

## Chapter 2 Culture and Society

### 2.1 Multiple Choice

1) Which *best* describes culture?

- A) Culture refers to the sets of values and ideals that we understand to define morality, good and evil, appropriate and inappropriate.
- B) Culture refers to the sets of doctrinal beliefs that we comprehend through the lens of individual conscience.
- C) Culture refers to the sets of values and norms that we rebel against when we do not believe in morality but accept a false reality.
- D) Culture refers to the sets of values and ideals that we do not believe define morality, good and evil, appropriate and inappropriate.

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 40

Skill: Knowledge

2) A type of culture that consists of things people make and the things people use to make them is known as

- A) nonmaterial.
- B) material.
- C) popular.
- D) universal.

Answer: B

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 40

Skill: Knowledge

3) Which of the following is NOT an example of material culture?

- A) desk
- B) clothing
- C) freedom
- D) car

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 40

Skill: Application

4) A type of culture that consists of the ideas and beliefs that people develop about their lives and their world is known as

- A) nonmaterial.
- B) material.
- C) popular.
- D) universal.

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 41

Skill: Knowledge

5) Which of the following is an example of nonmaterial culture?

- A) American flag
- B) minivan
- C) school building
- D) democracy

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 41

Skill: Application

6) The vast differences that can exist between the world's many cultures are representative of

- A) cultural conformity.
- B) cultural pluralism.
- C) cultural diversity.
- D) cultural shock.

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 41  
Skill: Comprehension

7) Charles is an American who moved to China and felt disorientation and uncertainty of what was culturally expected of him. What did Charles experience?

- A) cultural materialism
- B) cultural shock
- C) cultural disconnect
- D) cultural absorbency

Answer: B

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 41  
Skill: Application

8) Ethnocentrism is based in what belief?

- A) One's culture is superior to others.
- B) One's culture is equal to others.
- C) One's culture is inferior to others.
- D) There are no cultural differences.

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 42  
Skill: Knowledge

9) Which concept holds the position that all cultures are equally valid in the experiences of their own members?

- A) cultural shock
- B) cultural materialism
- C) cultural relativism
- D) cultural diversity

Answer: C

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 42  
Skill: Knowledge

10) A group of people within a culture who share some distinguishing characteristic, belief, value, or attribute that sets them apart from the dominant culture is called a(n)

- A) minor culture.
- B) subculture.
- C) middle culture.
- D) hidden culture.

Answer: B

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 43  
Skill: Analysis

11) Eileen bases her beliefs about members of other groups on stereotypes. Sociologically, Ellen's beliefs demonstrate

- A) prejudice.
- B) egalitarianism.
- C) myopia.
- D) tolerance.

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 43  
Skill: Application

12) What makes a counterculture different than a subculture?

- A) It is not different from a subculture.
- B) It is more likely to support drug use.
- C) It has a semi-acceptance of the dominant culture.
- D) It identifies itself with being different and in opposition to the dominant culture.

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 43  
Skill: Comprehension

13) Which of the following is an example of a counterculture?

- A) White Supremacist survivalists
- B) Weight Watchers
- C) Knights of Columbus
- D) Free Masons

Answer: A

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 43-44

Skill: Application

14) Which *best* describes a symbol?

- A) Symbols are values that remain abstract.
- B) Symbols do not change meaning from culture to culture.
- C) Symbols are representations of ideas or feelings
- D) Symbols are universally shared.

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 45

Skill: Knowledge

15) All of the following are true about symbols EXCEPT

- A) symbols' meanings can change over time.
- B) symbols can be created at anytime.
- C) symbols do not represent feelings or ideas.
- D) symbols are not always universally shared.

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 45

Skill: Comprehension

16) Which *best* describes language?

- A) Language is an organized set of symbols, so people are able to think and communicate with others.
- B) Language does not shape perception of reality.
- C) Language merely reflects the world as we know it.
- D) Language does not involve interaction; it only involves words.

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 46

Skill: Knowledge

17) Which hypothesis proposes that language shapes our perceptions?

