

Test Bank

Chapter 1 Crime and Criminology

Multiple-Choice Questions

1) Criminologists:

- A) define and describe the many issues and problems raised by criminal activities and behaviors in society
- B) scientifically study the nature and extent of crime
- C) explain criminal behavior
- D) all of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 3 Type: MC Page Ref: 4

2) Criminology:

- A) is the scientific study of crime
- B) studies the nature and extent of crime
- C) explains the causes of crime
- D) all of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 3 Type: MC Page Ref: 4

3) Criminologists:

- A) rarely provide us with factual data on criminal behavior
- B) define and describe criminal behavior
- C) are interested only in societal responses to criminal behavior
- D) all of the above

Answer: B

Diff: 4 Type: MC Page Ref: 4

4) The theories criminologists develop to explain crime:

- A) contribute to the understanding of crime
- B) provide a framework within which people can examine current social policies and treatment proposals
- C) help us to understand the success or failure of treatments that have been established to prevent or alleviate crime
- D) all of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 6 Type: MC Page Ref: 6

5) In criminology, objectivity involves making observations and conclusions on the basis of:

- A) common sense and traditions
- B) personal values
- C) beliefs
- D) none of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 6 Type: MC Page Ref: 7

6) Precision:

- A) refers to the ability and willingness to study the subject matter of a given field without prejudice or bias
- B) specifies the time period during which research data will be gathered
- C) involves maintaining a high degree of accuracy in the collection and analysis of data
- D) none of the above

Answer: C

Diff: 6 Type: MC Page Ref: 9

7) The functionalist perspective:

- A) focuses on harmony and cooperation in society
- B) defines crime as a threat to the social order through the violation of society's laws
- C) stresses that value conflicts are at the basis of crime
- D) A and B of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 7 Type: MC Page Ref: 10

8) Conflict theorists:

- A) view society as a system of interrelationships between people and various social institutions
- B) consider competition to be the basic form of social interaction
- C) view crime as dysfunctional
- D) have linked substantive criminal law with crime and define criminal behavior as behavior that is in violation of the criminal law

Answer: B

Diff: 7 Type: MC Page Ref: 11

9) The interactionist perspective:

- A) focuses on society's organizations, institutions, and structure
- B) is a macrolevel perspective
- C) focuses on human behavior and social life from the standpoint of the individuals involved in day-to-day interactions
- D) none of the above

Answer: C

Diff: 6 Type: MC Page Ref: 11

10) Deviant behavior:

- A) is behavior that does not conform to the social norms of society
- B) is behavior that does not conform to the laws of society
- C) is behavior that meets the expectations of a group, community, or society as a whole
- D) none of the above

Answer: A

Diff: 8 Type: MC Page Ref: 12

11) In our society, formal control mechanisms include such things as:

- A) a system of written law, and legislative and judicial bodies
- B) various agencies of law enforcement
- C) the state as the final authority in society
- D) all of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 5 Type: MC Page Ref: 13

12) Conflict theorists believe:

- A) economic power determines what becomes law
- B) norms become laws because they reflect society's consciousness
- C) norms become laws through public mandate
- D) none of the above

Answer: A

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 11

13) Which of the following is false?

- A) Felonies are violations of serious laws.
- B) Misdemeanors are less serious offenses.
- C) Laws are informal norms.
- D) Laws are formal norms.

Answer: C

Diff: 3 Type: MC Page Ref: 14

14) Which of the following crimes is not termed a felony and does not involve substantial penalties?

