. mesosystem
- C. exosystem
- D. macrosystem

(Correct response: B; application, medium, p. 16)

74. Beth is in first grade. Her parents both work; Beth knows what they do but has never been to their workplaces nor interacted with their coworkers. According to ecological theory, Beth's parents' workplaces are part of the

- A. microsystem.
- B. mesosystem.
- C. exosystem.
- D. macrosystem.

(Correct response: C; application, medium, p. 16)

75. _____ is a child's immediate environment, including any immediate relationships or organizations that the child interacts with.

- A. Microsystem
- B. Mesosystem
- C. Exosystem
- D. Macrosystem

(Correct response: A; definition, easy, p. 16)

76. Michelle is in kindergarten. Her father was recently laid off, due to difficulties in the U.S. economy. From the perspective of ecological theory, which of the following is part of the macrosystem affecting Michelle?

- A. her father
- B. her father's boss, who fired him
- C. the U.S. economy
- D. her kindergarten teachers and classmates

(Correct response: C; application, medium, p. 16)

77. _____ argues that individuals engage in a cost/benefit analysis when deciding next actions to take in a situation.

- A. Conflict theory

- B. Ecology theory
- C. Symbolic interaction
- D. Exchange theory

(Correct response: D; application, medium, p. 16)

78. Kevin is trying to decide whether to take his dating relationship with Tina to the next level and become exclusive. He dislikes the idea of not dating other women. At the same time, he wants the certainty that he will be able to enjoy Tina's affection, attention, praise, and confidences without competition from other men. In this scenario, there are

- A. more costs than benefits.
- B. more benefits than costs.
- C. equal level of benefits and costs.
- D. no basis for us to gauge relative costs and benefits.

(Correct response: B; application, medium, p. 16)

79. Pamela is dating a man named Brian. Brian does not treat Pamela as well as she would like; he is not abusive, but does not pay much attention to her and also tends to be sarcastic and short-tempered. When friends ask Pamela why she does not leave Brian, she tells them, that "Well, it's not like I can find anyone better." This statement suggests that Pamela's decision to stay with Brian is being driven by

- A. cost/benefit analysis.
- B. exosystems.
- C. transformations.
- D. the comparison level of alternatives.

(Correct response: D; application, medium, p. 16)

80. According to your text, all systems have emotional barriers that define them, and that mark them as separate from other systems. These barriers are termed

- A. cognitive edges.
- B. principle of least interest.
- C. boundaries.
- D. rules of transformation.

(Correct response: C; identification, easy, p. 16)

81. Which of the following is NOT considered a normative transition, according to ecology theory?

- A. adolescence
- B. changing schools
- C. divorce
- D. retirement

(Correct response: C; identification, medium, p. 16)

82. Which of the following is considered a normative transition, according to ecology theory?

- A. death of a sibling

- B. divorce of parents
 - C. moving to a new town
 - D. all of these are considered normative transitions
- (Correct response: C; identification, medium, p. 16)

83. Which theoretical perspective pays attention to inputs, such as goods and services, and outputs, such as the behavior of family members and the socialization of children?

- A. ecological theory
- B. conflict theory
- C. feminist theory
- D. family systems theory

(Correct response: D; identification, medium, p. 16)

84. The research model that examines the impact of both normative and nonnormative life transitions on family processes and child development over time is termed

- A. exosystem.
- B. macrosystem.
- C. mesosystem.
- D. chronosystem.

(Correct response: D; identification, medium, p. 16)

85. _____ is/are the means by which a system governs the way in which inputs from the environment are changed to outputs.

- A. Rules of transformation
- B. Comparison level of alternatives
- C. Subsystem
- D. Exosystem

(Correct response: A; definition, easy, p. 16)

86. Family systems theory is built around several key concepts. Which of the following is NOT a concept in family systems theory?

- A. systems have boundaries
- B. systems have internal rules of transformation
- C. systems have subsystems which can be analyzed separately
- D. all of these are key concepts within family systems theory

(Correct response: D; concept, medium, p. 16)

87. You are a sociologist studying why people marry. If you focus on the pros and cons that people think of when deciding whether or not to marry a specific partner, likely you adhere to a(n) ____ perspective.