- A) Smith-Klein
- B) Sapir-Whorf
- C) Ratzinger-Maida
- D) Pullum-Marx

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 46

Skill: Synthesis

18) What are the processes by which members of a culture engage in a routine behavior to express their sense of belonging to the culture?

- A) taboos
- B) virtues
- C) rituals
- D) vices

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 47

Skill: Knowledge

19) Amy leads her high school class in the Pledge of Allegiance every morning; this is an example of

- A) ritual.

- B) taboo.
- C) law.
- D) virtue.

Answer: A

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 47

Skill: Application

20) \_\_\_\_\_ are the rules a culture develops that define how people should act and the consequences of failure to act in the specified ways.

- A) Rituals
- B) Taboos
- C) Norms
- D) Linguistics

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 48

Skill: Knowledge

21) Weak and informal norms are called

- A) folkways.
- B) laws.
- C) taboos.
- D) values.

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 49

Skill: Knowledge

22) Which is NOT true about mores?

- A) They are strong norms that are informally enforced.
- B) They are weak norms that are informally enforced.
- C) They are perceived as more than simple violations of etiquette.
- D) They are moral attitudes that are seen as a serious even if there are no actual laws that prohibit them.

Answer: B

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 50

Skill: Comprehension

23) When norms have been organized and written down, they are called

- A) taboos.
- B) folkways.
- C) mores.
- D) laws.

Answer: D

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 50

Skill: Knowledge

24) Which *best* describes values?

- A) ethical foundations of a culture, ideas about right and wrong, good and bad
- B) stronger norms that are informally enforced
- C) norms that have been organized and written down
- D) relatively weak and informal norms that are the result of patterns of action

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 51

Skill: Knowledge

25) According to the text, what was NOT an American value identified by sociologist Robin Williams Jr.?

- A) progress
- B) individualism
- C) racism and group superiority
- D) altruism

Answer: D

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 52-53

Skill: Comprehension

26) Rituals, customs, symbols that are evident in all societies are known as cultural

- A) relativism.
- B) pluralism.
- C) universals.
- D) particularism.

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 56

Skill: Knowledge

27) What form of culture is associated with more affluent and largely White groups?

- A) high
- B) low
- C) popular
- D) universal

Answer: A

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 57

Skill: Comprehension

28) Popular culture is often associated with what group?

- A) upper class
- B) elite
- C) middle and working class
- D) underclass

Answer: C

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 57

Skill: Application

29) Who argued that different groups possess "cultural capital"?

- A) Pierre Bourdieu
- B) Robert Merton
- C) Emile Durkheim
- D) William Ogburn

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 58

Skill: Knowledge

30) A short-lived, highly popular and widespread behavior, style, or mode of thought is known as

- A) high culture.
- B) a fad.
- C) low culture.
- D) fashion.

Answer: B

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 59

Skill: Knowledge

31) Which is NOT an example of a fad?

- A) the Pledge of Allegiance
- B) tie-dyed shirts
- C) a pet rock
- D) the hula hoop

Answer: A

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 59

Skill: Application

- 32) Which of the following is NOT true of a fashion?  
A) It is short-lived.  
B) It is permanent.  
C) It can originate as a fad.  
D) It involves the widespread acceptance of the activity.

Answer: A

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 60

Skill: Comprehension

- 33) When a country's culture is deliberately imposed on another country, this is called cultural  
A) imperialism.  
B) relativism.  
C) pluralism.  
D) moralism.

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 61

Skill: Knowledge

- 34) What *best* describes the term culture lag?  
A) Societies experience the gap between language skills and technological skills without any noticeable effect.  
B) Societies experience the gap between other societies based on the unknown.  
C) Societies experience the gap between technology and material culture and its social beliefs and institutions.  
D) Societies experience the gap between ritualistic practice and religious belief driven by the quest for nonsupernatural knowledge

Answer: C

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 62

Skill: Knowledge

- 35) Which term refers to the spreading of new ideas through a society, independent of a population movement?  
A) cultural diffusion  
B) cultural infusion  
C) cultural immersion  
D) cultural subversion

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 63

Skill: Knowledge

## 2.2 Fill in the Blank

- 1) Culture has both a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ basis.

