



Chapter 16 Exercises

Multiple Choice

- Which of the following does *not* account for the differences in educational systems from country to country?
 - Financial resources from the government and population
 - Geographic distribution of male and female students
 - Value placed on education
 - Amount of time devoted to education
- The term *formal education* is defined by the text as:
 - Learning about cultural values, norms, and expected behaviors through participation in a society
 - The education given at a private school, parochial school, or private college
 - Education where students are always accompanied by a tutor
 - Learning academic facts and concepts through an established curriculum
- Jackson lives in a rural area and is the son of a poor farmer. The nearest school is fifty miles away, and he has no means to get there. What does the educational system in Jackson's country lack?
 - Formal education
 - Informal education
 - Universal access
 - Latent functions
- Which court case set the precedent for access to education within the United States for students with disabilities?
 - Mills v. Board of Education of the District of Columbia*
 - Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*
 - Plessy v. Ferguson*
 - Brown v. Board of Education*
- Which of the following is *not* a latent function of education?
 - Political and social integration
 - Courtship
 - Working in groups
 - Direct education on culture
- Which of the following is *not* a manifest function of education?
 - Socialization
 - Social control
 - Social placement
 - Expansion of social networks
- Malik grew up in an affluent household that embraced activities such as attending the opera, visiting museums, and traveling to foreign countries at least once a year. When Malik goes to college, he finds he has much to talk about with professors and fellow students from similar backgrounds. Malik is enjoying the benefits of:
 - Grade inflation
 - Cultural capital
 - Tracking
 - The education gap
- The term *hidden curriculum* can be defined as:
 - The informal teaching done in schools that socializes children to societal norms
 - The course objectives teachers incorporate into their syllabi after the semester has started
 - The emphasis on certificates or degrees to show that a person has a certain skill, has attained a certain level of education, or has met certain job qualifications
 - The unexpected subjects that students take an interest in after meeting experts in the field

9. Which of the following is *not* a method used within the United States to produce educational equality?
- Charter schools
 - Mandatory tutoring
 - Busing
 - Head Start
10. Which sociological perspective argues that the educational system reinforces and perpetuates social inequalities arising from differences in class, gender, race, and ethnicity?
- Symbolic interactionism
 - Conflict theory
 - Functionalism
 - None of the above
11. Kara had behavioral problems as a child. In school, she was labeled “troubled” and told she would never amount to anything. Kara, though intelligent, decided to “live down” to this expectation. Which sociological perspective explains Kara’s experience?
- Symbolic interactionism
 - Conflict theory
 - Functionalism
 - Feminist theory
12. The term *sorting* can be defined as:
- A formalized system that places students on “tracks” (advanced, low achievers) that perpetuate inequalities
 - The process by which students are allowed to choose their own classes based on interest
 - Classifying students based on academic merit or potential
 - The use of education to improve social standing
13. Which sociologist studied how cultural capital helps an individual navigate their culture?
- Max Weber
 - Karl Marx
 - Émile Durkheim
 - Pierre Bourdieu
14. Match the following court case with its outcome: *Plessy v. Ferguson*.
- Set precedent for universal access to education in the United States
 - Allowed racial segregation in schools and private businesses
 - Declared that state laws that had established separate schools for Black and White students were unequal and unconstitutional
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17. What is the Head Start program?
- A teaching method that equips students to regurgitate facts in order to do well on standardized tests.
 - A federal program that provides academically focused preschool to students of low socioeconomic status.
 - A state mandate that determines the eligibility of students who expect to attend college.
 - A curriculum that requires states to test students in prescribed grades, with the results of those tests determining eligibility to receive federal funding.
18. To make students more competitive in the work force and graduate school, college professors are beginning to lower the standard for student grades (i.e. what was once considered a *B* is now considered an *A*). This is known as:
- GPA debt
 - Systematic grading
 - Academic bribing
 - Grade inflation
19. When Adam is in fifth grade, he does poorly in math and science. His teachers recommend him for lower-level classes throughout middle school in all subjects, and he's not given the chance to excel elsewhere. This process is known as:
- Tracking
 - Grade inflation
 - Feminism
 - Manifest function
20. What factors contribute to inequality within the educational system in the United States?
- Racism
 - Socioeconomic status
 - Both **a** and **b**
 - None of the above

Free Response

21. Has there ever been a time when your formal and informal education in the same setting were at odds? How did you overcome that disconnect?
22. Do you believe free access to schools has achieved its intended goal? Explain.
23. What are some ways that a conflict theorist would say your school perpetuates class differences?
24. Which sociological theory best describes your view of education? Explain why.
25. Based on what you know about symbolic interactionism and feminist theory, what do you think proponents of those theories see as the role of the school?
26. Is busing a reasonable method of serving students from diverse backgrounds? If not, suggest and support an alternative.