

Name _____

TRUE/FALSE. Write 'T' if the statement is true and 'F' if the statement is false.

- 1) Two simple requirements that underlie the process of sociological investigation are (1) looking at the world using the sociological perspective and (2) becoming curious and asking questions. 1) _____
- 2) The sociologist recognizes that there are various kinds of "truth." 2) _____
- 3) Empirical evidence is what people in a society agree is true. 3) _____
- 4) Science is a logical system that is based on intuition and insight. 4) _____
- 5) Empirical evidence refers to what we can verify with our senses. 5) _____
- 6) A positivist approach assumes that an objective reality exists "out there." 6) _____
- 7) The mean is always a better statistical measure than the mode or the median. 7) _____
- 8) Reliability refers to the quality of consistency in measurement. 8) _____
- 9) Validity refers to actually measuring what you want to measure. 9) _____
- 10) A variable that is changed by another variable is called the "independent variable." 10) _____
- 11) A variable that causes change in another variable is called the "dependent variable." 11) _____
- 12) When two variables are statistically related, a cause-and-effect relationship exists. 12) _____
- 13) A false correlation between two variables caused by a third variable is described as a "spurious" correlation. 13) _____
- 14) Natural scientists often have an easier time than social scientists when identifying cause-and-effect relationships. 14) _____
- 15) Sociologists always achieve complete personal objectivity in their work. 15) _____
- 16) Max Weber urged sociologists to strive toward the goal of being value-free. 16) _____
- 17) Replication is one way to assess the accuracy of existing research. 17) _____
- 18) The logic and methodology of science guarantee that sociological research will result in objective, absolute truth. 18) _____

- 19) Interpretive sociology focuses less on action itself and more on the meaning people attach to their actions. 19) _____
- 20) Scientific sociologists make use of what Max Weber called "*verstehen*" in order to make sense of their surroundings. 20) _____
- 21) Interpretive sociology considers subjective feelings to be a source of bias. 21) _____
- 22) Critical sociology studies society and tries to bring about social change. 22) _____
- 23) Karl Marx founded the critical orientation in sociology. 23) _____
- 24) Gender blindness is the problem of failing to consider the importance of gender in sociological research. 24) _____
- 25) Sociological research can never be harmful to subjects. 25) _____
- 26) Carrying out research on Hispanic people, Asian people, or people of any distinctive ethnicity or category demands that researchers be sensitive to how subjects will interpret their words and actions. 26) _____
- 27) To identify cause-and-effect relationships, it is usually necessary to exercise experimental control of variables. 27) _____
- 28) The very act of observing people may affect their behavior. 28) _____
- 29) A random sample is likely to represent the population from which it is drawn. 29) _____
- 30) Just walking up to people on the street is a convenient and correct way to generate a random sample. 30) _____
- 31) A survey is a research method in which subjects respond to a series of statements or questions. 31) _____
- 32) A closed-ended questionnaire format generally makes it easier to analyze research data compared to an open-ended questionnaire format. 32) _____
- 33) Conducting interviews with 100 college students in a course would take no more time than having them all complete a questionnaire when they come to class. 33) _____
- 34) Participant observation is a research method by which researchers stand back from a setting, watch from a distance, and then carefully record the behavior of others. 34) _____
- 35) Participant observation research is usually explanatory, which means that it identifies cause and effect relationships. 35) _____
- 36) The use of existing data and documents makes most historical research possible. 36) _____

- 37) Baltzell found that a surprisingly large number of high-achieving people in our country's history came from the Boston area. 37) _____
- 38) Baltzell found that a surprisingly large number of high-achieving people in our country's history came from the Boston area. 38) _____
- 39) Inductive logical thought turns theory into testable hypotheses. 39) _____
- 40) "Statistical evidence" may or may not be the same as truth. 40) _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- 41) Lois Benjamin's research on the life experiences of high-achieving African Americans suggests that 41) _____
A) racism mainly affects lower-class African Americans.
B) race has little to do with the life experiences of successful people.
C) racism remains a burden even among privileged African Americans.
D) race is now more of a barrier to African Americans than ever before in U.S. history.
- 42) Science can be defined as a 42) _____
A) belief based on faith in ultimate truth.
B) logical system that bases truth on political goals.
C) logical system that bases knowledge on direct, systematic observation.
D) belief based on a society's traditions.
- 43) Science can be defined as a 43) _____
A) belief based on faith in ultimate truth.
B) logical system that bases knowledge on direct, systematic observation.
C) belief based on a society's traditions.
D) logical system that bases truth on political goals.
- 44) Sociologists use the term "empirical evidence" to refer to 44) _____
A) information that squares with common sense.
B) information that is based on a society's traditions.
C) information that most people agree is true.
D) information we can verify with our senses.
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A) information that squares with common sense.
B) information we can verify with our senses.
C) information that most people agree is true.
D) information that is based on a society's traditions.
- 46) The sociological perspective reveals that 46) _____
A) most people in the United States readily see how society shapes our lives.
B) "common sense" is not very popular in the United States.
C) much of what passes for "common sense" in the United States turns out to be at least partly wrong.
D) "common sense" is usually pretty close to the truth.

