

# CONTEMPORARY WORLD ISSUES

## Ch. 1, 2, & 3 Test Study Guide

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** *Use the book and relevant classroom lessons / materials to answer the following:*

- 1.) Can science explain the causes / effects of all events? Explain.
- 2.) Will the answers that science provides always be true?
- 3.) Explain the difficulty of making predictions in sociology.
- 4.) Can people learn new responses to situations they encounter? Can they learn new things about themselves? Explain/Give an example(s).
- 5.) What can help us learn about the relationships between different events & situations in our world?
- 6.) What is the benefit(s) of a sociological perspective?
- 7.) Are we mainly “social creatures” or are we isolated from one another? Explain / give an example.
- 8.) Are your personal desires more important than the demands of the world around you? Explain / give an example.
- 9.) Are humans extremely easy to study? Why / why not?
- 10.) What is one way to understand the events happening to you, your friends and family, and society as a whole?
- 11.) How can studying language help us understand a culture better?
- 12.) Is a “society” only those people who live in a certain place and speak a certain language? Explain.
- 13.) What are some examples of practices that at first appear to be global “cultural universals,” but actually are not?
- 14.) What happens when we choose not to obey cultural universals in our society?
- 15.) Explain the term “cultural alternatives,” and what their relationship to “cultural universals” is.
- 16.) Did we determine in class that teenagers are a separate subculture? Why or why not?
- 17.) Explain the difference between a “society” and a “culture.”
- 18.) What could our cultural assumptions lead to? Why?
- 19.) Can someone participate in every aspect of our culture? Explain.
- 20.) What can we learn as we study the language of a people over a period of time?

- 21.) Explain whether or not gestures mean the same in all cultures.
- 22.) Do people around the world view beauty the same way as everyone else in the world? Explain.
- 23.) Do most celebrities choose to keep their “given names?” Why or why not?
- 24.) Has technology led to an increase or decrease in cultural diffusion? Why?
- 25.) Is everyone ethnocentric about their own culture? Explain.
- 26.) What is the difference between sociology and psychology?
- 27.) Explain how the scientific method is “empirical.”
- 28.) Explain how the scientific method is “objective.”
- 29.) Explain how the scientific method is “logical.”
- 30.) Explain how the scientific method is “systematic.”
- 31.) How would a sociologist analyze a football game? Give an example of each of the selected characteristics that sociologists look for (of the 6 total):
- structure
  - function
  - patterns of behavior
- 32.) How would a sociologist analyze people dating who seem to be an “odd matchup?” Give an example of each of the selected characteristics that sociologists look for (of the 6 total):
- function
  - patterns of behavior
  - causes
- 33.) How would a sociologist analyze students doing their homework in a classroom setting? Give an example of each of the selected characteristics that sociologists look for (of the 6 total):
- causes
  - changes
  - consequences
- 34.) How would a sociologist analyze a teacher giving a test in a classroom setting? Give an example of each of the selected characteristics that sociologists look for (of the 6 total):
- structure
  - function

--consequences

35.) How would a sociologist analyze people dating who just broke up? Give an example of each of the selected characteristics that sociologists look for (of the 6 total):

--patterns of behavior

--changes

--consequences

36.) How would a sociologist analyze the trial of a convenience store robber? Use the 6 characteristics that sociologists look for:

--function

--causes

--consequences

37.) What field of science could be considered most similar to sociology? Why?

38.) What does the term “culture” include, according to the book?

39.) Analyze how a car could be considered a culture trait, culture complex, *and* culture pattern.

40.) Analyze whether religion is a culture trait, culture complex, or a culture pattern. Explain

41.) If something is made up of many smaller parts, is it likely to be a culture trait, complex, or pattern? Why?

42.) Analyze whether a school dance is a culture trait, culture complex, or a culture pattern. Explain.

43.) What are some examples of culture patterns in a society such as ours?

44.) What is an example of a conflict over a culture trait? (what would the conflict be about?)

45.) What is an example of a conflict over a culture pattern? (what would the conflict be about?)

46.) Explain a situation where one cannot wear certain clothes. Is this a limitation of cultural universals or cultural alternatives? Explain.

47.) What are some examples of subcultures in our society?

48.) Does everyone in the world have the same idea about time / timing? Why or why not?

49.) What did Margaret Mead conclude about the temperaments of the Arapesh and Mundugamor peoples of New Guinea?

50.) How can one experience “culture shock?” (hint: use “cultural differences” in your answer)

51.) How was George Washington represented in the “Nacirema” story?

- 52.) What feature of an American house was featured in the “Nacirema” story? How was it described?
- 53.) How was a doctor described in the “Nacirema” story?
- 54.) What dental procedures were described in the “Nacirema” story?
- 55.) How does the number of culture traits influence the speed at which a culture changes?
- 56.) What are the 5 factors that stimulate cultural change? (give an example of each)
- 57.) How is mixing a powdered drink mix similar to “cultural diffusion?”
- 58.) What are the 3 factors that lead to people resisting cultural changes? (give an example of each)
- 59.) What toys (from our study of the ad from 1903) are still in our cultural base? Which have left?
- 60.) Make a list of the various technologies that we have discussed as fitting the description of “cultural lag?”

\*\*\*There will be a section where you will be asked to match the vocabulary terms with their appropriate definitions...find an effective method to study the vocabulary definitions in depth!

As a suggestion, many successful students have:

- made flashcards
- had a friend / family member quiz them (give the *term* → *definition*...then try switching to *definition* → *term*)
- drawn a picture of certain terms that are difficult for them to grasp in words
- used the Internet to look up how the terms are used in real-life situations