- A. conflict theory
- B. feminist theory
- C. exchange theory

D. none of these
(Correct response: C; application, medium, p. 16)

88. You are a sociologist who studies the transition to retirement. You are mainly concerned with how people manage the changes that they will have in various parts of their lives because of this change. How will retirement effect everything from the relationship between spouses to the size of the social circle, to the way that others perceive the newly-retired individual. Your work can be most closely categorized as

- A. conflict theory.
- B. ecological theory.
- C. exchange theory.
- D. feminist theory.

(Correct response: B; application, difficult, p. 16)

89. Family life course/development theory has several shortcomings. Which of the following is a shortcoming of this theory?

- A. It suggests that there are stages in life but in reality there are no stages.
- B. It is unrealistic to expect that each family will experience the same stage in the same way.
- C. Early family life course theory presupposes that there is a 'normal' way to go through the stages and that different stages are mutually exclusive.
- D. None of these.

(Correct response: C; concept, difficult, p. 17)

90. With the U.S. economy having difficulties in late 2009, there are newspaper articles that suggest that previously retired workers are now reentering the workforce, and others over traditional retirement age are choosing to stay in the work force for economic reasons. This new trend has the greatest potential impact on which of the theoretical frameworks mentioned in your text?

- A. conflict theory
- B. family life course/development theory
- C. symbolic interaction
- D. feminist theory

(Correct response: B; application, difficult, p. 17)

91. _____ is being forced to act against one's interests.

- A. Coercion
- B. Conflict
- C. Violence
- D. Nepotism

(Correct response: A; definition, easy, p. 17)

92. Carl wants to get a job at Widgets-R-Us. However, John has also applied at Widgets, and John is the nephew of the hiring manager. If John gets the job at Widgets because he is related to the manager, this is best termed

- A. bias.
- B. nepotism.
- C. coercive.
- D. reciprocal.

(Correct response: B; application, medium, p. 17)

93. _____, or kin selection, is designed to ensure that our genetic material has maximum chance of being passed on to the next generation.

- A. Coercison
- B. Bias
- C. Nepotism
- D. Reciprocity

(Correct response: C; identification, medium, p. 17)

94. According to the biosocial perspective, in a hostile and unpredictable environment, what should we expect to see in fertility rates?

- A. increase, meaning more children per family
- B. decrease, fewer children per family
- C. no change
- D. biosocial perspective does not concern itself with the impact of environment on fertility rate

(Correct response: A; identification, medium, p. 17)

95. In Western societies, where there is lower infant mortality rate and better health care available, we tend to see lower fertility rates than in other cultures that do not have similar resources. Which theoretical perspective is most clearly associated with this finding?

- A. conflict theory
- B. feminist theory
- C. ecological theory
- D. biosocial theory

(Correct response: D; identification, medium, p. 17)

96. Which theory considers the intricate interaction of genes and the environment?

- A. conflict theory
- B. family systems theory
- C. biosocial theory
- D. family life course theory

(Correct response: C; identification, easy, p. 18)

97. Suppose that tomorrow the New York Times reports that scientists have found that spouses' satisfaction in marriage is related to their ability to recognize each other's scent when blindfolded. Which branch of family sociologists would likely be interested in these findings?

- A. symbolic interactionists
- B. conflict theorists

- C. family life course theorists
 - D. biosocial theorists
- (Correct response: D; application, difficult, p. 18)

98. Dr. Smith, a fictional family sociology researcher, is interested in the link between family structure and juvenile delinquency. Specifically, he believes that children who are raised in nonnormative single-parent families after divorce are at a disadvantage in life and as a result are more likely to become delinquent. Based on what you have learned in this course, which theoretical branch of sociology do you think that Dr. Smith adheres to?

- A. symbolic interactionism
 - B. conflict theory
 - C. structural-functional theory
 - D. biosocial theory
- (Correct response: C; application, medium, p. 18)

99. When Americans consider the nuclear family to be the “normal” family and single-parent or blended families to be lesser or not as good, they are echoing the _____ perspective.

- A. symbolic interactionism
 - B. conflict theory
 - C. structural-functional theory
 - D. biosocial theory
- (Correct response: C; application, medium, p. 18)

100. Which theory suggests that the family is actually a hierarchical structure, ordered by who has power over whom, and within a larger society which is also divided by inequalities in relation to gender, race, and social class?

