



Chapter 10 Exercises

Multiple Choice

1. Which social class is quickly disappearing from modern economies?
 - a. Upper class
 - b. Middle class
 - c. Lower class
 - d. The number of people in each class has been about the same for the past ten years.
2. How is global stratification different from social stratification?
 - a. Global stratification only examines environmental inequalities among nations, while social stratification examines inequalities among people.
 - b. Global stratification can only measure the inequalities among purely democratic states, while social stratification can be expanded to apply to people in any country in the world.
 - c. Global stratification examines many different types of prejudice and inequality, while social stratification covers the social class and standing of individuals.
 - d. Countries cannot move up and down the global stratification ladder, unlike people who can use social mobility to climb or fall down the social stratification ladder.
3. In recent times, scholars have been trying to understand why the countries on the continent of Africa, as a whole, have trouble competing in today's global capitalist economy. While an answer to this question is complex and carries with it many ambiguities, most scholars point to European colonialism as a key factor. A sociologist with this view would most likely use which theoretical paradigm?
 - a. Structural functionalism
 - b. Symbolic interactionism
 - c. Conflict theory
 - d. Feminist theory
4. Many clothing corporations have shut down their U.S. factories and relocated to China. This is an example of:
 - a. Conflict theory
 - b. Automation
 - c. Global inequality
 - d. Capital flight
5. Immanuel Wallerstein's classification of nations uses which terms?
 - a. Super powers, allies of super powers, enemies of super powers
 - b. Primary nation, secondary nation, tertiary nation
 - c. First world, second world, third world
 - d. Core nation, peripheral nation, semi-peripheral nation
6. Why is Immanuel Wallerstein's classification of nations preferred by sociologists?
 - a. Wallerstein uses neutral terms that allow his classification of nations to be less biased and ethnocentric.
 - b. Wallerstein uses the United States as a point of comparison.
 - c. The former Cold War-era classifications are outdated and no longer accurately show the economic state of individual nations.
 - d. Wallerstein's classification is based more on sociological data than economic data, and because of that, applies to the field of sociology better than the Cold War-era classification.

7. What is a primary reason why U.S. companies outsource labor?
 - a. Capital flight, caused by outsourcing, helps local economies thrive, so Americans are willing to make the tradeoff.
 - b. Deindustrialization, caused by outsourcing, is better for the environment, so Americans are in favor of it.
 - c. Americans want lower prices for their consumable products, and the only way for companies to deliver those low prices is to outsource the work to cheaper laborers.
 - d. Companies find that the many U.S. restrictions on manufacturing can seriously disrupt production, which leads to profit loss, which in turn results in outsourcing.
8. Which number does the World Bank use to determine the status and classification of each nation?
 - a. Gross national income per capita
 - b. Gross domestic product
 - c. Purchasing power parity
 - d. Organisation for Economic and Co-operation and Development data
9. Which trend has the World Bank seen in its study of poverty in low-income nations?
 - a. Equal numbers of men and women live in poverty.
 - b. More men live in poverty than women.
 - c. More women live in poverty than men.
 - d. Children can avoid living in poverty if they live with their fathers.
10. 88 million people live on less than \$1.00 a day. These people are said to be living in _____.
 - a. subjective poverty
 - b. marginal poverty
 - c. extreme poverty
 - d. relative poverty
11. Maria doesn't make much money from babysitting, so she doesn't report her earnings on her tax forms. Maria is a part of the _____.
 - a. underground economy
 - b. under-reported economy
 - c. under-earning economy
 - d. under-paid economy
12. Which continent has the greatest number of impoverished nations in the world?
 - a. Asia
 - b. Africa
 - c. South America
 - d. North America
13. Which continent has the largest number of people living in poverty in the world?
 - a. Asia
 - b. Africa
 - c. South America
 - d. North America
14. The two regions with the highest risk of social unrest are:
 - a. Europe and Africa
 - b. Latin America and Asia
 - c. South America and North America
 - d. Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East-North Africa region

15. Child labor and sweatshops have existed since the Industrial Revolution and even before that. Many products sold today are created in sweatshops. What is one practical way to discourage multinational companies from using such labor?
- Ignore the problem because it will eventually go away.
 - Trust that CEOs and board members will do the right thing.
 - Justify these such practices because they are legal in other countries.
 - Research products before buying them and only purchase from companies that don't use sweatshops or underpaid labor.
16. Which is an effect of extreme poverty that also contributes to its cyclical nature?
- Lack of education
 - Home foreclosures
 - Massive credit card debt
 - Excellent health care
17. Which statement would you find in the analysis of global inequality by Neckerman and Torche?
- People will always take advantage of social welfare programs.
 - People live in poverty because they are lazy and lack meaningful work.
 - Once poverty has entered a geographic location, it is very difficult to get rid of.
 - People enjoy living in poverty.
18. An example of slavery, according to Anti-Slavery International, is:
- Factories employing adults at salary level
 - Factories using child labor
 - Children attending school
 - Children playing with friends
19. Areas that once had vast economic growth and healthy industry, but are now suffering from the effects of outsourcing are going through a period of:
- Industrialization
 - Deindustrialization
 - Post-industrialization
 - Industrialization transition
20. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was created by:
- Third-world countries
 - Core nations
 - Middle-income countries
 - Asian and American countries

Free Response

- Consider the extremely low prices at Walmart. What would a functionalist think of Walmart's model of negotiating with vendors to get the absolute lowest prices so it can pass them along to core-nation consumers?
- Why do some scholars find Cold War terminology ("first world" and so on) objectionable?
- Give an example of the feminization of poverty in core nations. How is it the same or different in peripheral nations?
- Pretend you are a sociologist studying global inequality by examining child labor in the manufacturing of Barbie dolls in China. What do you focus on? How will you find this information? What theoretical perspective might you use?

25. What is subjective poverty? How would you determine whether someone is in subjective poverty versus extreme poverty? What are some potential challenges in defining subjective poverty?
26. Think of people in your social sphere who are relatively unequal in terms of wealth. If they know each other, what is their relationship like? What factors come into play?
27. Go to a campus bookstore or visit the website. Find out who manufactures apparel and novelty items with the school's logo. In what countries are the products produced? Conduct some research to determine if the school's practices align with the principles of United Students Against Sweatshops.
28. Modernization theory is criticized for being eurocentric. Do you think dependency theory is also biased? Why or why not?
29. Compare and contrast modernization theory and dependency theory. Which do you think is more useful for explaining global inequality?