



## Chapter 14 Exercises

### Multiple Choice

1. Family is difficult to define. When studying sociology, it is important to remember that:
  - a. Sociologists try to keep the definition open so that people who walk by each other on the street are a family.
  - b. Sociologists try to keep the definition open to encompass all types of people who are emotionally close to each other.
  - c. Sociologists only consider people who live in the same household to be a family.
  - d. Sociologists only consider marriage the requirement to be a family.
2. Passing on heritage, possessions, and wealth is:
  - a. The right of the first-born male in every country in the world.
  - b. The right of the first-born female in every country in the world.
  - c. Generally based on lineage, which is defined by culture and family.
  - d. Generally based on a person's relationship with their younger siblings.
3. Why do sociologists find the study of family to be so important when trying to grasp a culture's mores and norms?
  - a. Families provide for each other while teaching a particular culture to other members of the family.
  - b. Families almost never reinforce the values of the society in which they live, and thus can bring about change without much effort.
  - c. Families are so isolated from society at large that they become tiny independent societies.
  - d. Families tend to be apathetic toward culture, whereas young unmarried people reinforce social rituals and ideologies.
4. When Maria (a woman) married John (a man), she moved to John's house, which was adjacent to his parent's house. Maria lives in a:
  - a. Matridistant residence
  - b. Patridistant residence
  - c. Matrilocal residence
  - d. Patrilocal residence
5. Watching television shows can be a good way to understand and study families because:
  - a. They teach us what the ideal family should look like.
  - b. They teach us how to behave when parents get upset.
  - c. They teach us how to think through the consequences of certain actions.
  - d. They teach us how a family on screen can represent the values of that era.
6. The U.S. Census Bureau keeps records of different statistics that pertain to families. For example, in 2010, there were three million children who did not live with their parents. Around half of these children were:
  - a. Living with foster parents
  - b. Living with their grandparent(s)
  - c. Living with their older brother or sister
  - d. Living with an aunt or uncle

7. What is the relationship, if any, between people who cohabit and then get married and people who wait to live together after they marry?
  - a. Cohabiting, unmarried partners have a slightly higher divorce rate after they get married than those who don't cohabit until after marriage.
  - b. Cohabiting, unmarried partners have a slightly lower divorce rate after they get married than those who don't cohabit until after marriage.
  - c. Cohabiting, unmarried partners have the same divorce rate as people who don't cohabit until marriage.
  - d. It does not matter because divorce occurs when two people are incompatible and does not depend on how long people have lived with each other.
8. Which is one reason that sociologists cite to explain why people are delaying marriage?
  - a. Many young people place education and career higher than marriage on their list of priorities.
  - b. Many women fear having children too early and, consequently, having to give up a good career.
  - c. Most men spend at least a year traveling to get a better understanding of the world, and consequently, don't want to be tied down by a spouse.
  - d. Most people in the millennial generation are caring for their aging parents and do not have time for long-term, serious relationships.
9. Polygyny is:
  - a. A person who is married to only one person at a time
  - b. A man who is married to more than one woman at the same time
  - c. A woman who is married to more than one man at the same time
  - d. A person who is married to more than one person at the same time
10. Marcy and her three children have been trying to scrape by ever since Marcy's husband was killed in a car accident. Based on George Murdock's theory, what would you expect to happen to this family?
  - a. Marcy will lie in bed weeping hysterically and ignore the needs of her children.
  - b. Marcy will become a stellar stay-at-home mom.
  - c. Marcy will go back to work, and her parents will provide childcare.
  - d. Marcy will never remarry and will never let her children drive.
11. To a conflict theorist, marriage and families are fascinating because:
  - a. All married people fight every day of their lives.
  - b. No one ever gets what they want, so everyone compromises.
  - c. All teenagers always fight with their parents.
  - d. Within the family are social standings and power struggles.
12. Peter finds that he always reacts differently to correction from his father than from his mother. What might a symbolic interactionist studying families make of this situation?
  - a. Peter needs professional counseling.
  - b. Peter plays different roles with his father and mother.
  - c. Peter needs a sibling.
  - d. Peter's lack of respect for his mother means he'll probably get divorced when he's older.

13. Which factors do sociologists suspect were the cause for the high divorce rate during the 1960s?
- There was an increase in women working outside the home and greater social acceptance of divorce.
  - Men were granted more freedom and often allowed to work from home, which put more strain on their marital relationships, which also coincided with women becoming more educated and more aware of their legal rights.
  - The 1960s saw the birth of the zero-tolerance concept, which many men and women applied to their marriages.
  - Most people divorcing in the 1960s grew up during World War II and struggled to make the austerity of their childhood correlate with their more abundant and fruitful lifestyles in the 1960s.
14. Which part of the family life cycle do sociologists argue is the most stressful time for a marriage?
- The engagement period
  - The first year of marriage
  - The birth of the first child
  - The birth of the last child
15. What can be concluded from the University of Virginia's National Marriage Project?
- Healthy finances are an important foundation for a successful marriage.
  - Children are an important foundation for a successful marriage.
  - Love is an important foundation for a successful marriage.
  - Counseling is an important foundation for a successful marriage.
16. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, three-fourths of children of divorced parents live with their mother. What impact might this have on the U.S. male population over time?
- Men may begin to rely on women more in society, which could lead to a cultural role reversal.
  - Men may be burdened with too much at a young age, leading to psychological development issues.
  - Men should not develop any differently, and the traditional social and cultural gender roles will continue.
  - Men may be more aggressive, which may lead to an increase in crime, domestic violence, etc.
17. In general, children in \_\_\_\_\_ households benefit from divorce.
- step-family
  - multigenerational
  - high-conflict
  - low-conflict
18. What is one of the biggest challenges facing groups and organizations that try to prevent intimate partner violence (IPV)?
- The victims of IPV do not report the abuse.
  - IPV almost never happens, so it is difficult to locate and predict.
  - Most people do not know what IPV is.
  - IPV is not taken seriously by the judicial system.

19. If you work with children, why is it important to be vigilant for any signs of child abuse?
- Social Services will sue you if you miss any sign of child abuse.
  - Most reports of child abuse come from non-relative adults who interact with the child.
  - The child being abused may need extra help with focusing, learning, and concentrating.
  - The child being abused may be made fun of by their peers, which may cause more emotional distress.
20. Corporal punishment is another way of saying:
- White-collar crime
  - Life in prison
  - Spanking
  - The death penalty

## Free Response

21. According to research, what are people's general thoughts on family in the United States? How do they view nontraditional family structures? How do you think these views might change in twenty years?
22. Explain the difference between bilateral and unilateral descent. Using your own association with kinship, explain which type of descent applies to you.
23. Explain the different variations of the nuclear family and the trends that occur in each.
24. Why are more couples choosing to cohabitate before marriage? What effect does cohabitation have on marriage?
25. Explain how financial status impacts marital stability. What other factors are associated with a couple's financial status?
26. Explain why more than half of IPV goes unreported. Why are those who are abused unlikely to report the abuse?