- A. symbolic interactionism
 - B. conflict theory
 - C. structural-functional theory
 - D. biosocial theory
- (Correct response: B; identification, medium, p. 18)

101. Why is the societal perspective on family important to consider, according to family sociologists?

- A. because society is what determines who ‘counts’ as your family
 - B. because without societal approval, people who consider themselves family experience a great deal of opposition
 - C. because when society defines family very narrowly, those who are not covered by its definition such as same-sex couples or stepparents do not have the same legal rights that those who fall within the official definition enjoy
 - D. because societal perspective on family tells us a great deal about the culture itself
- (Correct response: C; identification, medium, p. 19)

102. The nuclear family can be understood as

- A. parents and children.
- B. parents and minor children under 18.
- C. grandparents, parents, children under 18.
- D. minor children and adults related to them by blood (parents, grandparents, aunts/uncles).

(Correct response: B; definition, p. 19)

103. Your text identifies three different angles for considering families. Which of the following are the three angles identified in your text?

- A. individual, group, political
- B. societal, theoretical, individual
- C. societal, small group, individual
- D. theoretical, conceptual, political

(Correct response: C; identification, medium, p. 19)

True or False

1. Polygamy is practiced in many parts of the world, including in the Middle East, South America, Asia, and some parts of Africa. (True; p. 5)

2. Thanks to the Internet and phenomena like blogs, YouTube, and podcasts, there is now little difference today between marriage traditions and beliefs in Western society and those in non-Western cultures. (False; p. 5)

3. Unmarried romantic partners who live together for at least six years are legally accorded some of the same rights as formally married couples, including the right to draw social security benefits based on the partner's earnings. (False; p. 6)

4. During the Colonial period of U.S. history, the American family was culturally, ethnically, and religiously diverse. (True; p. 7)

5. Once spouses began to focus on sexual and emotional fulfillment as key components in marriage in the 19th century, divorce rates fell due to greater efforts made to please one's spouse. (False; p. 8)

6. Since 2001, the pay gap between men and women's salaries for comparable work has shrunk; where women earned 66% of a man's dollar in 2001, economists now estimate that figure is approaching 85% or better. (False, p. 9)

7. Today it is socially acceptable for a woman to balance raising a family with pursuing a career, or to choose not to have children at all. (True, p. 9)

8. Massachusetts was the first state in the U.S. to pass legislation making same-sex marriage legal. (True, p. 9)

9. Nuclear family households, consisting of parents and children, are still the most prevalent family form in South America. (True, p. 10)
10. African Americans are more likely than Whites to be widowed. (False, p. 12)
11. Despite some minimal cultural differences among groups, Hispanics overall share sufficient characteristics that it is reasonable and easy to generalize about them as a unified group. (False, p. 12)
12. Conflict theorists believe that conflict is necessary and beneficial because it allows for change. (True, p. 15)
13. Feminist theorists believe that it is possible to impartially observe others, and are determined to get at the objective truth of women's experiences without influencing those observed. (False, p. 15)
14. Feminist theorists argue that because women were subject to unfair treatment for so long, they now deserve special treatment and should receive privileges that are not afforded to men. (False, p. 15)
15. Stepparents have legal rights regarding their stepchildren, by virtue of having married the children's parent. (False, p. 19)
16. Structural-functionalism is currently the most dominant type of social theory in the United States. (False, p. 14)
17. According to the comparison level of alternatives, if potential alternatives to the relationship one is already in seem unappealing, the individual is likely to stay with the present partner. (True, p. 16)
18. As long as perceived rewards of a relationship outweigh perceived costs, the relationship will likely continue. (True, p. 16)
19. Biosocial theorists argue that nepotism is a natural response that stems from our desire to see our genetic material passed on to the next generation. (True, p. 17)
20. In some non-Western cultures, obligations toward members of one's extended family may take precedence or be given more importance than obligations toward members of one's immediate family. (True, p. 19)

Essay

1. In the film *One True Thing*, a professional woman has to balance responsibilities in her life with the need to care for her terminally ill mother. Choose any two theoretical perspectives explained in your text, and use each to illustrate how a sociologist adhering to that perspective would interpret the film.
2. In the film *One True Thing*, two generations of a family must struggle with a cancer diagnosis and its aftermath. Using one or more theoretical perspectives from your text, explain how Ellen Gulden comes to have a changing understanding of her mother's role in and importance to the family.
3. Using symbolic interaction, analyze George Gulden's concept of himself as a novelist in the film *One True Thing*.