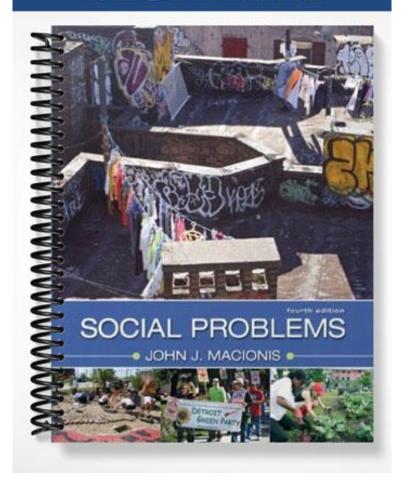
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Chapter 2 Quiz Poverty and Wealth

- 1. Between 1980 and 2007, how has U.S. income changed?
 - a. all categories of the U.S. population saw some rise in average income.
 - b. the gains have been huge for the rich and small for the poor.
 - c. income inequality is greater than at any time in the past fifty years.
 - d. a, b, and c are all correct.
- 2. Regarding U.S. taxation,
 - a. the government increases income inequality through regressive taxation.
 - b. government takes more from the rich in taxes and gives more to the poor in assistance programs.
 - c. people with very high incomes of \$1 million or more paid only about 5% of their incomes in federal taxes.
 - d. working class families with incomes of about \$25,000 annually pay most of the government's tax bill.
- 3. In the United States, people in which of the following categories are most likely to be rich?
 - a. older, white, male
 - b. younger, male, married
 - c. white, female, married
 - d. younger, white, male
- 4. People or families below the _____ are defined as poor and therefore entitled to government assistance.
 - a. poverty gap
 - b. poverty definition
 - c. poverty rate
 - d. poverty line
- 5. Which of the following categories of people make up the greatest number (numerically) of America's welfare recipients?
 - a. Hispanic Americans
 - b. African Americans
 - c. Whites
 - d. Asians

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- 6. A generation ago, the elderly were more likely to be poor. Today, who is at greatest risk of poverty?
 - a. children
 - b. young adults in their thirties
 - c. middle-aged people
 - d. the elderly
- 7. A family of four supported by one full-time year-round worker earns _____ the U.S. poverty level for that size family.
 - a. about \$5,000 more than
 - b. about the same as
 - c. about \$5,000 less than
 - d. about \$15,000 less than
- 8. Surveys tell us that most people think large differences in pay are necessary to get people to work hard. This opinion illustrates an argument closest to which approach?
 - a. structural functional
 - b. liberal
 - c. symbolic interaction
 - d. radical left
- 9. Marx's analysis of economic inequality and poverty focuses on which of the following factors?
 - a. the political system
 - b. the capitalist economy
 - c. industrial technology
 - d. the progressive tax system
- 10. According to conservatives,
 - a. welfare should be available to people who quit their jobs.
 - b. long-term assistance will strengthen families and promote personal responsibility.
 - c. welfare should be provided, but mostly to those who are poor through no fault of their own.
 - d. a, b, and c are all correct.

CHAPTER 2

Quiz Answers

1.d; 2.b; 3.a; 4.d; 5.c; 6.a; 7.c; 8.a; 9.b; 10.c

Multiple Choice Questions

- 1. The richest 20 percent of U.S. families earn
 - a. almost as much as the remaining 80 percent of families combined.
 - b. about as much as the poorest 40 percent of families combined.
 - c. a share of income about equal to that of other quintiles.
 - d. only slightly more than the national average.

Answer: a; page 29; moderate; factual

- 2. Families in the top 10 percent of all families earn at least
 - a. \$50,000 a year.
 - b. \$150,000 a year.
 - c. \$250,000 a year.
 - d. \$500,000 a year.

Answer: b; page 29; moderate; factual

- 3. Social stratification is defined as
 - a. the fact that some people tend to outperform others.
 - b. the way people in a society determine their social standing.
 - c. a society's system of ranking categories of people in a hierarchy.
 - d. the income levels of all the members of a society.

