2.1. Iconicity is

a. found in some chickadee signals

b. exemplified in animal facial expressions

c. found in lemurs rubbing rumps against trees

d. found in the designation of some male as alpha

2.2. Chickadee alarm calls are iconic because

a. the number of “dee”s resembles the intensity of the threat

b. they tell other birds that a chickadee is present but not in danger

c. they sound like owl sounds and thus resemble the threat

d. they are famous as the perfect example of alarm calls

2.3. If “the structuralist insight” is that “signs [only] take on meaning in relation to the system of which they are a part,” which of the following is best understood using the structuralist insight?

a. a whole universe that is nothing but red

b. a pair of items that contrast as opposites

c. a pair of shoes, each the mirror image of the other

d. a scientific model of the structure of the atom

2.4. A list of choices of appetizers presented on a menu represents an example of

a. syntagmatic axis

b. paradigmatic axis

2.5. Which of the following words is the best example of a symbol?

a. moo

b. this

c. final

d. you

2.6. An icon is a sign that stands for its object by

a. resembling it

b. pointing to it

c. denoting it

d. representing it

2.7. The pragmatics of a speech form refers to its

a. action in context

b. denotation in context

c. reference in context

d. transcending context

2.8. Which of the following is one possible interpretant of a sign?

a. its vehicle or signifier

b. its object or referent

c. its power to grab attention

d. its mental representation

2.9. Which of the following is the best example of a paradigmatic relation in language? The relation between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

a. two words with identical denotations but different social values

b. one word and the word that would then have to come next

c. three words in a row, together forming a noun phrase

d. two sentences, the second being the conclusion drawn from the first

2.10. Which of the following best defines a syntagmatic relationship? One in which\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

a. items are substitutable for one another if the list is in the right order

b. one item is the best choice for a slot

c. choices in several slots are irrelevant to another slot

d. a choice in one slot influences items in another slot

2.11. The study of meaning in linguistic forms is called

a. pragmatics

b. syntax

c. morphology

d. semantics

e. a and d

2.12. The “conduit model” (treating communication as transferring information unchanged from one mind to another) \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. is widely rejected by academics

b. is widely rejected in popular thought

c. says that communication is action and practice

2.13. Looking at animals’ signals in the wild informs and is informed by \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. an appreciation of communication for its own sake

b. linguistic relativity between humans and other animals

c. an elaboration of Saussure’s semiology

d. a pragmatic approach to communication

2.14. The “practice” in “practice theory” means \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. expertise that is achieved through repetition

b. embodied and collectively meaningful forms of action

c. modes of communication performed fluently

d. mutual attunement through preparing for performance

2.15. What is the paradox of practice theory?

a. structure constrains human action, but social activity reproduces and transforms the structure in which is takes place

b. human action is bound by practices of a specific time and place, but is also informed by past traditions and conventions

c. human action appears authentic ~~not~~ only when it adheres to tradition, but is also novel enough to be creative

d. discursive structures reflect social structures, but only in childhood games like jump rope or hop scotch

2.16. Poststructuralist theorists locate the roots of a group’s practice within \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the cognitive processes of a group’s members

b. the paradigmatic choices of a group

c. the objective conditions in which a group lives

d. the collective, conscious decisions of a group

2.17. A sign’s effect is central to the model of signs of which thinker?

a. Pierre Bourdieu

b. Charles Peirce

c. Michel Foucault

d. Ferdinand de Saussure

2.18. Coordination of actions between a mother or caregiver and a child is an example of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. mutual attunement

b. their material conditions

c. sympathetic vibration

d. behavioral diachrony

2.19. Peirce’s model of the\_\_\_\_\_\_ is best suited to help us understand mutuality in interaction

a. sign-vehicle, or that which carries the sign

b. sign-object, or what a sign represents

c. interpretant, or impact of (or as) sign

d. signifier, or the sound-image

2.20. Synchrony and attunement are achieved through \_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. a conscious agreement about what signs represent

b. a shared mastery of a certain linguistic system

c. the ability to translate linguistic signs into visual signs

d. unconscious participation in multimodal communication

Answers

2.1 a

2.2 a

2.3 b

2.4 b

2.5 d

2.6 a

2.7 a

2.8 d

2.9 a

2.10 d

2.11 e

2.12 a

2.13 d

2.14 b

2.15 a

2.16 c

2.17 b

2.18 a

2.19 c

2.20 d