- A) material; nonmaterial  
B) material; spiritual  
C) nonmaterial; scientific  
D) material; diverse

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 40-41

Skill: Knowledge

- 2) The belief in American freedom is an example of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) diversity  
B) a nonmaterial value  
C) a material value  
D) a relative value

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 41

Skill: Application

3) Cultural diversity means that the world's cultures are vastly \_\_\_\_\_ each other.

- A) different from
- B) similar to
- C) uninterested in
- D) important to

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 41

Skill: Knowledge

4) Cultural \_\_\_\_\_ proposes that all cultures are equally valid in the experience of their own members.

- A) ethnocentrism
- B) lag
- C) shock
- D) relativism

Answer: D

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 42

Skill: Synthesis

5) A \_\_\_\_\_ is a group of people within a culture who share some distinguishing characteristic, belief, value, or attribute that sets them apart from the dominant culture.

- A) subculture
- B) counterculture
- C) reform culture
- D) material culture

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 43

Skill: Knowledge

6) Countercultures are subcultures that identify themselves through their difference and \_\_\_\_\_ to the dominant culture.

- A) irreverence
- B) superiority
- C) opposition
- D) prejudice

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 43

Skill: Knowledge

7) The American flag is a \_\_\_\_\_ because it carries an additional meaning beyond itself to others who share in the American culture.

- A) symbol
- B) nonmaterial culture
- C) fad
- D) normative material

Answer: A

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 45

Skill: Application

8) \_\_\_\_\_ states that language shapes our perception.

- A) Zerubavel theory
- B) Sapir-Whorf hypothesis
- C) Pullum linguism
- D) William's value set

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 46

Skill: Knowledge

9) According to the text, the use of the word man to include both men and women supports \_\_\_\_\_ gender bias.

- A) explicit

- B) implicit
- C) general
- D) inclusive

Answer: D

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 47

Skill: Evaluation

10) Rituals are processes by which members of a culture engage in a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ behavior to express their sense of belonging to the culture.

- A) routine
- B) nonroutine
- C) spontaneous
- D) extraordinary

Answer: A

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 47

Skill: Knowledge

11) Singing "The Star Spangled Banner," the American national anthem, is an example of a \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) law
- B) nonroutine
- C) ritual
- D) fad

Answer: C

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 47

Skill: Application

12) \_\_\_\_\_ are the rules a culture develops that define how people should act and the consequences of failure to act in the specified ways.

- A) Norms
- B) Rituals
- C) Fads
- D) Fashions

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 48

Skill: Knowledge

13) Relatively weak and informal norms are \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) fads
- B) folkways
- C) laws
- D) mores

Answer: B

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 49

Skill: Knowledge

14) Mores are \_\_\_\_\_ norms that are \_\_\_\_\_ enforced.

- A) stronger; informally
- B) weaker; informally
- C) stronger; formally
- D) weaker; formally

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 50

Skill: Knowledge

15) \_\_\_\_\_ are norms that have been organized and written down.

- A) Mores
- B) Folkways
- C) Laws



D) Fads

Answer: C

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 50

Skill: Knowledge

16) Ideas about right and wrong as an ethical foundation of a culture are examples of \_\_\_\_\_.

A) values

B) rituals

C) fads

D) fashions

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 51

Skill: Application

17) Culture is \_\_\_\_\_ universal \_\_\_\_\_ local.

A) either; or

B) both; and

C) neither; nor

D) only; never

Answer: B

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 56

Skill: Comprehension

18) Rituals, customs, and symbols evident in all cultures are cultural \_\_\_\_\_.

A) particulars

B) lags

C) mores

D) universals

Answer: D

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 56

Skill: Knowledge

19) Cultural \_\_\_\_\_ refers to any "piece" of culture that a group can use as a symbolic resource to exchange with others.

A) spending

B) capital

C) saving

D) credit

Answer: B

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 58

Skill: Knowledge

20) Short-lived, highly popular, and widespread behaviors like raves are \_\_\_\_\_.