Answer: c; page 28; easy; conceptual

4. Stratification produces categories of people who have similar access to resources and opportunities.

These categories are termed

- a. life chances.
- b. social classes.
- c. quintiles.
- d. income distributions.

Answer: b; page 28; easy; conceptual

- 5. The richest 20 percent of the U.S. population controls what share of all privately-owned wealth?
 - a. 85 percent
 - b. 65 percent
 - c. 45 percent
 - d. 25 percent

Answer: a; page 31; moderate; factual

- 6. Which of the following concepts refers to salary or wages from a job, plus earnings from investments or any other source?
 - a. wealth
 - b. interest
 - c. income
 - d. money

Answer: c; page 29; easy; factual

- 7. Marco earns \$45,000 a year as a government employee and receives interest from several certificates of deposit. The economic proceeds from these sources represent Brad's
 - a. wealth.
 - b. income.
 - c. socioeconomic status.
 - d. prestige.

Answer: b; page 29; moderate; applied

- 8. According to the U.S. government, the 2007 median family income was
 - a. \$41,355.
 - b. \$51,355.
 - c. \$61,355.
 - d. \$71,355.

Answer: c; page 29; moderate; factual

- 9. The lowest paid 20 percent of U.S. families receive about what share all income in the country?
 - a. 4 percent
 - b. 10 percent
 - c. 14 percent
 - d. 20 percent

Answer: a; page 29; moderate; factual

- 10. Since about 1980, income inequality among U.S. families has
 - a. been declining.
 - b. been increasing.
 - c. been steady.
 - d. been fluctuating up and down.

Answer: b; page 29; easy; factual

- 11. Regarding income distribution in the United States, the overall pattern reveals
 - a. small gains for both the rich and poor.
 - b. small losses for both the rich and poor.
 - c. that income inequality is currently greater than at any time during the last fifty years.
 - d. that income inequality is currently less than at any time during the last fifty years.

Answer: c; page 29; moderate; factual

- 12. The total economic assets owned by a person or family is termed
 - a. income.
 - b. social status.
 - c. wealth.
 - d. status base.

Answer: c; page 29; easy; factual

- 13. In the United States, a progressive tax rate means that
 - a. income taxes are no longer paid at all.
 - b. rich people pay at a lower rate than lower-income people.
 - c. rich people pay the same tax rate as lower-income people.
 - d. rich people pay at a higher rate than lower-income people.

Answer: d; page 30; moderate; factual

- 14. The bottom 50 percent of the U.S. population pays about what share of all income taxes?
 - a. 50 percent
 - b. 33 percent
 - c. 3 percent
 - d. 0 percent

Answer: c; page 31; moderate; factual

- 15. In a National Opinion Research Center (NORC) survey, what percent of U.S. adults said that large differences in pay are necessary in order to get people to work hard?
 - a. 17
 - b. 27
 - c. 47
 - d. 67

Answer: d; page 30; difficult; factual

- 16. In a National Opinion Research Center (NORC) survey, what percent of the U.S. adults said that differences in income in America are too large?
 - a. 33
 - b. 43
 - c. 53
 - d. 63

Answer: d; page 30; difficult; factual

- 17. An example of a tax that is not progressive but regressive is
 - a. inheritance tax.
 - b. income tax.
 - c. the tax on gasoline.
 - d. not available; there are no regressive taxes in the United States.

Answer: c; page 31; moderate; factual

- 18. The government uses the policy of taxation for several purposes. Read the four statements below. Three are correct. One is not correct. Which one is NOT correct?
 - a. Taxes provide the government with the money it needs to operate.
 - b. Taxes discourage certain types of behavior.
 - c. Taxes reduce economic inequality.
 - d. Taxes transfer money from the poor to the rich.

Answer: d; page 32; moderate; factual

- 19. Which of the following is a policy that raises tax rates as income increases?
 - a. progressive taxation
 - b. sliding taxation
 - c. regressive taxation
 - d. tax escalation

Answer: a; page 30; easy; factual

- 20. Although there is no standard definition of what it means to be "rich," the text describes "rich" families as having income of at least \$150,000 a year. This level of income corresponds to what share of the U.S. population?
 - a. top 1 percent
 - b. top 2 percent
 - c. top 10 percent
 - d. top 25 percent

Answer: c; page 32; moderate; factual

- 21. Read the following four statements. One of them is incorrect. Which one is NOT correct?
 - a. People in their forties typically have higher income that people in their twenties.
 - b. Women typically earn more than men.
 - c. White people typically earn more than people of color.
 - d. Married couples typically earn more than single people.