- A) aggravated assault
- B) rape
- C) vagrancy
- D) arson

Answer: C

Diff: 3 Type: MC Page Ref: 14

15) A crime of public offense is an act committed, or in some cases omitted, in violation of a law forbidding or commanding it, and to which is annexed, upon conviction, either, or a combination of which of the following punishments:

- A) death; imprisonment
- B) fine; removal from office
- C) disqualification to hold or enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit
- D) all of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 8 Type: MC Page Ref: 15

16) *Mens rea*:

- A) defines criminal intent
- B) means guilty mind
- C) is criminal intent
- D) all of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 8 Type: MC Page Ref: 16

17) Crime

- A) is relative to time and place
- B) is normal, according to Durkheim
- C) exists in all societies
- D) all of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 7 Type: MC Page Ref: 17-20

18) *Mala en se*:

- A) is basically the same as *mala prohibita*
- B) are acts that are viewed as criminal because they are wrong, immoral, or evil in and of themselves
- C) refers to tort law
- D) refers to civil law

Answer: B

Diff: 6 Type: MC Page Ref: 17

19) Juvenile delinquency:

- A) refers to illegal acts committed by young people
- B) refers to legal acts committed by young people
- C) refers to illegal acts committed by young and old people
- D) refers only to "status offenses"

Answer: A

Diff: 3 Type: MC Page Ref: 18

20) Durkheim believed that:

- A) crime is normal
- B) crime actually helps to ensure the stability of society
- C) crime strengthens group solidarity
- D) all of the above

Answer: D

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 19

21) The process by which criminologist analyze crimes and criminal behavior:

- A) helps explain and establish criminal laws
- B) leads to a clearer understanding of the deminsions and scope of crime as a problem
- C) is based upon standards established by Emile Durkheim
- D) none of the above

Answer: B

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 4

22) Criminologist derived criminal theories:

- A) stress the importance of learning and the socialization process
- B) examine the “perceived” economic inequalities of criminal laws
- C) focus on the formal normatives of the criminal justice system
- D) address the causes of criminal behavior

Answer: D

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 5-6

23) Which of the following roles do criminologists not fulfill?

- A) sociopolitical critic
- B) program critic
- C) social critic
- D) normative critic

Answer: D

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 6

24) The scientific examination of the law involves:

- A) the ability and willingness to study the law with a high degree of accuracy
- B) detailed research combined with peer review and personal bias and preconceptions
- C) objectivity, factual data, precision, verification, and personal opinion
- D) all the above

Answer: A

Diff: 8 Type: MC Page Ref: 7

25) Which of the following is not an essential element of research design?

- A) precise definitions
- B) specified data sources
- C) repeatable data gathering methods
- D) in infinite period of time for the study

Answer: D

Diff: 7 Type: MC Page Ref: 8-9

26) The micro-level perspective focusing on the social life of individuals is known as:

- A) socialization
- B) conflict theory
- C) the interactionist perspective
- D) the consensus perspective

Answer: C

Diff: 7 Type: MC Page Ref: 11

27) The broad-scale interrelationship between social groups and social institutions is at the heart of the:

- A) Functionalist Perspective
- B) Conflict Perspective
- C) Conflict Theory
- D) Interactionist Perspective

Answer: A

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 10

28) Which of the following is not a means by which people learn the social norms of society?

- A) Criminal laws
- B) Group expectations
- C) Behavioral patterns of society
- D) Inbred attitudes and beliefs

Answer: D

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 13-14

29) Which of the following is not a formal control mechanism?

- A) a small town city counsel
- B) a community watch group
- C) the state
- D) a board of education

Answer: B

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 13-14

30) Which of the following is not essential to the commission of a crime?

- A) antisocial behavior
- B) a law making the act a crime
- C) relationship between the criminal intent and the criminal act
- D) unethical behavior

Answer: D

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 16

31) What is the main reason crime is relative?

- A) the age of the laws
- B) different social norms
- C) political make-up of the law making body
- D) the economic differences between the lawmakers and criminals

Answer: B

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 17

32) Which of the following is an example of a *mala prohibita* crime?

- A) a hungry person stealing a loaf of bread
- B) a poor fishing without a license
- C) a rich person driving while intoxicated
- D) an drug addict robbery a liquor store for drug money

Answer: B

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 17

33) Which of the following is not a difference between civil law and criminal law?