- 47) The sociological perspective reveals that 47) _____
 A) "common sense" is usually pretty close to the truth.
 B) most people in the United States readily see how society shapes our lives.
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 D) "common sense" is not very popular in the United States.
- 48) Which of the following terms is defined in the text as "a mental construct that represents some aspect of the world in a somewhat simplified form"? 48) _____
 A) operationalization B) concept
 C) variable D) measurement
- 49) Which of the following terms is defined in the text as "a mental construct that represents some aspect of the world in a somewhat simplified form"? 49) _____
 A) operationalization B) measurement
 C) variable D) concept
- 50) Imagine that you were going to measure the age of a number of respondents taking part in a survey. As you record the data, you are using the concept "age" as 50) _____
 A) a variable. B) an axiom. C) a hypothesis. D) a theory.
- 51) If you were trying to measure the "social class" of various people, you would have to keep in mind that 51) _____
 A) you must measure "social class" in every way possible.
 B) there is no way to measure "social class."
 C) it is necessary to specify exactly what you are measuring.
 D) everyone agrees on what "social class" means.
- 52) What process involves deciding exactly what is to be measured when assigning value to a variable? 52) _____
 A) conceptualizing B) validity
 C) operationalizing D) reliability
- 53) What is the term for the value that occurs most often in a series of numbers? 53) _____
 A) the mode B) the standard deviation
 C) the median D) the mean
- 54) What term refers to the arithmetic average of a series of numbers? 54) _____
 A) the correlation B) the mean
 C) the mode D) the median
- 55) What term refers to the value that occurs midway in a series of numbers (that is, the middle case)? 55) _____
 A) the median B) the mode
 C) the correlation D) the mean
- 56) Examine the following series of numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 10. What is the median value? 56) _____
 A) 1 B) 2 C) 3 D) 4

- 66) The ideal of objectivity means that a researcher must _____
 A) not personally care about the topic being studied.
 B) carry out research that will encourage desirable social change.
 C) try to adopt a stance of personal neutrality toward the outcome of the research.
 D) study issues that have no value to society as a whole.
- 67) The sociologist who called on his colleagues to be "value-free" in the conduct of their research was _____
 A) Emile Durkheim. B) Herbert Spencer.
 C) Karl Marx. D) Max Weber.
- 68) Imagine that you are repeating research done by someone else in order to assess the accuracy. You are doing which of the following? _____
 A) objectification B) replication
 C) scientific control D) reliability
- 69) Sociologists cannot precisely predict any person's behavior because _____
 A) human behavior is highly complex and has many causes.
 B) humans may respond to the presence of an observer in unexpected ways.
 C) social patterns that are found in one time and place may not be found in others.
 D) All of these are correct.
- 70) Interpretive sociology is sociology that _____
 A) sees an objective reality "out there."
 B) seeks to bring about change.
 C) focuses on the meaning people attach to behavior.
 D) focuses on action.
- 71) Which of the following is true about scientific sociology? _____
 A) It seeks to bring about desirable social change.
 B) It favors qualitative data.
 C) It favors quantitative data.
 D) It focuses on the meaning people attach to behavior.
- 72) Which of the following statements about critical sociology is true? _____
 A) Critical sociology endorses the principle of being value-free.
 B) Critical sociology focuses on the meaning people attach to behavior.
 C) Critical sociology is based on Weber's principle of *verstehen*.
 D) Critical sociology seeks to bring about desirable social change.
- 73) Critical sociology can best be described as a(n) _____ approach. _____
 A) scientific B) value-free C) qualitative D) activist
- 74) In making judgments about how society should be improved, the _____ approach in sociology rejects Max Weber's goal that researchers should be value-free. _____
 A) critical B) positivist C) interpretive D) scientific

