

**SOC 347**  
**FINAL EXAM**

1. Which concept refers to earnings from work or any investments?
  - a. income
  - b. personal property
  - c. wealth
  - d. power
  
2. The total amount of financial assets, minus any debts, is referred to as
  - a. income.
  - b. personal property.
  - c. wealth.
  - d. power.
  
3. Based on what you know about occupational prestige, you would assume that
  - a. most of the highest-ranked occupations in the United States are dominated by women.
  - b. occupational rankings are similar in all high-income nations.
  - c. white-collar work and blue-collar work have about the same social prestige.
  - d. in the United States, occupation has little to do with social standing.
  
4. About what share of U. S. adults over the age of twenty-five are college graduates?
  - a. 10 percent
  - b. 30 percent
  - c. 45 percent
  - d. 70 percent
  
5. Social position in the United States is affected by a person's
  - a. family, race, and gender.
  - b. race only.
  - c. gender only.
  - d. family only.
  
6. Being in the upper-upper class is usually the result of \_\_\_\_; being in the lower-upper class is more a matter of \_\_\_\_.
  - a. birth; achievement
  - b. business success; birth
  - c. gender; birth
  - d. high-income; low-income
  
7. The least amount of racial and ethnic diversity can be found in
  - a. the upper-upper class.
  - b. the middle class.
  - c. the working class.
  - d. the poor.
  
8. In general, people of low social class position
  - a. live in less safe and more stressful environments.
  - b. are likely to describe their own health as "excellent."
  - c. live as long as people of higher class positions.

- d. live longer than people of higher class positions.
9. The concept “conspicuous consumption” refers to
- a. buying things that are popular with the most people.
  - b. buying more than what you need for the moment.
  - c. the practice of buying things to make a statement about one’s social position.
  - d. acting as if one had a lower social position than is really the case.
10. People of low social position are more liberal on \_\_\_\_\_ issues and more conservative on \_\_\_\_\_ issues.
- a. social; economic
  - b. economic; social
  - c. very few; almost all
  - d. almost all; almost no
11. In the United States, people of \_\_\_\_\_ are most likely to vote.
- a. low social position
  - b. high social position
  - c. average social position
  - d. Social position has nothing to do with how likely people are to vote.
12. The concept of “intergenerational social mobility” refers to change in social position
- a. over a person’s lifetime.
  - b. when moving from one type of job to another.
  - c. in a downward direction.
  - d. when comparing children to their parents.
13. Which concept refers to change in social position during a person’s lifetime?
- a. intragenerational social mobility
  - b. intergenerational social mobility
  - c. structural social mobility
  - d. horizontal social mobility
14. During the last three decades, the real income of African American families in the United States has
- a. gone down a lot.
  - b. kept pace with the gains made by white people.
  - c. gone up a lot.
  - d. changed very little.
15. According to Lisa Keister’s research,
- a. social mobility has never existed in the United States.
  - b. social mobility is the same for people at all levels of the wealth hierarchy.
  - c. social mobility is lowest for people in the middle of the wealth hierarchy.
  - d. social mobility is lowest for people at the top and the bottom of the wealth hierarchy.
16. Which factor tends to raise your social standing?
- a. divorce
  - b. leaving school to get a job
  - c. marrying and stay married

- d. having children
17. In the United States, which age category has the highest poverty rate?
- a. children under the age of eighteen
  - b. people in their thirties
  - c. middle-aged persons about forty years of age
  - d. seniors over sixty five years of age
18. In terms of absolute numbers, most poor people in the United States are
- a. African American.
  - b. Asian American.
  - c. Hispanic.
  - d. non-Hispanic whites.
19. The concept “feminization of poverty” refers to the fact that, in the United States
- a. more and more women are becoming poor.
  - b. today’s women have fewer legal rights.
  - c. women make up an increasing percentage of the poor.
  - d. fewer women now work for income.
20. In the United States, an increasing percentage of the poor are
- a. single women and their children.
  - b. married couples with children.
  - c. single men.
  - d. people working two jobs.
21. The highest rate of poverty in the United States is in
- a. rural areas.
  - b. central cities.
  - c. suburbs.
  - d. coastal cities
22. People who supported the 1996 welfare reform claim that the earlier system
- a. encouraged welfare dependency.
  - b. encouraged women to marry.
  - c. discouraged women to have children.
  - d. did not do enough to help the poor.
23. Critics of the 1996 welfare reforms claim the new system
- a. has done little to reduce poverty in the United States.
  - b. has strengthened families in the United States.
  - c. encourages welfare dependency.
  - d. encourages unmarried women to have children
24. The anthropologist Oscar Lewis suggested the cause of poverty lies in
- a. a lower-class culture of poverty.
  - b. lack of government action.
  - c. too few available jobs.
  - d. bad public schools.

25. Sociologist William Julius Wilson suggests the cause of poverty lies in
- a lower-class culture of poverty.
  - lack of government action.
  - too few available jobs.
  - bad public schools.
26. Relative poverty
- is found everywhere.
  - is life threatening.
  - is not found in the United States.
  - is only a problem for minority groups.
27. During the last twenty years, which category of the U.S. population has experienced the largest gains in average income?
- the lowest-paid 20 percent
  - the middle 20 percent
  - the highest-paid 20 percent
  - All income categories have experienced about the same level of upward social mobility.
28. Those most likely to be liberal on social issues (say, by supporting feminism) are
- rich, highly-educated people.
  - average, middle-class people.
  - less-educated working-class people.
  - average lower-class people.
29. According to Karl Marx, which class forms the core of the industrial proletariat?
- the upper-middle class
  - the middle class
  - the upper class
  - the working class
30. The highest concentration of high-income people is found
- in small towns of the Midwest.
  - near large metropolitan areas, especially on the East and West Coasts.
  - in the Southwest.
  - in the deep South.
31. Working class people might also be described as \_\_\_\_\_.
- lower-middle class
  - lower-upper class
  - lower-class
  - upper-middle class
32. A good example of a person in her society's upper-upper class is
- Nicole Polizzi (Snooki on *Jersey Shore*).
  - Elizabeth II, the queen of England.
  - anyone who is part of the "working rich."
  - Oprah Winfrey.
33. Roughly 40 to 45 percent of the U.S. population falls within the

- a. upper class.
  - b. middle class.
  - c. lower class.
  - d. poor.
34. The family of actor Will Smith and actress Jada Pinkett Smith would best be described as
- a. working class.
  - b. middle class.
  - c. "old money."
  - d. lower-upper class.
35. If you followed the lead of Max Weber, you would think of social stratification in terms of
- a. a multidimensional status hierarchy.
  - b. two major social classes.
  - c. a middle-class society.
  - d. six different social classes
36. If you were looking for data supporting the claim that U.S. society is very stratified, you would make the strongest case by pointing to which of the following factors?
- a. occupational prestige
  - b. education
  - c. income
  - d. wealth
37. Since the United States lacks a history of nobility, as in Europe, many people in this country think of it as
- a. highly stratified.
  - b. mostly upper-class.
  - c. mostly working-class.
  - d. mostly middle-class.