

# SOCIOLOGY

## -An Introduction-

### The Sociological Perspective

- A. Sociology is the scientific study of human \_\_\_\_\_ behavior. Having a sociological \_\_\_\_\_ means to look at the behavior of \_\_\_\_\_, not individuals. Sociologists concentrate on \_\_\_\_\_ of people.
- B. Sociologists study the \_\_\_\_\_ interaction of people in social relationships called \_\_\_\_\_. Individual behavior differs from group behavior because the \_\_\_\_\_ of the individual parts creates a new \_\_\_\_\_ with new \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ arises as individuals accept the \_\_\_\_\_ of the group.
- C. People who want to study sociology must be able to \_\_\_\_\_ society and self—to develop a sociological \_\_\_\_\_. This allows them to understand the \_\_\_\_\_ of events and social pressures without \_\_\_\_\_ to them.

### The Origins of Sociology

- A. August Comte: the father of Sociology
1. Positivism: the belief that \_\_\_\_\_ should be derived from scientific \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Social statics: the study of social \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Social dynamics: the study of social \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Herbert Spencer applied the \_\_\_\_\_ of Darwinism to society (Social Darwinism)
- C. Karl Marx, though not a sociologist, influenced the social science through his \_\_\_\_\_ theory
- D. Emile Durkheim
1. Mechanical solidarity: social \_\_\_\_\_ based on a widespread \_\_\_\_\_ of values and beliefs, enforced \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ on tradition and family
  2. Organic solidarity: social interdependence based on a high degree of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_

## E. Max Weber

1. Verstehen: \_\_\_\_\_ social behavior by putting yourself in the \_\_\_\_\_ of others
2. Rationalization: the mind-set emphasizing knowledge, \_\_\_\_\_, and planning

## Theoretical Perspectives

A theoretical perspective is a set of \_\_\_\_\_ about an area of study. Three perspectives dominate sociology.

- A. Functionalism emphasizes the \_\_\_\_\_ (functions) made by each part of society.
  1. A society is a relatively \_\_\_\_\_ whole
  2. A society tends to seek relative \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Most aspects of a society \_\_\_\_\_ to the society's well-being and \_\_\_\_\_
  4. A society rests on the \_\_\_\_\_ of its members
- B. Conflict perspective emphasizes conflicts, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ within a society.
  1. A society experiences \_\_\_\_\_ and conflict everywhere.
  2. A society is continually subject to \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. A society involves the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of some members by others
- C. Symbolic interactionism focuses on the \_\_\_\_\_ among people based on mutually \_\_\_\_\_ symbols
  1. People's interpretations of symbols are based on the \_\_\_\_\_ they learn from others
  2. People base their interactions on their \_\_\_\_\_ of symbols
  3. Symbols permit people to have \_\_\_\_\_ conversations. Then they can gear their interactions to the \_\_\_\_\_ that they think \_\_\_\_\_ expect of them and the behavior they \_\_\_\_\_ of others.