A) fads

B) fashions

C) taboos

D) norms

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 59

Skill: Application

21) Fashions are more permanent than \_\_\_\_\_.

A) taboos

B) fads

C) norms

D) laws

Answer: B

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 60

Skill: Knowledge

22) \_\_\_\_\_ is a behavior, style, or idea that is more permanent than a fad.

- A) Fashion
- B) Taboo
- C) A more
- D) A value

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 60

Skill: Knowledge

23) When the ABC Company opened a factory in a small town in Bulgaria, the locals began to wear Western clothing and the restaurants sold American-style food. This small town's culture was a victim of cultural \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) relativism
- B) diffusion
- C) shock
- D) Cultural imperialism

Answer: D

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 61

Skill: Knowledge

24) Culture lag is a term developed by \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) William Ogburn
- B) Emile Durkheim
- C) Karl Marx
- D) Ann Swidler

Answer: A

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 62

Skill: Comprehension

25) Spreading ideas through a society, independent of population movement is called cultural \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) diffusion
- B) infusion
- C) immersion
- D) delusion

Answer: A

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 63

Skill: Knowledge

### 2.3 True or False

1) Culture is the foundation of society with both a material and nonmaterial basis.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 40-41

Skill: Knowledge

2) Culture shapes what we know but it does not shape our human nature.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 40-41

Skill: Comprehension

3) Symbols are objects that have a meaning within a specific culture but may not have the same meaning in other cultures.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 45

Skill: Comprehension

4) Sapir-Whorf hypothesis states that language shapes our perception.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 46

Skill: Knowledge

5) Standing during the national anthem is an example of a cultural ritual.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 47

Skill: Application

6) Norms tend to remain constant over time with virtually no change.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 48

Skill: Comprehension

7) Mores are stronger norms that are informally enforced.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 50

Skill: Knowledge

8) Fads are long lived, highly popular, and widespread behaviors, styles, or modes of thought.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 59

Skill: Knowledge

9) Cultural transfer is not necessarily one directional; in the U.S., many cultural trends originating in other countries have become popular.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 61

Skill: Comprehension

10) Culture lag occurs in societies when there is a gap between technology and material culture and its social beliefs and institutions.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 62

Skill: Knowledge

## 2.4 Short Answer

1) What is the difference between material culture and nonmaterial culture?

Answer: Material culture consists of the things people make and the things they use to make them. Nonmaterial culture consists of the ideas and beliefs that people develop about their lives and their world.

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 40-41

Skill: Knowledge

2) What does the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis propose about the use of language?

Answer: The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis proposes that language shapes our perceptions.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 46

Skill: Synthesis

3) What are rituals and how do they relate to coherence?

Answer: Rituals are how members of a culture engage in a routine behavior to express their sense of belonging. A ritual both symbolizes the culture's coherence by expressing a sense of unity and creates coherence by enabling each member to feel connected to the culture.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 47

Skill: Analysis

4) What is the difference between mores and laws?

Answer: Mores are stronger norms that are informally enforced, while laws are norms that have been organized and written down.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 50

Skill: Knowledge

5) What are values?

Answer: Values are ethical foundations of a culture, its ideas about right and wrong, good and bad.

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 51

Skill: Knowledge

6) What is popular culture and how it is different from high culture?

Answer: Popular culture is the culture of the masses, the middle class and working class, and includes a wide variety of media and art forms. High culture is geared toward more affluent and largely White groups.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 56-57

Skill: Comprehension

7) What is cultural capital?

Answer: Cultural capital is any "piece" of culture that a group can use as a symbolic resource to exchange with others.

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 58

Skill: Knowledge

8) What is fashion and how it is different than a fad?

Answer: Fashion is a behavior, style, or idea that is more permanent than a fad.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 59-60

Skill: Analysis

9) What is cultural imperialism?

Answer: Cultural imperialism is the deliberate imposition of one country's culture on another country.

Diff: 1 Page Ref: 61

Skill: Knowledge

10) What is the definition of culture lag and who defined the term?

