1.1 What is Sociology? Sociology is the study of groups and group interactions, ________ and social interactions from small and personal groups to very large groups.

What are Society and Culture? A group of people who live in a defined geographic area, who __________ with one another, and who share a common culture is what sociologists call a society.

Sociologists working from the micro-level study ________ groups and individual interactions, while those using macro-level analysis look at trends among and between large groups and societies. The term culture refers to the group’s shared practices, __________, and beliefs. Sociologists often study culture using the sociological imagination, which pioneer sociologist C. Wright Mills described as a way of seeing our own and other people’s __________ in relationship to history and social structure. How would you use the sociological imagination in looking at how people at ________ decide when and who to marry?

Studying Patterns: How Sociologist View Society

Are you different from your parents? How about your grand or great-grand parents? Society is constantly ________ and right now is no different! To a sociologist, the personal ________ an individual makes do not exist in a vacuum. Cultural patterns and social forces put pressure on people to ________ one choice over another. How has same and opposite ________ cohabitation changed American families, what about divorce and remarriage trends? Single parenthood?

Some sociologists study ________, which are the laws, morals, values, religious beliefs, customs, fashions, rituals, and all of the cultural rules that govern social life. Other sociologists are studying the consequences of ________ patterns in family life and other areas of society. Is our society becoming better or worse? Is the ________ a better place or not?

Studying Part and Whole: How Sociologists View Social Structures

A key basis of the sociological perspective is the concept that the ________ and society are inseparable. It is impossible to study one without the other. An example is how does society influence how a person practices her or his ________. What about race or nationality? Would you live differently if you were living in Germany or China? How would the society around you influence your expression of your ________?

1.2 The History of Sociology

Since ________ times, people have been fascinated by the relationship between individuals and the societies to which they belong. They studied conflict, economics, social ________, and like subjects. A couple of names are Ma Than-Lin, a Chinese historian in the 1200’s and Ibn Khaldun of Tunisia in the late 1300’s. The Persians were more advanced than any cultures of that time. In the Age of Enlightenment (_______’s) people like John Locke, Voltaire, Immanuel Kant, Thomas Hobbs and Mary Wollstonecraft looked at social reform.

Creating a Discipline

Auguste Comte (1798–1857). The term sociology was first coined by the ________ essayist Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyes in an unpublished manuscript. In 1838, the term was reinvented by Auguste Comte and he is considered the “_________ of modern Sociology.” Comte believed that social scientists could study society using the same scientific ________ utilized in natural sciences. Comte called his philosophy of social patterns positivism. Society could become better and better as social ________ are learned and adhered to.

Harriet Martineau (1802–1876) was the first to translate Comte’s writing from ________ to English and so introduced sociology to English speaking scholars. She is also credited with the first systematic international comparisons of social institutions in her most famous sociological work: Society in ________ (1837). Martineau was often discounted in her own time by the male domination of academic sociology.

Karl Marx (1818–1883) was a ________ philosopher and economist. In 1848 he and Friedrich Engels (1820–1895) coauthored the Communist Manifesto. Marx ________ Comte’s positivism. At the time he was developing his theories; the Industrial Revolution and the rise of capitalism led to great disparities in ________ between the owners of the factories and workers. Marx’s idea that social conflict leads to ________ in society is still one of the major theories used in modern sociology.
Max Weber (1864–1920)
Prominent sociologist Max Weber ________ on many topics related to sociology. He is known best for his 1904 book, *The Protestant ________ and the Spirit of Capitalism*. Weber believed that it was difficult, if not impossible, to use standard scientific methods to accurately __________ the behavior of groups as people had hoped to do. He argued that the influence of __________ on human behavior had to be taken into account. This even applied to the researchers themselves, who, they believed, should be aware of how their own cultural __________ could influence their research. To deal with this problem, Weber and Dilthey introduced the concept of __________, a German word that means to understand in a deep way. In seeking verstehen, outside observers of a social setting, large or small, attempt to understand it from an insider’s point of __________.

Émile Durkheim (1858–1917)
Durkheim helped establish sociology as a __________ academic discipline by establishing the first European department of sociology at the University of Bordeaux in 1895 and by publishing his *Rules of the Sociological ________* in 1895. Durkheim believed that sociologists could study objective “social facts”. He also believed that through such studies it would be possible to __________ if a society was “healthy” or “pathological.” Durkheim applied social research to the influence of religion on __________ in a macro-level study looking at thousands of cases.

