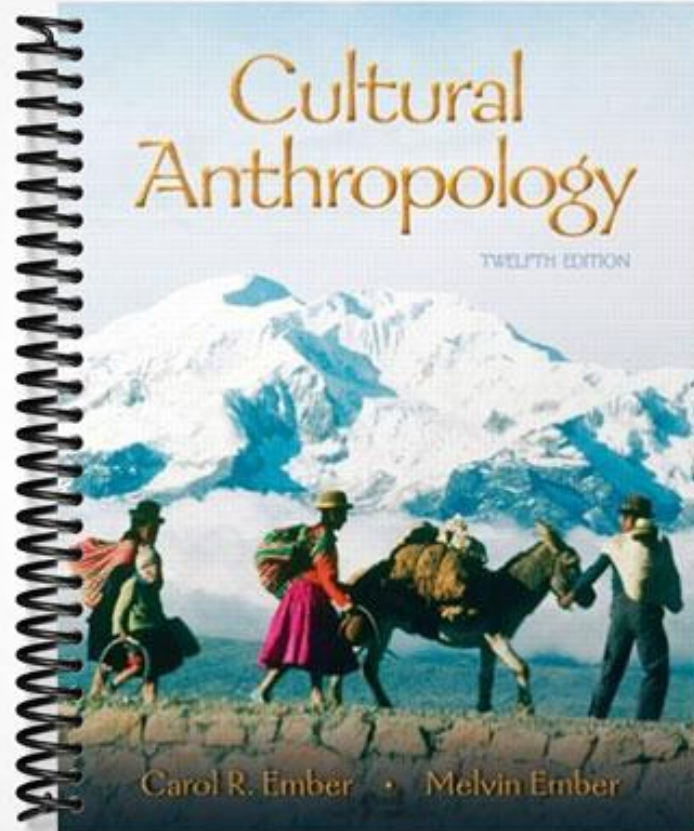


TEST BANK



CHAPTER 2: The Concept of Culture

Multiple Choice Questions

1. The anthropological attitude that a society's customs and ideas should be described objectively and understood in the context of that society's problems and opportunities is called
 - a. ethnocentrism.
 - b. cultural relativism.
 - c. humanistic.
 - d. empathetic.
2. Why would any !Kung individual of the Kalahari Desert give away all of the animals they kill every day?
 - a. they are really nice people who care for each other
 - b. they have learned the true meaning of life
 - c. to keep the meat to one's self would be wasteful, as it would rot
 - d. spiritual beings show them the true way to live in communal harmony
3. A group within a society that holds commonly shared customs is a
 - a. subculture.
 - b. sodality.
 - c. sub society.
 - d. subgroup.
4. Anthropologists, as well as other social scientists, feel that culture is
 - a. inherited.
 - b. learned and shared.
 - c. transmitted only from one group to another.
 - d. only a small part of how people learn their behaviors.
5. The most powerful transmitter of culture is probably
 - a. parents.
 - b. the elders of a society.
 - c. the school system.
 - d. language.
6. Because a word or phrase can represent what it stands for, whether or not that thing is present, we say that language is
 - a. interpretive.
 - b. adaptive.
 - c. symbolic.
 - d. naturalistic.
7. Variations in individual behavior are confined within _____ acceptable limits.
 - a. legally
 - b. a group's
 - c. socially
 - d. normally

8. A _____ is a group of people who occupy a particular territory and speak a common language.
- family
 - culture
 - society
 - subculture
9. Standards or rules about what is acceptable behavior are referred to by social scientists as
- major rules.
 - laws.
 - mores.
 - norms.
10. In discovering cultural patterns it is sometimes necessary to conduct surveys. What sampling technique is necessary to guarantee a representative sample?
- population sampling
 - redundant sampling
 - random sampling
 - marginal sampling
11. Why are maladaptive customs likely to disappear from a society?
- no one likes them
 - they diminish the chances of survival and reproduction
 - they are immediately destructive of the group
 - they are too unique for the group
12. The traditional Bedouin patterns of _____ depends on mobility.
- survival
 - herding animals
 - culture
 - customs
13. The concept of cultural integration means that
- cultural elements or traits are adjusted to or constant.
 - various subgroups in the society work together.
 - cultural traits that are maladaptive can be made to work with adaptive traits.
 - cultural elements relate only in certain ways.
14. Particular behaviors and ideas that vary from society to society are _____.
- genetic
 - adaptive
 - learned
 - taught
15. In the Asch experiment, _____ of the subjects retained their independent opinions.
- 2/3
 - 1/2
 - 1/4
 - 5/8