- A) who is protecting society's interests
- B) the punishment
- C) the underlying act
- D) none of the above

Answer: C

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 18

34) *Status offenses*:

- A) are criminal offenses the government deems to be criminal just because it can do so
- B) apply specifically to youths
- C) are used to enhance criminal penalties
- D) are traditionally associated with sex crimes such as rape, sodomy, and sexual assault

Answer: B

Diff: 8 Type: MC Page Ref: 18

35) To Durkheim, crime is:

- A) an abnormal phenomenon of societies
- B) a destabilitating force upon society
- C) natural and inevitable
- D) neither normal or abnormal, it just is

Answer: C

Diff: 9 Type: MC Page Ref: 18-19

True/False Questions

36) Criminologists, in addition to defining and identifying crime, measure the extent of crime in society.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 5

37) Criminology is the scientific study of crime, criminals, and criminal behavior.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 2 Type: TF Page Ref: 4

38) Criminologists study the behavior of animals other than humans in order to scientifically study crime.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 2 Type: TF Page Ref: 4-5

39) Explanations that account for the causes, variations, and extent of crime, are not as complex as people and society.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 6 Type: TF Page Ref: 4-5

40) A theory is a general statement, or set of general statements, that attempt to explain observations, experiences, and research findings.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 5

41) Criminological theories rarely provide a framework within which people can examine current social policies and treatment proposals.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 6

42) The criminologist's role is limited to identifying the crime problem and listing various facts and figures.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 6

43) Criminologists and the discipline of criminology attempt to explore the many conditions and causes of crime.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 2 Type: TF Page Ref: 5

44) Criminology attempts to use the scientific method in its investigations of crime and criminal behavior.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 2 Type: TF Page Ref: 7

45) The criminologist always plays the role of sociopolitical critic and policy advocate or evaluator of anticrime measures and criminal treatment programs.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 4 Type: TF Page Ref: 6

46) While in the role of social critic, the criminologist may propose social, economic, and legal reform measures to reduce crime.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 4 Type: TF Page Ref: 6

47) Objectivity refers to the ability and willingness to study the subject of a given field - such as criminology- with out prejudice or bias.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 2 Type: TF Page Ref: 7

48) Objectivity can be fully achieved in any science.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 6 Type: TF Page Ref: 7

49) A characteristic of the scientific approach is the fact scientific method demands precision in its operation.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 9

50) In criminological research, the research design precisely defines the specific kinds of data to be collected, but not the sources to be used in gathering these data.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 6 Type: TF Page Ref: 9

51) In conducting research, the final element of the scientific approach that criminologists use is that of critical appraisal and verification of the research by competent peers.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 4 Type: TF Page Ref: 9

52) The functionalist perspective stresses social factors that reinforce harmony and cooperation in society.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 4 Type: TF Page Ref: 10

53) In the conflict perspective, society is viewed as a system of interdependent parts or units, each of which plays an important role in helping to maintain the total system.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 6 Type: TF Page Ref: 11

54) According to consensus or functionalist theorists, competition is considered to be the basic form of social interaction.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 4 Type: TF Page Ref: 10

55) Consensus theorists define criminal behavior as any behavior that is in violation of the criminal law.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 10

56) The conflict perspective rejects the notion that laws serve to benefit and protect everyone in society.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 6 Type: TF Page Ref: 10-11

57) From a criminological perspective, crime represents a major form of deviant behavior.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 13

58) Conflict criminologists believe that social norms become laws because they reflect society's traditions, customs, morals, and ethics, and form a general agreement about appropriate behavior or the social consciousness of the society.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 7 Type: TF Page Ref: 11

59) From the interactionist perspective, criminal behavior is a product of social learning.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 11-12

60) The interactionist perspective is a microlevel approach that focuses on interacting individuals.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 4 Type: TF Page Ref: 11-12

61) Socialization refers to the behavior that complies with the norms of a community or society.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 13

62) Conformity to laws is strictly a result of internal mechanisms of social control.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 4 Type: TF Page Ref: 13

63) According to consensus theory, economic power determines what becomes law.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 14

64) According to consensus theory, norms become laws because they reflect society's social consciousness.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 14

65) Laws are informal social norms.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 2 Type: TF Page Ref: 13

66) Felonies are violations of serious laws.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 14

67) Misdemeanors are less serious offenses such as vagrancy and petty theft.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 14

68) Without criminal intent, or in some cases negligence, an act is not a crime.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 16

69) *Mens rea* literally means "guilty mind."

