

実践英語 前期試験

① Having evolved from the work of the great pioneers in the field – Auguste Comte, Emile Durkheim, Max Weber and Karl Marx – sociology today is extremely wide in scope, encompassing analysis of everything from casual social encounters between two people to the social causes and implications of crime and divorce, to globalization and cross-cultural misunderstanding and conflict.

② Sociology looks at society in all its aspects, most fundamentally perhaps in social structure, the preexisting patterns of social reality that strongly influence personal behavior and relationships. Sociologists also investigate social class, an individual's relative position within the overall social structure, as well as the dynamics of social groups and social interaction. Vital to the sociologist is the ability to develop what the American social theorist C. Wright Mills called the “sociological imagination.” This is the capacity to overcome narrow personal circumstances and beliefs and to cultivate a way of seeing the world in a new and broader light.

③ Sociology today is particularly concerned with probing into the ins and outs of social institutions, and is divided into a wide array of sub-studies devoted to discovering how each – the family, the economy, schools and education, politics and government, and religion – is organized and functions, and how it affects an individual's life and behavior.

④ Of these, religion poses a unique challenge to the sociological imagination. It demands that the social scientist put on hold his or her own religious beliefs – or non-beliefs – and look at the institution of religion dispassionately and with great sensitivity to the needs and feelings of believers. To the sociologist, then, religion is necessarily defined as nothing more than a cultural system comprising the shared beliefs, values, and norms of a particular group of people that provides them with a sense of purpose and meaning – a system of belief that answers fundamental questions and allays fundamental fears about life and death by creating a vision of existence that is sacred, ritualistic, and, above all, supernatural.

⑤ Sociologists, then, are not concerned with whether a particular religious belief is true or false or a religious practice good or bad. 1. They ask questions like how a religious group or cult is organized and what its most salient features and principal beliefs are. 2. They want to find out how it actually functions and manages to survive. 3. Sociology also aims to discover what a religion's main attractions are and what methods it uses to recruit adherents – even how it raises money. 4.

⑥ Social scientists also want to find out how a religious group is related to and influences the society of which it forms a sub-group. Sociology asks why, at times, religious beliefs can contribute to social harmony and how, at other times, they can give rise to social conflict and sectarian violence. And instead of looking at personal religious phenomena such as spontaneous conversion, mysticism, and saintly behavior from a purely psychological point of view, as did the psychologist/philosopher William James in his classic *The Varieties of Religious Experience*, sociology seeks worldly explanations for such experiences, focusing on factors in the social structure that give rise to them.

1 As you listen to the dialogue, complete these sentences.

1. Mr. James defines sociology as -----.
(A) the scientific study of human social life
(B) making up theories
(C) factual evidence
(D) social behavior
2. According to Ms. Dawson, sociology is -----.
(A) around 150 years old
(B) not as young as many of the social sciences
(C) the middle of the 19th century
(D) not really a separate discipline
3. The noun manifestations as used by Ms. Dawson is closest in meaning to -----.
(A) indications
(B) examinations
(C) principle
(D) politics
4. All of the following are true about Emile Durkheim EXCEPT -----.
(A) he was a French philosopher
(B) he got sociologists to see themselves as real scientists
(C) he encouraged sociologists to see society as it really is
(D) he was the first to use empirical evidence in the study of social life
5. Mr. Visquel says that Karl Marx -----.
(A) saw social change as being the result of economic factors
(B) devised the concept of "ideal types" for sociologists to use as models for study
(C) was an economist, not a sociologist
(D) was more interested in social harmony than social evolution

2 Complete these sentences or answer the questions with the correct choices.

1. In paragraph 2, the author defines social structure as
(A) a fundamental necessity for sociologists
(B) being deeply influenced by an individual's behavior
(C) the underlying patterns of social life
(D) the broad scope of sociology

