



28.ASSESSMENT

Self-check Questions

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1. Which sociological theory views social stratification as a necessary and beneficial system that motivates individuals to fill important societal roles?
 - a) Conflict Theory
 - b) Symbolic Interactionism
 - c) Structural Functionalism
 - d) Feminist Theory
 2. Karl Marx's theory of social stratification primarily focuses on the relationship between:
 - a) Individual talent and social prestige
 - b) Ownership of the means of production and class position
 - c) Cultural values and social mobility
 - d) Gender roles and power dynamics
 3. According to Max Weber, which of the following is not one of the three independent dimensions of social stratification?
 - a) Class
 - b) Status
 - c) Religion
 - d) Power
 4. Melvin Tumin's critique of the Davis-Moore thesis primarily questioned the functionalist assumption that:
 - a) All positions in society are equally important.
 - b) The existing system of stratification is truly meritocratic.
 - c) Social conflict is inherent in all societies.
 - d) Social mobility is impossible in stratified societies.
 5. Which theory of stratification would most likely emphasize how dominant



groups use ideology to justify and maintain their privileged positions?

- a) Structural Functionalism
- b) Symbolic Interactionism
- c) Conflict Theory
- d) Rational Choice Theory

6. According to structural functionalism, significant social inequality is dysfunctional for society.

7. Marx believed that a revolution of the proletariat would ultimately lead to a classless society.

8. Weber's concept of "status" refers solely to a person's economic standing.

9. Conflict theorists argue that social stratification primarily benefits the entire society.

10. The Davis-Moore thesis suggests that positions requiring more skill and responsibility receive higher rewards to attract the most talented individuals.

Answers to Self-Check Questions

- 1. c) Structural Functionalism
- 2. b) Ownership of the means of production and class position
- 3. c) Religion
- 4. b) The existing system of stratification is truly meritocratic.
- 5. c) Conflict Theory
- 6. False
- 7. True
- 8. False
- 9. False
- 10. True



Short Answer Questions

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- Q1. Briefly explain the core difference in how functionalist and conflict theories view the purpose of social stratification in society.
- Q2. According to Max Weber, how does "power" contribute to social stratification independently of economic class?
- Q3. What is the concept of "class consciousness" in Marx's theory, and why is it important for social change?

Long Answer Questions

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- Q1. Compare and contrast the structural functionalist theory of social stratification (e.g., Davis-Moore thesis) with the conflict theory (e.g., Karl Marx's perspective). Discuss their fundamental assumptions about the nature of society, the reasons for stratification, and their implications for social change.
- Q2. Elaborate on Max Weber's multidimensional approach to social stratification, explaining his concepts of class, status, and party (power). How does Weber's framework offer a more nuanced understanding of inequality compared to Marx's primarily economic focus?