



SOC401

Mid-Term (Solved)

ABSTRACT

This comprehensive collection of notes is accurately crafted to empower students to excel academically, ensuring they achieve a minimum of 80% marks in their examinations. The content is organized with clarity and precision, focusing on key concepts, critical analyses, and practical applications tailored to the syllabus. These notes serve as a reliable resource for both thorough preparation and last-minute revision. Designed to inspire confidence and mastery, this guide is an essential tool for students striving for academic excellence.

Maha Malik

Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Q. What is the definition of sociology and its importance?

Sociology is the study of human society, focusing on group behavior, institutions, and cultural patterns. It helps understand the structure and dynamics of societies and their interrelated institutions.

Q. How do you explain the concept of social structure and its components?

Social structure refers to the organized pattern of social relationships and institutions that make up society. These include family, religion, law, economy, and education.

Q. What are the different types of social institutions?

- ✚ Family
- ✚ Marriage
- ✚ Religion
- ✚ Political organizations
- ✚ Education
- ✚ Economic systems

Q. What is socialization and its importance?

Socialization is the development of behavior in children to match cultural expectations, influenced by parents, peers, and institutions. It's critical for cultural transmission.

Q. Concept of culture and its characteristics?

Culture includes everything people have, think, and do as members of a society. It is learned, shared, symbolic, adaptive, and dynamic.

Q. Social stratification and its types?

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Stratification is the hierarchical ranking of people based on wealth, power, and prestige.

Types:

- ✚ Class (based on achieved status)
- ✚ Caste (based on ascribed status)

Q. Types of social inequality?

- ✚ Class inequality (economic resources)
- ✚ Gender inequality (roles and expectations)
- ✚ Racial/ethnic inequality

Q. Social mobility and its types?

Social mobility refers to movement within a social hierarchy.

Types:

- ✚ Horizontal
- ✚ Vertical (upward/downward)
- ✚ Intergenerational
- ✚ Intragenerational

Q. Social change and its causes?

Causes:

- ✚ Technological advancements
- ✚ Cultural diffusion
- ✚ Environmental factors
- ✚ Globalization

Q. Social movements and their characteristics?

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Collective efforts aiming for change; include organized groups, shared objectives, ideologies, and strategies for action. Examples: religious, political, or environmental movements.

Q. Research methods, designs, data collection and analysis?

Cultural anthropologists use:

- + Participant observation
- + Ethnography
- + Surveys
- + Census taking
- + Document analysis

Data is analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Q. Sociological theory and importance?

Theories guide research and help interpret social phenomena. Examples: functionalism, conflict theory, symbolic interactionism.

Q. Symbolic Interactionism?

Focuses on individual interactions and the meanings people assign to symbols, language, and actions. It's micro-sociological.

Q. Functionalism and its types (Parsons, Merton)?

Functionalism views society as a system where all parts serve a function. **Parsons** emphasized social order; **Merton** introduced manifest and latent functions.

Q. Conflict theory?

Views society as composed of groups in competition for scarce resources. It emphasizes inequality and power struggles.

Q. Social constructionism?

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Reality is constructed through social interactions and shared meanings. Language plays a key role.

Q. Globalization and impact?

Increases flow of goods, people, and ideas; can result in economic growth but also inequality and cultural change.

Q. Advanced sociological topics (postmodernism, etc.)?

Postmodernism questions universal truths and focuses on fragmented, subjective realities. Poststructuralism analyzes power and knowledge.

Q. Sociological innovation and its importance?

Innovative sociological ideas address emerging global issues like identity, digital life, and hybrid cultures. They aid in adaptation and reform.

Q. Culture & Language

1. Cultural attributes given by anthropology
2. Three economic approaches
3. Three barriers towards cultural change
4. Limitations of adopting any local language
5. Cautions before learning any local language during research
6. How to bring positive cultural change despite resistance
7. Art and Politics
8. Characteristics of a tradition-based personality
9. Phonology of sound – explain with 2 examples how 'S' differs
10. How many food-obtaining strategies exist in different cultures?

Q. Kinship & Family

1. Redistribution in economy – define and explain
2. Extended family system: why females are bound to it (socio-cultural factors)

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3. Kinship topic – any relevant details
4. Marriage transactions, e.g., dowry, bridewealth (covered in Lesson 16)

Q. Fieldwork & Research

1. Cautions before learning any local language during research
2. Techniques used to collect data
3. How to conduct fieldwork in resistant areas
4. Which technique is more complex: agriculture or horticulture?
5. Document analysis for changing marriage patterns

Q. Society & Gender

1. Gender role patterns in our society (share personal experience)
2. Hunting, fishing wild vegetables – what food strategy is this?
(Answer: Foraging)
3. Gender ideology – who justifies it?
4. Gender roles vs. gender stratification
5. Feminization of poverty (trend and impacts)

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