Answer: b; page 32; moderate; factual

- 22. Which concept below is used by the U.S. government for the purpose of counting the poor?
 - a. poverty line
 - b. poverty gap
 - c. median income
 - d. nonfarm family income

Answer: a; page 33; easy; factual

- 23. Which concept below refers to the difference between a poor family's actual income and the poverty line?
 - a. poverty line
 - b. poverty gap
 - c. median income
 - d. nonfarm family income

Answer: b; page 35; moderate; factual

- 24. In 2007, what share of the U.S. population lived in a household with income below the poverty line?
 - a. 2.5
 - b. 4.5
 - c. 8.5
 - d. 12.5

Answer: d; page 33; difficult; factual

- 25. In 2007, the poverty line for a non-farm family of four was
 - a. \$12,203.
 - b. \$15,203.
 - c. \$21,203.
 - d. \$25,203.

Answer: c; page 33; moderate; factual

- 26. In 2007, about how many people in the United States were counted among the poor?
 a. 370,000
 b. 3.7 million
 c. 37 million
 d. 299 million
- Answer: c; page 33; moderate; factual
- 27. In 2007, income for the average poor family in the United States was about how far below the poverty line?
 - a. It was the same as the poverty line.
 - b. \$1,000
 - c. \$2,000
 - d. \$5,000

Answer: d; page 34; moderate; factual

- 28. The example of the Perkins family, presented in the *Personal Stories* box in the chapter on poverty and wealth, illustrates life for families who are
 - a. living well below the official poverty line.
 - b. on government welfare.
 - c. living at just about the official poverty line.
 - d. living at the median income level.

Answer: c; page 33; moderate; applied

- 29. In 2007, the federal government counted about ______ people in America as poor?
 - a. 7 million
 - b. 17 million
 - c. 27 million
 - d. 37 million

Answer: d; page 34; moderate; factual

- 30. Most people living below the poverty line are
 - a. elderly.
 - b. homeless.
 - c. white.
 - d. children.

Answer: c; Pages 34-35; difficult; factual

- 31. In 2007, what share of children under the age of eighteen were living in poor households?
 - a. 1.8 percent
 - b. 18 percent
 - c. 30 percent
 - d. 60 percent

Answer: b; page 34; moderate; factual

- 32. Which term refers to the trend by which women represent an increasing share of the poor?
 - a. gender gap
 - b. glass ceiling
 - c. feminization of poverty
 - d. poverty gap

Answer: c; page 34; moderate; factual

- 33. Today, 51 percent of poor families contain
 - a. a male head of the household with no woman present.
 - b. a women head of the household with no man present.
 - c. men and women who are both working.
 - d. a married couple with both partners under the age of eighteen.

Answer: b; pages 35-36; moderate; factual

- 34. Despite this nation's wealth, about how many boys and girls under age eighteen are poor?
 - a. 300,000
 - b. 3 million
 - c. 13 million
 - d. 130 million

Answer: c; page 34; moderate; factual

- 35. Which regions of the United States have the highest poverty rates?
 - a. South and the West
 - b. Northeast and the South
 - c. Midwest and the East
 - d. East and the West

Answer: a; page 35; moderate; factual

- 36. Which of the following regions of the United States has the highest poverty rate?
 - a. coastal communities
 - b. rural areas
 - c. suburbs
 - d. central cities

Answer: d; page 35; moderate; factual

- 37. The belief that, with hard work, people can achieve a secure and improving way of life is often referred to as
 - a. the myth of the melting pot.
 - b. the American Dream.
 - c. the dilemma of the underclass.
 - d. hypersegregation.

