



Chapter 2 Sociological Inquiry

Study Guide

While not everything may be in this study guide, it will help you review some key points in each chapter module. Read through the module, expanded key terms, and ask your instructor if there are additional questions after completing this study guide.

Module 1

1. Why is it important to *sequentially* address the 8 steps of the scientific method?
2. Why is it important to address all of the 8 steps of the scientific method?
3. How are the 8 steps of the scientific method similar to baking a cake?
4. How can researchers conduct “bad” research?
5. Why is the “question” not always related to the problem?
6. Provide examples of topics sociologists’ studies that are not related to social problems.
7. What is the purpose of the American Sociological Association (ASA)?
8. What sources are searched for a literature review?
9. What is the significance of “peer review”?
10. What is the purpose of the literature review?
11. Provide an example of a hypothesis and indicate the dependent and independent variables.
12. Using the topic of bullying, provide an example of when reliability could be compromised within a research project.
13. Provide examples of quantitative and qualitative research projects.
14. What functions does the IRB serve within the process of the scientific method?
15. Discuss ways of analyzing data.
16. Describe how the hypotheses and drawing conclusions are related.
17. Discuss ways to report the results of research.

18. Provide examples of questions that might be posed upon completion of the research project.
19. List, in order, the 8 steps of the scientific method.

Module 2

1. Describe the research method Emile Durkheim used in his study on suicide.
2. What are the advantages of the secondary analysis method?
3. What are the disadvantages of the secondary analysis method?
4. What are the advantages of the survey method?
5. What are the disadvantages of the survey method?
6. What are the advantages of the experiment method?
7. What are the disadvantages of the experiment method?
8. What are the advantages of the longitudinal method?
9. What are the disadvantages of the longitudinal method?
10. What are the advantages of the in-depth interview method?
11. What are the disadvantages of the in-depth interview method?
12. What are the advantages of the participant observation method?
13. What are the disadvantages of the participant observation method?
14. Recount the case study involving the Church of Satan.
15. What are the advantages of the focus group method?
16. What are the disadvantages of the focus group method?
17. What are the advantages of the content analysis method?
18. What are the disadvantages of the content analysis method?
19. Why do some researchers deem that quantitative methods are superior?
20. Which research design allows for the generalization of the results?
21. Which research design uncovers popular trends?
22. Which research design's sample size is normally the smallest?
23. Which research design allows for recommendations for public policy?
24. What is the General Social Survey (GSS)?

Module 3

1. Explain how snowball sampling might be used in ethnographic research.
2. Recount some key points about Carol Stack's research for All Our Kin.
3. What is a debriefing, and why is it used in research?
4. Recount some key points about Laud Humphrey's ethnography on tearooms.

5. What is a sample of convenience, and why could it be a cause of concern?
6. Explain why it is important to choose the right research design.
7. Provide examples of how various research methods might be used to study the issue of poverty and crime.

Module 4

1. What are the advantages of case studies?
2. What are the disadvantages of case studies?
3. What are the five questions useful to applying verstehen?
4. Explain why taking an empathetic approach to understanding human behavior is important.

Module 5

1. Who was Harriett Martineau, and why was she important to the history of sociology?
2. Who was Anna Julia Cooper, and why was she important to the history of sociology?
3. Who was Beatrice Potter Webb, and why was she important to the history of sociology?
4. Who was Jane Addams, and why was she important to the history of sociology?
5. Who was Sophonisba Breckinridge, and why was she important to the history of sociology?
6. Who was Marianne Weber, and why was she important to the history of sociology?
7. What do Liberal feminists see as the problem in society?
8. What do Liberal feminists see as the solution to the problems in society?
9. What strategies are proposed by Liberal feminists for the problems in society?
10. What do Radical feminists see as the problem in society?
11. What do Radical feminists see as the solution to the problems in society?
12. What strategies are proposed by Radical feminists for the problems in society?
13. What do Marxist/Socialist feminists see as the problem in society?
14. What do Marxist/Socialist feminists see as the solution to societal problems?
15. What strategies are proposed by Marxist/Socialist feminists for societal problems?
16. What is the focus of Black and Chicana feminist theory?

17. Explain how feminist theory impacted sociological research in the 20th century.
18. Identify ways in which technology has influenced sociological research.