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Total No. of printed pages = 03

Monsoon, 2023
MA Semester Examinations
SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY I
Course Code: MSO23500T

Full Marks – 50

Time – 2 hours

The figure in the margin indicates full marks for the questions.

Answer ALL questions
(10 x 1 mark = 10 marks)

1. i. Who among the following is known for coining the term ‘social fact’ and emphasizing the importance of social solidarity in maintaining society?
A) Karl Marx
B) Émile Durkheim
C) Max Weber
D) Herbert Spencer

- ii. Who introduced the concept of ‘cultural capital’ as a form of social currency that influences an individual's success in society?
A) Pierre Bourdieu
B) Herbert Spencer
C) Émile Durkheim
D) Karl Marx

- iii. Which sociologist authored the book ‘The Rules of Sociological Method’?
A) Max Weber
B) Émile Durkheim
C) Herbert Spencer
D) Robert K. Merton

- iv. According to functionalism, social institutions:
A) Encourage social conflict
B) Maintain social order and stability
C) Promote individualism over collective values
D) Lead to cultural relativism

- v. Weber's typology of authority includes:
- A) Traditional, charismatic, and bureaucratic authority
 - B) Monarchic, oligarchic, and democratic authority
 - C) Patriarchal, matriarchal, and egalitarian authority
 - D) Authoritarian, totalitarian, and democratic authority
- vi. Bourdieu's concept of 'habitus' refers to:
- A) An individual's ingrained habits and dispositions shaped by social experiences
 - B) Social hierarchies determined by economic factors
 - C) The rejection of societal norms and values
 - D) The fixed nature of social classes, unchangeable over time
- vii. Weber's typology of authority includes:
- A) Traditional, charismatic, and bureaucratic authority
 - B) Monarchic, oligarchic, and democratic authority
 - C) Patriarchal, matriarchal, and egalitarian authority
 - D) Authoritarian, totalitarian, and democratic authority
- viii. Lévi-Strauss is best known for his contributions to:
- A) Structural Functionalism in sociology
 - B) Symbolic Interactionism in anthropology
 - C) Structuralism in social anthropology
 - D) Postmodernism in cultural studies
- ix. Who developed the concept of reference groups in sociology?
- A) Georg Simmel
 - B) Erving Goffman
 - C) Robert K. Merton
 - D) Karl Mannheim
- x. Which of the following books is attributed to A.R. Radcliffe-Brown?
- A) The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism
 - B) The Elementary Forms of Religious Life
 - C) Structure and Function in Primitive Society
 - D) The Division of Labour in Society

Answer ANY TWO questions
(2 x 5 marks = 10 marks)
(Word limit- 200 – 250 words)

2. Explain A. R. Radcliffe-Brown's structural-functional approach to studying societies.

3. Discuss Talcott Parsons' concept of pattern variables.
4. Assess Pierre Bourdieu's theory of capital and discuss its types.
5. Briefly explain the idea of bureaucracy given by Max Weber.

Answer ANY THREE questions
(3 x 10 marks = 30 marks)
(Word limit- 450 - 500 words)

6. Discuss Auguste Comte's contributions to the development of sociology. How did his ideas lay the foundation for the discipline?
7. Define and illustrate Robert K. Merton's 'strain theory' in the context of deviance.
8. Analyze the key elements of Emile Durkheim's study on suicide.
9. Critically examine Karl Marx's theory of class conflict.
10. Discuss Herbert Spencer's perspective on social evolution and its impact on sociological thought.