2. In paragraph 4, the author probably feels that the most important point about the vision of life and death offered by particular religions or religious cults is that
- (A) it makes its members look down on the members of other religious groups
 - (B) its rituals are social not cultural in origin
 - (C) it includes the idea of a supernatural being
 - (D) believers actually accept the vision as true
3. In paragraphs 5 and 6, all of the following are mentioned as being concerns of sociology in regard to religion EXCEPT
- (A) how religious groups are structured
 - (B) how religions attract new members
 - (C) why some people are religious and some aren't
 - (D) what a religious group's basic ideas are
4. From paragraph 6, it can be concluded that
- (A) sociologists abhor violence of all kinds
 - (B) the author thinks William James' analysis of religion is inferior to the way sociology sees it
 - (C) sociologists believe that certain social customs and circumstances can cause so-called otherworldly experiences
 - (D) mysticism and saintly behavior are purely imaginary phenomena
5. The underlined noun implications in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to
- (A) increases
 - (B) reasons
 - (C) consequences
 - (D) facts
6. Which sentence below best expresses the essential information in the underlined sentence in paragraph 2?
- (A) Social class tells where a person stands in society in relation to other members of that society.
 - (B) Sociology is interested in how the members of social groups communicate with each other.
 - (C) Sociology wants to do away with social class by proving that it ruins interpersonal relationships.
 - (D) Sociology also studies how and where people fit into society, how social groups work, and how people communicate and get along.
7. The underlined word each in paragraph 3 refers to
- (A) ins and outs
 - (B) particular sub-study
 - (C) individual
 - (D) social institution

8. The underlined adverb dispassionately in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to
- (A) in a very special way
 - (B) without any feeling
 - (C) without fear of being criticized
 - (D) without bias or prejudice
9. The underlined verb allays in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to
- (A) emphasizes
 - (B) explains
 - (C) elaborate
 - (D) eases

Follow the instructions below.

10. In paragraph 4, the author uses the underlined word necessarily to
- (A) imply that all sociologists must accept the definition of religion that the discipline gives them
 - (B) link the standard definition with the needs of true believers
 - (C) emphasize how essential an institution religion is to society
 - (D) emphasize that sociologists should confine themselves to examining what religion means to believers, not what it means to them
11. The author mentions C. Wright Mills in paragraph 2 in order to
- (A) show that sociology is not only a European field of study
 - (B) introduce the idea that sociologists must look at the world and reality objectively
 - (C) emphasize that sociology encompasses a broad range of aims and interests
 - (D) offer readers an example of a sociologist who exemplifies the “sociological imagination”
12. Look at the four numbers where the following sentence could be added to paragraph 5.
- Sociologists examine religion from its human and not its divine or transcendental aspects.**

Where would the sentence best fit? (1) (2) (3) (4)

3 Choose the best word or phrase.

1. Until recently, ----- the population still viewed his political leadership as preferable.
(A) nearly half (B) almost majority (C) nearly 50% (D) mostly a half
 2. ----- a star's color, which indicated its temperature, computer models of energy production can predict the star's life span.
(A) With giving (B) Given (C) Giving (D) To give
 3. When the anesthetic begins to -----, take two of these painkillers.
(A) leave off (B) come off (C) wear off (D) go off
 4. While lying ill in bed, my mother told me that she didn't want to go into a nursing home, and also that she didn't want to be put on a breathing -----.
(A) machinery (B) tool (C) equipments (D) apparatus
 5. We would appreciate a ----- response from the president of your company at the earliest convenience.
(A) prompt (B) close (C) very (D) speaking
 6. a binding agreement between two or more persons that is enforceable by law
 7. a dispute where there is strong disagreement
 8. a draft of a law presented to a legislature for enactment
 9. a formal (often written) request for something, such as a job
 10. a qualified accountant who inspects a person's or organization's accounting records
 11. an associate of co-worker
 12. in the middle of or during something
 13. relating to the running of a business, organization, etc
 14. to recognize the full worth of
 15. very important or crucial
- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| (あ) administrative | (か) bill |
| (い) amid | (き) colleague |
| (う) application | (く) contract |
| (え) appreciate | (け) controversy |
| (お) auditor | (こ) critical |

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