Answer: b; page 35; easy; factual

- 38. Sylvia earns \$7.25 per hour, which is the current minimum wage. She works full-time, year-round, and earns about \$15,000 annually. This profile places her within
 - a. working poor.
 - b. non-working poor.
 - c. the underclass.
 - d. the poverty gap.

Answer: a; page 36; moderate; applied

- 39. Which of the following concepts refers to poor people who live in areas with high concentrations of poverty and limited opportunities for schooling or work?
 - a. the homeless
 - b. the working poor
 - c. the underclass
 - d. the lower middle class

Answer: c; page 36; easy; conceptual

- 40. The Williams family lives in an inner-city community that is poor, cut off from the larger society, and without good schools or good-paying jobs. This family is experiencing
 - a. hypersegregation.
 - b. redlining.
 - c. homelessness.
 - d. prejudice.

Answer: a; pages 36-37; moderate; applied

- 41. According to U.S. government, in 2007 about what percent of heads of poor families worked full-time year-round?
 - a. 1.8 percent
 - b. 8 percent
 - c. 18 percent
 - d. 28 percent

Answer: c; page 36; easy; factual

- 42. Infant mortality refers to the risk of death
 - a. prior to birth, including abortions and miscarriages.
 - b. at the point of childbirth.
 - c. during the first year of life.
 - d. before reaching the teenage years.

Answer: b; page 37; easy; conceptual

- 43. In the United States, infant mortality among the very poor
 - a. can be four times the national average.
 - b. is only slightly above the national average.
 - c. is less than in lower-income countries such as Nigeria and Vietnam.
 - d. is no longer considered a problem by anyone.

Answer: a; page 37; moderate; factual

- 44. Experts estimate that about how many people in the United States are homeless at some point during a year?
 - a. about 25,000
 - b. about 250,000
 - c. about 1 million
 - d. as many as 3.5 million

Answer: d; page 38; moderate; factual

- 45. In approaching the problem of homelessness, conservatives point to
 - a. the recent increase in low-wage jobs.
 - b. the low minimum wage.
 - c. personal problems, such as alcohol abuse and mental illness, among the homeless.
 - d. our nation's high rate of poverty.

Answer: c; page 38; moderate; applied

- 46. In approaching the problem of homelessness, liberals point to
 - a. personal problems, such as alcohol abuse and mental illness, among the homeless.
 - b. economic issues such as low-wage jobs and high rates of unemployment.
 - c. moral weakness among poor people.
 - d. the need for greater self-discipline and personal responsibility.

Answer: b; page 38; moderate; applied

- 47. The educational policy of placing some children in college-bound ("academic") paths and others in job-oriented ("vocational") paths is called
 - a. tracking.
 - b. mainlining.
 - c. mainstreaming.
 - d. relining.

Answer: a; page 38; easy; conceptual

- 48. In the 2008 presidential election, 80 percent of people earning \$100,000 or more voted. Among people earning less than \$10,000, what share voted?
 - a. 90 percent
 - b. 70 percent
 - c. 60 percent
 - d. just under half

Answer: d; page 39; moderate; applied

- 49. In the United States, social welfare programs benefit
 - a. only a small share of the poor.
 - b. only poor people.
 - c. only disabled people.
 - d. just about everyone.

Answer: d; page 39; moderate; factual

- 50. During the colonial era, the New England Puritans considered poverty to be
 - a. due to a flawed economy.
 - b. due to ineffective government policy.
 - c. one effect of war.
 - d. a sign of moral weakness.

Answer: d; page 40; moderate; factual

- 51. Which concept below refers to the study of the poor during the early industrial era?
 - a. the temperance movement
 - b. the scientific charity movement
 - c. the soup kitchen movement
 - d. the anti-immigrant movement

Answer: b; page 40; moderate; conceptual

- 52. In 1932, President Franklin D. Roosevelt described "one-third of a nation ill-clothed, ill-housed, and ill-fed," and proposed the "New Deal," which included
 - a. Head Start.
 - b. Medicare.
 - c. Social Security.
 - d. the first labor unions.

Answer: c; pages 41-42; difficult; factual

- 53. In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson launched a "War on Poverty" at a time when the national poverty rate stood at about
 - a. 2 percent.
 - b. 12 percent.
 - c. 22 percent.
 - d. 32 percent.