George Herbert Mead (1863–1931)
George Herbert Mead was a philosopher and sociologist whose ________ focused on the ways in which the mind and the self were developed as a result of social processes. He argued that how an individual comes to __________ himself or herself is based to a very large extent on interactions with others. Mead’s work is closely associated with the symbolic interactionist approach and emphasizes the ________ of analysis.

1.3 Theoretical Perspectives – a perspective is a way of viewing society
Do we need different perspectives? Durkheim’s study of suicide looked at ________ solidarity in a society and hypothesized that differences in suicide rates might be explained by religion-based differences. Macro-level ________ relate to large-scale issues and large groups of people, while micro-level theories look at very specific relationships between individuals or ________ groups.

**Functionalism** also called structural-functional_______, sees society as a structure with interrelated parts designed to meet the biological and social ________ of the individual in that society. Durkheim believed that society is a complex system of interrelated and interdependent parts that work together to maintain ________ (Durkheim 1893), and that society is held together by shared ________ languages, and symbols. Durkheim believed that individuals may make up society, but in order to ________ society, sociologists have to look beyond individuals to social facts. Social facts are the laws, ________ values, religious beliefs, customs, fashions, rituals, and all of the cultural ________ that govern social life.

Another functionalist, Robert Merton (1910–2003), pointed out that social processes often have many functions. Manifest functions are the __________ of a social process that are sought or anticipated, while latent functions are the unsought consequences of a social process. Dysfunctions are the ________ consequences. What are the Manifest, latent and dysfunctions of education? Criticisms of the functional perspective: Accepts the status quo, doesn’t adequately explain why social ________ occurs.

**Conflict Theory** looks at society as a __________ for limited resources. This perspective is a macro-level approach. Karl Marx is usually seen as the originator. Max Weber and Georg Simmel are also conflict theorists who grew ________ from Marx’s approach. Critical theory is another expansion of conflict theory and is ________ than just sociology, including other social sciences and philosophy. A critical theory attempts to address structural issues causing inequality; it must ________ what’s wrong, identify the people who can make changes, and provide ________ for changes. An example is critical race theory.

Criticisms of Conflict theory: Just as structural functionalism was criticized for focusing too much on the ________ of societies, conflict theory has been criticized because it tends to focus on conflict to the exclusion of recognizing stability.

**Symbolic Interactionist Theory** is a __________ theory that focuses on the relationships among individuals within a society. George Herbert Mead (1863–1931) is considered a founder of symbolic interactionism though he ________ published his work on it. This perspective examines what
a society uses, their meanings, and how do they _______ those symbols to interact. What does the word “peace” mean? What is the meaning seen in the symbol of a police car? What does a _______ mean to a Christian—does it mean the same to all Christians?

**Constructivism** is an extension of symbolic interaction theory which proposes that _______ is what humans think it to be. We develop social constructs based on __________ with others. **Criticism of Interactionism:** Research done from this perspective is often scrutinized for _____________. Also, it is sometimes seen as too psychological in its nature.

### 1.4 Why Study Sociology?
Sociology can be ____________ because it teaches people ways to recognize how they fit into the world and how others perceive them. It can also help _____________ society!

In the landmark ___________ vs. the *Board of Education* case, the U.S. Supreme Court had overturned twenty-one state laws that allowed blacks and whites to be taught in separate school systems as long as the school systems were “___________. One of the major factors influencing that decision was ____________ conducted by the husband-and-wife team of sociologists, Kenneth and Mamie Clark. Their research showed that segregation was ____________ to young black schoolchildren, and the Court found that harm to be unconstitutional. Since it was first founded, many people interested in sociology have been _______ by the scholarly desire to contribute knowledge to this field, while others have seen it as a way not only to study society but also to __________ it. Besides desegregation, sociology has played a crucial role in many important social reforms, such as equal opportunity for ____________ in the workplace, improved treatment for individuals with __________ handicaps or learning disabilities, increased accessibility and accommodation for people with __________ handicaps, the right of native populations to preserve their land and culture, and __________ system reforms.

### Sociology in the Workplace
Employers continue to seek people with what are called “transferable ________.” This means that they want to hire people whose knowledge and education can be __________ in a variety of settings and whose skills will contribute to various tasks. Studying sociology can provide people with this ________ knowledge and a skill set that can contribute to many workplaces, including:

- an understanding of social systems and _______ bureaucracies;
- the ability to devise and carry out research projects to assess whether a _________ or policy is working;
- the ability to collect, read, and analyze statistical information from polls or surveys;
- the ability to recognize important ____________ in people’s social, cultural, and economic backgrounds;
- skills in preparing ____________ and communicating complex ideas; and
- the capacity for ____________ thinking about social issues and problems that confront modern society.