Answer: Culture lag, defined by William Ogburn, occurs when societies experience a gap between technology and material culture and its social beliefs and institutions.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 62

Skill: Knowledge

## 2.5 Essay

1) How do sociologists understand culture? Please explain the difference between material and nonmaterial culture in the context of your answer.

Answer: Culture is the connection between the personal and the structural, between how we shape our society and how it, in turn, shapes us. Sociologists understand that it has both material and nonmaterial forms. Material culture consists of things people make and the things they use to make them. Nonmaterial culture consists of the ideas and beliefs that people develop about their lives and their world.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 40-41

Skill: Comprehension

2) What are the six elements of culture? Please describe each element in your answer.

Answer: The six elements of culture are: material culture, symbols, language, rituals, norms, and values. Material culture consists of what people make and what they make it with. A symbol is anything—an idea, a marking, a thing—that carries additional meanings beyond itself to others who share in the culture. We translate what we see and think into symbols. Symbols carry additional meanings, for example, an American Flag symbolizes freedom and democracy. Language is an organized set of symbols by which we are able to think and communicate with others. Rituals are actions by which members of a culture engage in a routine behavior to express their sense of belonging to the culture. Norms are the rules that a culture develops that define how people should act and the consequences of failing to act as expected. Values are the ethical foundation of a culture, its ideas about right and wrong, good and bad.

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 44-51

Skill: Knowledge

3) How does Pierre Bourdieu explain the concept of "cultural capital"? What happens if there is a divide between high culture and popular culture?

Answer: Bourdieu argued that different groups possess what he called "cultural capital," a resource that those in the dominant class can use to justify their dominance. Cultural capital is any "piece" of culture—an idea, artistic expression, form of music

or literature—that a group can use as a symbolic resource to exchange with others. If there is a divide between high culture and popular culture, Bourdieu argues, then the dominant class can set the terms of training so that high culture can be properly appreciated.

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 58

Skill: Knowledge

4) What is the definition of a fad? Explain the four types of fads that sociologist John Lofland identified.

Answer: A fad is defined as short-lived, highly popular, and widespread behaviors, styles, or modes of thought. The four types of fads are objects, activities, ideas, and personalities. Objects are things people buy because they are suddenly popular, whether or not they have any use or intrinsic value. Activities are behaviors everybody seems to be doing and you decide to do it also or you'll feel left out. Ideas are fast-spreading concepts about a phenomenon. Personalities are those celebrities or "famous" persons who garner a great deal of media and popular attention.

Diff: 3 Page Ref: 59-60

Skill: Comprehension

5) What are subcultures and countercultures? What is the difference between these subgroups of culture? Offer an example of each in your explanation.

Answer: A subculture is a group of people within a culture who share some distinguishing characteristic, beliefs, values, or attribute that sets them apart from the dominant culture, for example, Roman Catholics. Countercultures are different than subcultures because they identify themselves through their difference and opposition to the dominant culture, for example, White Supremacist survivalists.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 43-44

Skill: Analysis

## 2.6 Open Book

1) What does Table 2.1 *Internet Slang* tell us about Internet behavior?

Answer: Table 2.1 tells us that Internet behavior is subject to its own set of norms. There is a "Netiquette" that users are expected to follow.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 50-Table 2.1

Skill: Analysis

2) What does Figure 2.1 *American Attitudes about Nonmarital, Heterosexual Sex, 1972-2004* suggest about cultural values?

Answer: Figure 2.1 suggests that cultural values can be both contradictory and change over time. For instance, views about heterosexual, nonmarital sex have changed over time to become more accepted even though there is still a large percentage of Americans who believe it is always wrong (24%).

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 55-Figure 2.1

Skill: Evaluation

3) What does Figure 2.3 *Cell Phones per 1,000 People* demonstrate about global culture?

Answer: Figure 2.3 demonstrates that globally there is a cultural divide between wealthy countries and poorer countries. Wealthier countries have a greater access to technology than do poorer countries.

Diff: 2 Page Ref: 63-Figure 2.3

Skill: Analysis