Answer: c; page 41; difficult; factual

- 54. The 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act was
 - a. a shift in responsibility for helping the poor from the federal government to the states.
 - b. a major increase in the country's financial commitment to the poor.
 - c. a plan to quickly raise the minimum wage.
 - d. a statement by the government that the poverty problem had finally been solved.

Answer: a; page 43; moderate; factual

- 55. Anthropologist Oscar Lewis referred to cultural patterns that make poverty a way of life as
 - a. the bell curve thesis.
 - b. the culture of poverty.
 - c. a meritocracy.
 - d. the result of social disorganization.

Answer: b; page 43; easy; conceptual

- 56. The text points out that
 - a. since the 1996 welfare reforms, most government welfare goes to the poor.
 - b. despite the 1996 welfare reforms, the majority of public assistance goes to people without family responsibilities who are capable of working.
 - c. the 1996 welfare law limits families to 2 consecutive years of benefits with a 5 year lifetime cap.
 - d. a, b, and c are all correct

Answer: c; page 45; moderate; factual

- 57. Overall, the result of the 1996 federal welfare reform has been
 - a. an increase in the number of people receiving welfare assistance.
 - b. an end of the policy of providing cash assistance to any poor people.
 - c. a steady decrease in the poverty rate.
 - d. a decrease in the number of people receiving welfare but little change in the number of poor people.

Answer: d; page 43; difficult; applied

- 58. A recent social pathology theory by Richard J. Herrnstein and Charles Murray's is
 - a. the social disorganization thesis.
 - b. the culture of poverty thesis.
 - c. the bell curve thesis.
 - d. the blaming the victim thesis.

Answer: c; page 43; moderate; conceptual

- 59. In which of the following types of society does social standing correspond to personal ability and effort?
 - a. meritocracy
 - b. culture of poverty
 - c. oligarchy
 - d. bureaucracy

Answer: a; page 43; moderate; conceptual

- 60. During the 1920s and 1930s, sociologists at the University of Chicago linked poverty to a breakdown in social order due to rapid social change. The correct name for this view is
 - a. the bell curve thesis.
 - b. the culture of poverty thesis.
 - c. the social disorganization thesis.
 - d. the hypersegregation thesis.

Answer: c; pages 43-44; moderate; conceptual

- 61. In 1945, sociologists Kingsley Davis and Wilbert Moore maintained that inequality is useful for the operation of society. This thesis reflects which type of analysis?
 - a. symbolic interaction analysis
 - b. social disorganization analysis
 - c. social conflict analysis
 - d. structural functional analysis

Answer: d; page 44; moderate; conceptual

- 62. Sociologist Herbert Gans pointed out that inequality benefits
 - a. everyone by making society more productive.
 - b. rich people by ensuring there is a supply of poor people willing to do almost any job, no matter how unpleasant.
 - c. bureaucrats by expanding government assistance programs.
 - d. corporations because poor people are a profitable market.

Answer: b; page 44; moderate; applied

- 63. William Ryan's "blaming the victim" thesis is a claim that we incorrectly see the causes of poverty in
 - a. the capitalist economy.
 - b. our tax system.
 - c. the poor themselves.
 - d. a high rate of immigration.

Answer: c; page 45; moderate; conceptual

- 64. Finding the cause of a social problem in the behavior of people who suffer from the problem is referred to as
 - a. the social disorganization thesis.
 - b. blaming the victim.
 - c. the Davis-Moore thesis.
 - d. feminist analysis.

Answer: b; page 45; easy; conceptual

- 65. The theory that links poverty to race and ethnicity is
 - a. multicultural theory.
 - b. social disorganization theory.
 - c. Marxist theory.
 - d. cultural capital theory.

Answer: a; page 46; moderate; conceptual

- 66. The study of how race, class, and gender often result in multiple dimensions of disadvantage is called
 - a. subculture of poverty theory.
 - b. feminist theory.
 - c. social disorganization theory.
 - d. intersection theory.

