

Chapter 2: The Role of Culture

Multiple Choice Questions

1) Which of the following is a characteristic of culture?

- A) It is individualized.
- B) It is innate.
- C) It is transmitted from one generation to the next.
- D) It is declining.

Answer: C

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

2) The primary transmitter of culture is_____.

- A) parents
- B) everyday experience
- C) language
- D) facial expressions

Answer: C

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

3) According to interactionists, social interaction among people of different cultures may be difficult because_____.

- A) they may not share the same definitions of symbols
- B) people have a natural reluctance to relate to strangers
- C) strangers are intimidated by the natives of the host country
- D) one group tries to dominate the other

Answer: A

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Evaluate three models of possible minority integration in society.

Topic: Theories of Minority Integration

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

4) The Thomas theorem states that_____.

- A) you've got to be taught to hate and fear
- B) if people define a situation as real, it becomes real in its consequences
- C) the world of reality is taken for granted
- D) each generation passes its cultural values on to the next generation

Answer: B

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

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

- A) money
- B) the exchange of ideas
- C) religion
- D) acculturation

Answer: A

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

6) The fact that cultures owe a substantial debt to other cultures because of the spread of ideas, inventions, and practices is called

- A) cultural transmission.
- B) convergence.
- C) cross-cultural integration.
- D) cultural diffusion.

Answer: D

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Examine how culture changes and spreads.

Topic: Cultural Change

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

7) Students who sit quietly in class and take careful notes are fulfilling unwritten societal rules of behavior, which are called _____.

- A) mores
- B) values
- C) norms
- D) material culture

Answer: C

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Explain how culture impacts one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

8) Settling in an area already containing family, friends, or compatriots is known as _____.

- A) chain migration
- B) joined resettlement
- C) parallel social institutions
- D) emigration

Answer: A

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Examine how culture changes and spreads.

Topic: Cultural Change

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

9) Sociologists call a minority group's establishment of its own clubs, organizations, stores, churches, newspapers, and schools

- A) convergent subcultures.
- B) parallel social institutions.
- C) structural pluralism.

D) subcultural networking.

Answer: B

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Examine how culture changes and spreads.

Topic: Cultural Change

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

10). Many of Ahmed's family have moved from Yemen to the U.S., adapting and adopting to much of American culture while retaining a number of beliefs and customs from home. Ahmed's aunt, who still lives in Yemen worries that this Americanized family is no longer Yemeni. Ahmed's teenage daughter feels like her family is not American. Sociologically speaking, Ahmed's family is experiencing _____.

- A) ethnogenesis
- B) culture shock
- C) pluralism
- D) chain migration

Answer: A

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Examine how culture changes and spreads.

Topic: Cultural Change

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

11) Living under the norms of both a dominant culture and a subculture may result in stress and _____.

- A) marginality
- B) assimilation
- C) amalgamation
- D) acculturation

Answer: A

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Examine how culture changes and spreads.

Topic: Cultural Change

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

12) When Rona arrived in Milan she had a hard time adjusting to the fact that people drank wine during working lunches. This is an example of_____.

- A) cultural transmission
- B) culture irrelevance
- C) culture diffusion
- D) culture shock

Answer: D

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Examine how culture changes and spreads.

Topic: Cultural Change

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

13) The most noticeable form of pluralism in most societies is _____.

- A) structural pluralism
- B) cultural pluralism
- C) convergence
- D) amalgamation

Answer: B

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Evaluate three models of possible minority integration in society.

Topic: Theories of Minority Integration

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

14) The equation $A+B+C=A$ illustrates which concept?

- A) amalgamation
- B) assimilation
- C) desegregation
- D) pluralism

Answer: B

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Evaluate three models of possible minority integration in society.

Topic: Theories of Minority Integration

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

15) The equation $A+B+C=D$ illustrates which concept?

- A) amalgamation
- B) assimilation
- C) immigration
- D) pluralism

Answer: A

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Evaluate three models of possible minority integration in society.

Topic: Theories of Minority Integration

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

True/False Questions

16) Nonmaterial culture contains more physical objects than material culture.

Answer: FALSE

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

17) Most minority groups eventually adapt their distinctive cultural traits to those of the host society.

Answer: TRUE

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

18) Secondary structural assimilation involves close personal interactions among dominant and minority groups in intimate settings like parties and clubs.

Answer: FALSE

Learning Objective: LO 2.3 Evaluate three models of possible minority integration in society.

Topic: Theories of Minority Integration

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

19) Linguistic relativity refers to the fact that every race has its own language.

Answer: FALSE

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture.

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

20) Paralinguistic signals include sounds but not words.

Answer: TRUE

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

21) Ralph Linton calculated that any given culture contains about 90 percent borrowed elements.

Answer: TRUE

Learning Objective: LO 2.2 Examine how culture changes and spreads.

Topic: Cultural Change

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Essay Questions

22) Explain and illustrate the differences between material and nonmaterial culture. Which would change faster? Why?

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

23) Explain how our knowledge of language and cultural symbols shapes our perception of reality. Provide examples to support your answer.

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

24) Explain and illustrate the differences between cultural diffusion and cultural transmission.

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain how culture impacts on one's perceptions.

Topic: The Concept of Culture

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

25) Compare and contrast the theories of assimilation, amalgamation, and pluralism.

Learning Objective: LO 2.3 Evaluate three models of possible minority integration in society.

Topic: Theories of Minority Integration

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

26). Define white culture and provide evidence of its existence.

Learning Objective: LO 2.4 Understand the existence of a white culture.

Topic: Is There a White Culture?

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Apply What You Know