

24.Assessment

Self-check Questions

- 1. Which of the following is NOT one of Sorokin's primary cultural types?
- a) Ideational
- b) Idealistic
- c) Materialistic
- d) Sensate

2. According to Sorokin, a culture focused on spiritual and intellectual values, emphasizing faith and transcendent realities, is known as:

- a) Sensate Culture
- b) Idealistic Culture
- c) Ideational Culture
- d) Post-modern Culture
- 3. The 'A' in Parsons' AGIL model stands for:
- a) Association
- b) Adaptation
- c) Assimilation
- d) Analysis

4. Which function in the AGIL model is primarily concerned with maintaining internal cohesion and solidarity within a social system?

- a) Adaptation
- b) Goal Attainment
- c) Integration
- d) Latency
- 5. Sorokin's theory of social change is best described as:
- a) Linear and progressive



- b) Revolutionary and sudden
- c) Cyclical and immanent
- d) Evolutionary and deterministic
- 6. Sorokin believed that societies progress linearly towards an ideal state.

7. In a Sensate culture, truth is primarily derived through scientific observation and empirical data.

8. The 'G' in the AGIL model refers to the function of generating resources for the social system.

9. Parsons' AGIL model is a framework primarily used to explain radical social conflict.

10. The function of 'Latency' in the AGIL model is associated with maintaining cultural patterns and values.

Answers to Self-Check Questions

- 1. c) Materialistic
- 2. c) Ideational Culture
- 3. b) Adaptation
- 4. c) Integration
- 5. c) Cyclical and Immanent
- 6. False
- 7. True
- 8. False
- 9. False
- 10. True

Short Answer Questions

Q1. Briefly describe the key characteristics of Sorokin's "Idealistic" cultural type.

Q2. Explain the primary difference between Sorokin's understanding of social change and a linear theory of social progress.



Q3. Identify and briefly explain the social subsystem that typically performs the "Adaptation" function according to Parsons' AGIL model.

Long Answer Questions

Q1. Compare and contrast Pitirim Sorokin's cyclical theory of social change with Talcott Parsons' AGIL model in terms of their core assumptions about social systems, their views on change, and their primary focus of analysis. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each perspective.

Q2. Choose one of Sorokin's cultural types (Ideational, Idealistic, or Sensate) and one function from Parsons' AGIL model (Adaptation, Goal Attainment, Integration, or Latency). Discuss how the chosen cultural type might manifest within a society, and how the chosen AGIL function would operate within that specific cultural context. Provide concrete examples for both.