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 16

70) The criminal law recognizes that there are various situations in which criminal intent is absent. These are termed “defenses to crime.”

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 17

71) Crime is relative to place and time.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 3 Type: TF Page Ref: 17

72) *Mala in se* crimes are acts considered criminal not because they are inherently evil, but because the law says they are.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 7 Type: TF Page Ref: 17

73) Civil or tort law deals with criminal offenses that are handled by civil rather than criminal courts.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 6 Type: TF Page Ref: 18

74) The criminal courts do not defend the interests of society, but rather merely function as arbitrators between particular individuals.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 18

75) A criminal court can impose punishment only on behalf of the state.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 4 Type: TF Page Ref: 18

76) Juvenile delinquency refers to legal acts committed by young people.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 18

77) For Durkheim, crime proceeds from the very nature of humanity itself, and is abnormal.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 18-19

78) According to Durkheim, crime is the natural and inevitable product of collective life and social evolution.

Answer: TRUE

Diff: 5 Type: TF Page Ref: 18-19

79) For Durkheim, there are several societies that are not confronted with the problem of criminality.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 7 Type: TF Page Ref: 24

80) For Durkheim, it is not necessary to have crime in society.

Answer: FALSE

Diff: 7 Type: TF Page Ref: 18-19

Short Answer Questions

81) _____ is the scientific study of crime, criminals, and criminal behavior.

Answer: Criminology

Diff: 3 Type: SA Page Ref: 4

82) Criminologists clearly recognize that _____ are important for the development of political and social policies, and treatment programs for dealing with criminals and their victims.

Answer: theories

Diff: 4 Type: SA Page Ref: 5

83) Criminologists insist that any research that they do must be based upon _____ data.

Answer: factual

Diff: 6 Type: SA Page Ref: 7

84) In order to ensure precision, the criminologist is required to develop a research _____ prior to the investigation of a particular criminological question or problem.

Answer: design

Diff: 7 Type: SA Page Ref: 9

85) According to consensus theorists, _____ are perceived as acts which violate the accepted legal code of the jurisdiction within which they occur.

Answer: crimes

Diff: 5 Type: SA Page Ref: 10

86) _____ theory focuses on issues such as who makes rules and laws, who decides who is criminal, and which groups benefit or suffer by these decisions.

Answer: Conflict

Diff: 7 Type: SA Page Ref: 10-11

87) The _____ perspective emphasizes how criminals are socialized into the criminal world through their interactions with criminals.

Answer: symbolic interactionist

Diff: 8 Type: SA Page Ref: 11-12

88) For criminologists, _____ behavior is behavior that does not conform to the cultural norms of society.

Answer: deviant

Diff: 3 Type: SA Page Ref: 12

89) The _____ possesses a monopoly over the use of coercion for the purpose of maintaining order and stability in society.

Answer: state

Diff: 4 Type: SA Page Ref: 13-14

90) _____ criminologists stress the idea that our legal system serves the interests of the upper classes and not society as a whole.

Answer: Conflict

Diff: 8 Type: SA Page Ref: 11

91) _____, or tort law, deals with offenses that are handled by civil rather than criminal courts.

Answer: Civil

Diff: 6 Type: SA Page Ref: 18

92) From the legal perspective, _____ pertains to all acts that, if committed by adults, would be considered crimes.

Answer: juvenile delinquency

Diff: 3 Type: SA Page Ref: 18

93) For _____, there is no society that is not confronted with the problem of criminality.

Answer: Durkheim

Diff: 6 Type: SA Page Ref: 18-19

94) According to Durkheim, crime is _____.

Answer: normal

Diff: 6 Type: SA Page Ref: 18-19

95) Durkheim believed that rather than disrupting society, _____ actually serves to strengthen group solidarity by uniting people in disapproval against the deviant.

Answer: crime

Diff: 6 Type: SA Page Ref: 19