Answer: a; page 46; moderate; conceptual

- 67. Poverty involves not only a lack of money; it also can mean a lack of skills, values, attitudes, and schooling that increase a person's chances of success, which together are called
 - a. meritocracy.
 - b. cultural capital.
 - c. the subculture of affluence.
 - d. intersection theory.

Answer: b; pages 45-46; moderate; conceptual

- 68. Pierre Bourdieu and Jean-Claude Passeron argue that in comparison with their counterparts who are born to low-income families, young people born into affluent families have more
 - a. intelligence.
 - b. ability.
 - c. cultural capital.
 - d. inherent potential.

Answer: c; page 46; moderate; applied

- 69. In 1960, one in four poor families was headed by a woman. By 2007, this share had changed to
 - a. less than one in six.
 - b. increased to more than half.
 - c. increased to three in four.
 - d. nine out of ten.

Answer: a; page 46; moderate; factual

- 70. Karl Marx argued that in a capitalist society, poverty is
 - a. now almost gone.
 - b. normal.
 - c. dysfunctional.
 - d. impossible.

Answer: b; page 47; moderate; conceptual

- 71. The conservative solution to the problem of poverty in the United States is centered on
 - a. government activism.
 - b. societal responsibility.
 - c. personal responsibility.
 - d. replacing the market economy.

Answer: c; page 48; moderate; conceptual

- 72. Former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell speaks as a conservative when he argues that the most effective way to prevent social problems like poverty is to
 - a. increase welfare benefits.
 - b. teach children personal responsibility and hard work.
 - c. eliminate welfare entirely.
 - d. transform this country's market economy.

Answer: b; page 48; difficult; applied

- 73. In general, most conservatives express compassion for people who are poor
 - a. due to disability or for some reason that is no fault of their own.
 - b. due to having no job.
 - c. if they are able-bodied and receiving government assistance.
 - d. and complain that they are victims of the system.

Answer: a; page 52; moderate; applied

- 74. From a liberal point of view, poverty is mostly a problem that
 - a. involves society as a whole.
 - b. focuses on traits of poor people.
 - c. can never be solved.
 - d. people should solve for themselves.

Answer: a; pages 48-49; moderate; conceptual

- 75. A person who claims that government welfare assistance creates dependency is probably
 - a. a liberal.
 - b. a radical on the left.
 - c. a conservative.
 - d. unconcerned with politics.

Answer: c; page 48; moderate; applied

- 76. The typical "welfare family" today receives about how much assistance each month?
 - a. \$400
 - b. \$800
 - c. \$1,000
 - d. \$1,200

Answer: a; page 49; easy; factual

- 77. Radicals on the left see the main cause of poverty as
 - a. personal deficiencies in poor people themselves.
 - b. the normal operation of a capitalist economy.
 - c. misguided government assistance programs.
 - d. modern, industrial technology.

Answer: b; page 49; moderate; conceptual

- 78. According to the radical left position, a capitalist economic system operates
 - a. to provide equal opportunity for all.
 - b. to allow everyone equal access to success.
 - c. to generate extremes of wealth and poverty.
 - d. to steadily enlarge the middle class.

Answer: c; page 49; moderate; conceptual

- 79. A radical left solution to the problem of poverty would be
 - a. raising the minimum wage.
 - b. creating equal opportunity for people to achieve according to their talents.
 - c. expanding government assistance programs.
 - d. replacing our nation's economic system.

Answer: d; page 49; moderate; conceptual

- 80. According to which of the following political positions does the solution to poverty lie in government reforms, such as changes in the minimum wage and tax rates?
 - a. radical left
 - b. liberal
 - c. conservative
 - d. radical right

Answer: b; page 49; moderate; conceptual

- 81. Martin claims that, while some "worthy" poor people should be helped, social welfare programs discourage people's desire to work and may foster dependency. Martin speaks as a
 - a. non-political person.
 - b. conservative.
 - c. liberal.
 - d. radical on the left.

Answer: b; page 50; moderate; applied

- 82. The decade that saw the greatest decline in this country's poverty rate was the
 - a. 1960s.
 - b. 1970s.
 - c. 1980s.
 - d. 1990s.