16. Emile Durkheim stressed that culture is something _____ us exerting a strong _____ power on us.
- inside/coercive
 - outside/limiting
 - inside/limiting
 - outside/coercive
17. A person who judges other cultures solely in terms of his or her own culture is said to be _____.
- integrated
 - maladaptive
 - ethnocentric
 - prejudiced
18. In anthropology, the term "culture" refers to
- the care of plant and animal resources.
 - the artistic heritage of any society, including painting and sculpture, music and the performing arts.
 - the long-standing traditions of a particular society.
 - all the learned behaviors, attitudes, beliefs, values, and ideals that are characteristic of a particular society or population.
19. For something to be cultural it must be
- traditional.
 - learned and commonly shared.
 - part of a society's ideals.
 - unchanging.
20. Elizabeth Zechenter suggests that the concept of _____ is often used to justify traditions desired by the dominant and powerful.
- cultural relativism
 - ethnocentrism
 - adaptation
 - maladaptation
21. The term "subculture" refers to
- the conscious behaviors, beliefs, attitudes, values, and ideals of a society.
 - the unconscious behaviors, beliefs, attitudes, values, and ideals of a society.
 - a cultural pattern considered inferior by members of a society.
 - the variant culture of a group of people within a larger society.
22. The fact that monkeys and apes can learn new behaviors from each other
- does not necessarily mean that they have culture, since their social life may be purely instinctual.
 - suggests that they have a culture.
 - suggests that they are ancestral to modern humans.
 - suggests that they are classified as more cultural than many mammals that spend their lives in isolation.

23. One of the indications of how much an animal depends on learned behavior for survival is the
- distance it travels from its home base.
 - amount of social behavior the animal exhibits.
 - proportion of an animal's life span spent in childhood.
 - size of an animal.
24. A complex system of spoken, symbolic communication, which we call "language"
- probably originated in a few societies 20,000 years ago.
 - has existed in people known to anthropologists.
 - does not exist among many of the world's simpler societies.
 - probably originated about the same time as agriculture.
25. Which of the following is a behavior that would most likely be subject to direct cultural constraints in American society?
- choosing to wear nothing
 - a young man's attempt to kiss his girlfriend
 - a woman carrying her child in a soft basket hung from her head
 - dancing in the street before going to work
26. The ideal cultural patterns of a society
- generally reflect the way a society was in the past.
 - consist of the cultural patterns that most people always exhibit.
 - consist of the ideas people have about how they ought to behave.
 - are usually followed by the most respected members of a community, though not necessarily by others.
27. Which of the following is an example of an ideal cultural pattern in the United States?
- the belief that God is full of anger and vengeance
 - the belief that students go on to college to get away from their parents
 - the belief that everybody is equal before the law
 - the high value given to apple pie in American society
28. One example of a(n)_____ is how far apart people stand when they are having a conversation.
- custom
 - random sample
 - integration
 - cultural pattern
29. The frequency distribution of behavior patterns in a group very often takes the form of
- a bell-shaped curve.
 - a straight line graph.
 - an S-shaped curve.
 - a Poisson curve.
30. Which type of behavior would most appropriately be studied with a random sample of individuals?
- public behavior
 - unconscious behavior
 - private behavior
 - both b and c

Essay Questions

31. Define ethnocentrism. What forms does it take in our own society? What can be done to reduce attitudes of ethnocentrism between various groups?
32. How are the two statements “culture is adaptive,” and “culture is always changing,” related?
33. Why may it be necessary for anthropologists to abandon the strong form of cultural relativism in favor of the weaker form?
34. Describe an action that would lead to imprisonment. How does prison act as a constraint to an individual? Why do some people violate norms (and end up in prison)?

Multiple Choice

1. b 22
2. c 20
3. a 18
4. b 18
5. d 19
6. c 19
7. c 22
8. c 18
9. d 24
10. c 25
11. b 26
12. b 27
13. a 28
14. c 26
15. c 24
16. d 24
17. c 19
18. d 18
19. b 18
20. a 23
21. d 18
22. b 19
23. c 19
24. b 19
25. a 24
26. c 24
27. c 25
28. d 25
29. a 25
30. d 25