- 75) Qualitative research has special appeal to investigators who favor which theoretical approach? 75) _____
 A) the social-exchange approach B) the symbolic-interaction approach
 C) the structural-functional approach D) the social-conflict approach
- 76) Which German word meaning "understanding" was used by Max Weber to describe his 76) _____
 approach to sociological research?
 A) *Verboten* B) *Gesellschaft* C) *Verstehen* D) *Gemeinschaft*
- 77) If you have been criticized for "androcentricity" in your research, you are being criticized for 77) _____
 A) doing the research from a male perspective.
 B) overgeneralizing your results.
 C) ignoring gender entirely.
 D) using double standards in your research.
- 78) If you read a study that draws conclusions about all of humanity based on research using only 78) _____
 males as subjects, you would correctly point to the problem called
 A) gender blindness. B) androcentricity.
 C) using double standards. D) overgeneralization.
- 79) You are doing research and you never stop to think about the possible importance of gender. 79) _____
 Your work could be criticized for the problem called
 A) employing double standards. B) gender blindness.
 C) androcentricity. D) overgeneralization.
- 80) All of the following statements—except for one—are guidelines for ethical research endorsed by 80) _____
 the American Sociological Association. Which one is NOT one of the ASA's guidelines for ethical
 research?
 A) Researchers must always perform their research several times in order to ensure its
 accuracy.
 B) Researchers must protect the privacy of subjects taking part in a research project.
 C) Researchers must ensure the safety of subjects taking part in a research project.
 D) Researchers must disclose their sources of funding for the research.
- 81) If you were to conduct sociological research that closely follows the logic of science, which 81) _____
 research method would you most likely use?
 A) interviews B) questionnaires
 C) participant observation D) the experiment
- 82) "A statement of a possible relationship between two or more variables" is the definition of which 82) _____
 concept?
 A) theory B) spurious correlation
 C) correlation D) hypothesis
- 83) Three researchers wish to test the effects of playing soft music during an exam on the test 83) _____
 performance of their sociology students. They conduct an experiment in which one test-taking
 class hears music and another does not. In experimental terms, the class hearing the music is
 called
 A) the experimental group. B) the placebo.

- 84) What term refers to any change in a subject's behavior that is caused by the awareness of being studied? 84) _____
 A) the Hawthorne effect B) unreliable response
 C) invalid response D) the Stanford effect
- 85) What research method was used in Philip Zimbardo's study, the "Stanford County Prison"? 85) _____
 A) a survey B) secondary analysis
 C) participant observation D) an experiment
- 86) Which research method asks subjects to respond to a series of items in a questionnaire or an interview? 86) _____
 A) an experiment B) secondary research
 C) participant observation D) a survey
- 87) A small number of people that are used to represent a much larger population is called a 87) _____
 A) target group. B) sample.
 C) sampling frame. D) closed-format group.
- 88) In a questionnaire, asking respondents to identify their income level from a number of possible categories represents which of the following? 88) _____
 A) a qualitative question format B) a closed-ended question format
 C) an interview question format D) an open-ended question format
- 89) In a questionnaire, the question, "Please state your opinions about the likelihood of another major terrorist attack at home," is an example of which of the following? 89) _____
 A) experimental design B) dependent variable
 C) closed-ended format D) open-ended format
- 90) One disadvantage of conducting interviews is that this research method 90) _____
 A) may easily allow the researcher to influence subjects' responses.
 B) does not permit follow-up questions.
 C) does not allow subjects' answers to be detailed.
- 91) Lois Benjamin's investigation of racism may be criticized because 91) _____
 A) her sample included as many white people as African Americans.
 B) her sample may not be representative of all African Americans.
 C) she conducted her interviews over the telephone.
- 92) Lois Benjamin's research shows that interviews 92) _____
 A) do not require face-to-face contact with subjects.
 B) do not allow the researcher to ask follow-up questions.
 C) take a lot of time to complete.
 D) must always be conducted in a laboratory.
- 93) William Foote Whyte's study of Cornerville (*Street Corner Society*) used which sociological research method? 93) _____
 A) experiment B) secondary analysis
 C) survey D) participant observation

- 94) William Foote Whyte's study of Cornerville (*Street Corner Society*) showed that 94) _____
 A) Cornerville was a complex community that did not fit any simple stereotypes.
 B) Cornerville was a very dangerous slum.
 C) a Harvard sociologist was unable to work in a low-income community.
- 95) You wish to conduct an exploratory and descriptive study of people in a particular 95) _____
 neighborhood. You have plenty of time, but you have little money or other resources. What
 research method should you use?
 A) a survey B) secondary analysis
 C) participant observation D) an experiment
- 96) A researcher doing participant observation may often "break in" to a setting more easily with the 96) _____
 help of a
 A) research assistant. B) longer questionnaire.
 C) key informant. D) bigger budget.
- 97) E. Digby Baltzell's historical study, *Puritan Boston and Quaker Philadelphia*, illustrates which 97) _____
 research method?
 A) the experiment B) secondary analysis
 C) the survey D) participant observation
- 98) E. Digby Baltzell's study, *Puritan Boston and Quaker Philadelphia*, showed that a very high number 98) _____
 of "top achievers" listed in the *Dictionary of American Biography* came from
 A) Philadelphia. B) Massachusetts.
 C) the South. D) Pennsylvania.
- 99) Inductive logical thought involves 99) _____
 A) doing research about the past.
 B) transforming specific observations into general theory.
 C) selecting a research method based on available resources.
 D) turning theories into hypotheses suitable for testing.
- 100) Deductive logical thought involves 100) _____
 A) selecting a research method based on available resources.
 B) transforming specific observations into general theory.
 C) doing research about the past.
 D) turning theories into hypotheses suitable for testing.
- 101) Which sociological research method is most likely to produce quantitative data that will identify 101) _____
 cause-and-effect relationships?
 A) participant observation B) secondary analysis
 C) the survey D) the experiment
- 102) Which sociological research method is best used to study what cannot be directly observed, such 102) _____
 as attitudes and values, among large numbers of people?
 A) the survey B) the experiment
 C) participant observation D) secondary analysis