Answer: a; page 50; difficult; factual

True-False Questions

83. Social classes are categories of people with similar access to resources and opportunities.

Answer: True; page 28; conceptual

84. Social stratification refers to the different talents and abilities of individuals.

Answer: False; page 28; conceptual

85. The highest-earning 20 percent of U.S. families receive about 85 percent of all income.

Answer: False; page 29; factual

86. Wealth refers to all of the economic assets owned by a person or family, minus any debts.

Answer: True; page 29; conceptual

87. Income taxes in the United States are not an example of progressive taxation.

Answer: False; page 30; applied

88. Survey results show that most people in the United States think income differences are too large.

Answer: True; page 30; factual

89. The bottom 50 percent of all taxpayers end up paying about 3 percent of all taxes.

Answer: True; page 31; factual

90. The poverty line for a family of four is about \$21,000.

Answer: True; pages 32-33; factual

91. The poverty line represents about three times what an average family needs to spend in order to live.

Answer: False; page 33; conceptual

92. In this country, about 25 percent of African Americans live below the poverty line.

Answer: True; page 34; factual

93. Counties with especially high levels of child poverty are found in the South and the Southwest.

Answer: True; page 36; factual

94. Most poor families in the United States contain at least one person who works full time.

Answer: False; page 36; factual

95. For our society as a whole, persistent poverty is more common than temporary poverty.

Answer: False; page 37; factual

96. The lower people's income, the higher their likelihood of voting in elections.

Answer: False; page 39; applied

97. In 1964, the federal government launched a "war on poverty."

Answer: True; page 41; factual

98. The 1996 welfare reforms greatly reduced this country's poverty rate.

Answer: False; page 43; factual

99. The logic called "blaming the victim" places the cause of poverty in the traits of poor people.

Answer: True; pages 44-45; applied

100. Cultural capital can be as important in getting ahead as financial capital.

Answer: True; pages 45-46; conceptual

101. Intersection theory states that poverty has many causes that come together in the lives of poor people.

Answer: False; page 46; conceptual

102. Liberals claim the main cause of poverty is a lack of self-reliance on the part of the poor themselves.

Answer: False; pages 48-49; factual

103. Radicals on the left claim that the main cause of poverty in the United States is the operation of the capitalist economy.

Answer: True; page 49; factual

Short Answer Questions

104. Describe the distribution of income and wealth in the United States. Which is distributed more unequally?

Pages 29-31

105. How many people in the United States live in poverty? Point to four factors that raise the risk of being poor.

Pages 33-35

106. How are health, housing, and homelessness linked to poverty?

Pages 37-38

107. What was the settlement house movement of the nineteenth century?

Page 40

108. Explain how the United States "discovered" poverty in the 1960s.

Page 42

109. Briefly explain what Oscar Lewis meant by a "culture of poverty."

Page 43

110. What is the process called "blaming the victim?" State the four steps in this process.

Pages 44-45

110. What is the insight offered by intersection theory?

Page 46

Essay Questions

111. Explain our government's concept of "poverty line." How and why was this concept created? What is the importance of the concept "poverty gap?"

Pages 33-34

112. How are age, race, ethnicity, and gender related to the risk of being poor? Provide data in support of your assertions.

Pages 32-34

113. Distinguish between the working poor and the nonworking poor. What do we know about the working patterns of the members of poor families?

Page 36

114. Sketch a brief history of welfare in the United States, including the colonial era, the early industrial era, and the twentieth century. What changed with the 1996 welfare reforms?

Pages 40-43

115. Describe the basic insights about income inequality and poverty offered by the structural functional, social conflict, and symbolic interaction approaches.

Pages 43-46

- 116. What is intersection theory? Provide data that support this analysis of economic inequality. Pages 46-47
- 117. How do the conservative, liberal, and radical left approaches point to different causes of the problem of poverty? What solutions do these approaches support?

Pages 48-50

118. Looking at the "Defining Solutions" photo essay on page 51, explain why liberals and conservatives are unlikely to agree on whether social inequality is a problem and what to do about it.

Page 51