- 103) Which sociological research method provides the best chance to understand social behavior in a natural setting? 103) _____
 A) participant observation
 B) the experiment
 C) the survey
- 104) Which sociological research method is likely to be the most difficult to replicate (repeat)? 104) _____
 A) secondary analysis
 B) participant observation
 C) the experiment
 D) the survey
- 105) Which sociological research method saves the time and expense of data gathering, but the researcher has no control over possible data bias? 105) _____
 A) the survey
 B) the experiment
 C) participant observation
 D) secondary analysis of existing sources
- 106) Which of the following is a way in which people can mislead others with statistics? 106) _____
 A) People interpret the data to lead their readers to a desired conclusion.
 B) People use graphs to "spin" the truth.
 C) All of these are correct.

SHORT ANSWER. Attach your answers with a staple.

- 107) How does a researcher transform a concept into a variable? 107) _____
- 108) Thinking about measuring a variable, how is reliability different from validity? Which concept implies the other? 108) _____
- 109) List the three conditions that are required to establish cause and effect in social scientific research. 109) _____
- 110) What is a spurious correlation? 110) _____
- 111) What did Max Weber mean by "value-free" research? Do you think researchers can be value-free? Should they try? Explain. 111) _____
- 112) What are the essential differences between scientific sociology, interpretive sociology, and critical sociology? 112) _____
- 113) Provide one strength and one limitation of each of the major research methods described in this chapter: experiment, survey, participant observation, and secondary analysis. 113) _____
- 114) Define both inductive logical thought and deductive logical thought. How does sociological research make use of both types of thought? Provide an example of each. 114) _____

Answer Key

Testname: CH 2 BIG REVIEW

- 1) TRUE
- 2) TRUE
- 3) FALSE
- 4) FALSE
- 5) TRUE
- 6) TRUE
- 7) FALSE
- 8) TRUE
- 9) TRUE
- 10) FALSE
- 11) FALSE
- 12) FALSE
- 13) TRUE
- 14) TRUE
- 15) FALSE
- 16) TRUE
- 17) TRUE
- 18) FALSE
- 19) TRUE
- 20) FALSE
- 21) FALSE
- 22) TRUE
- 23) TRUE
- 24) TRUE
- 25) FALSE
- 26) TRUE
- 27) TRUE
- 28) TRUE
- 29) TRUE
- 30) FALSE
- 31) TRUE
- 32) TRUE
- 33) FALSE
- 34) FALSE
- 35) FALSE
- 36) TRUE
- 37) TRUE
- 38) TRUE
- 39) FALSE
- 40) TRUE
- 41) C
- 42) C
- 43) B
- 44) D
- 45) B
- 46) C
- 47) C
- 48) B
- 49) D

Answer Key

Testname: CH 2 BIG REVIEW

- 50) A
- 51) C
- 52) C
- 53) A
- 54) B
- 55) A
- 56) C
- 57) C
- 58) A
- 59) D
- 60) B
- 61) D
- 62) A
- 63) B
- 64) B
- 65) B
- 66) C
- 67) D
- 68) B
- 69) D
- 70) C
- 71) C
- 72) D
- 73) D
- 74) A
- 75) B
- 76) C
- 77) A
- 78) D
- 79) B
- 80) A
- 81) D
- 82) D
- 83) A
- 84) A
- 85) D
- 86) D
- 87) B
- 88) B
- 89) D
- 90) A
- 91) B
- 92) C
- 93) D
- 94) A
- 95) C
- 96) C
- 97) B
- 98) B

Answer Key

Testname: CH 2 BIG REVIEW

- 99) B
- 100) D
- 101) D
- 102) A
- 103) A
- 104) B
- 105) D
- 106) C
- 107)
- 108)
- 109)
- 110)
- 111)
- 112)
- 113)
- 114)