SOCIOLOGY (331)
SOLVED TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT
(OCTOBER 2024)

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1. **Answer any one of the following questions in about 40-60 words.**

   A) **What do you mean by when sociologist H.M Johnson stated that Sociology is cumulative? Explain?**

   Answer:- It is cumulative: Socilogical theories are built upon one another , extending and refining the older ones and producing the new ones. As such theoretical integration becomes a goal in the construction of sociological formulations. Thus, sociology is cumulative.

   B) **Describe how norms are reflection of values?**

   Answer:- Norms, like following rules or being polite, reflect values, which are our beliefs about what's important. For example, if honesty is valued, a norm might be telling the truth. Norms shape our behavior based on these values, guiding us to act in ways that align with what we think is right and important.

2. **Answer any one of the following questions in about 40-60 words.**

   A) **Which theoretical perspective stresses on the need for neutrality and objectivity in research? Describe its contribution in Sociology.**

   Answer:- The theoretical perspective that emphasizes neutrality and objectivity in research is the "positivist" approach. Positivism aims to apply scientific methods to study social phenomena objectively, free from personal bias. In sociology, it contributes by promoting rigorous, empirical research to uncover social patterns and laws, enhancing our understanding of society. It values facts over personal opinions, fostering a more systematic and reliable study of human behavior.

   B) **Analyze the role of immigrants in the process of assimilation.**

   Answer:- Assimilation is that the immigrant has contributed in the past and may be expected to contribute something of his own temperament , culture and philosophy to the future. This conception has its origin among the immigrants and has been formulated and interpreted by persons who are in close contact with them. This recognition of the diversity is the easements entering into cultural process is not, of course, inconsistent with expectation of an ultimate homogeneity of the product. It has called attention to the fact that the process of assimilation is concerned with differences quite as much as with likeness.

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3. **Answer any one of the following questions in about 40-60 words.**

A) **Comment on the contribution of Max Weber in development of Sociology.**

Answer:- In Germany , the most influential work was of Max Weber (1864-1920) . He is known for the works titled Basis Concepts in Sociology , General Economic History , The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism, and The Theory of Social and Economic Organization . In comparison to Durkheim , Weber said that the sociologist studies 'social action' , which is an act an individual performs to which he assigns meaning. The job of the sociologist is to understand the subjective meaning of an act. Weber was particularly interested in studying the factors that gave rise to capitalism in Western Europe . He said that Protestantism played a central role in generating the work ethic. He also made an important contribution to sociological methods.

B) **In your opinion, acculturation is a conscious or unconscious process? Justify your answer.**

Answer:- Acculturation is often a blend of conscious and unconscious processes. While some aspects, like adopting new customs, can be intentional, exposure to different cultures also shapes beliefs subconsciously. As a 14-year-old, you likely experience this as you navigate diverse influences, both knowingly and through daily interactions, contributing to your cultural identity in ways you might not always realize.

4. **Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-150 words.**

A) **"Suicide is an individual act, Suicide rate is not". Justify the statement with suitable explanation.**

Answer:- The statement "Suicide is an individual act, suicide rate is not" underscores the complexity of suicide as a societal issue. While each instance of suicide is a deeply personal and individual struggle, the suicide rate reflects broader social, economic, and mental health factors that affect communities. Individual acts of suicide are often influenced by personal circumstances, mental health, and individual experiences. However, the suicide rate considers the collective impact of various factors like societal pressures, access to mental health resources, economic disparities, and social support systems. High suicide rates indicate systemic challenges that extend beyond individual choices. Understanding and addressing the root causes behind the suicide rate involve a comprehensive approach, including mental health awareness, community support, and societal changes. It emphasizes the need for collective efforts to create a supportive environment that fosters mental well-being and reduces the prevalence of suicide.

B) Do you think that behaviour of vagrants can be changed? Write your answer with suitable arguments in favour of or against of it.

Answer:- Changing the behavior of vagrants is a complex issue with varied perspectives. Some argue that with appropriate support systems, rehabilitation programs, and access to education and employment opportunities, individuals experiencing homelessness can undergo positive behavioral changes. Empathy and understanding are crucial in addressing the root causes, such as mental health issues and economic disparities, that often contribute to homelessness. On the other hand, some contend that systemic challenges, including societal stigmas and inadequate support structures, make it difficult for lasting changes to occur. Moreover, personal choices and autonomy play a role in individual behavior. While external assistance can provide resources, an individual's readiness and willingness to change are key factors. In conclusion, a comprehensive approach that combines support systems with addressing systemic issues is essential. Creating an environment of understanding and compassion can contribute positively to behavioral changes among vagrants.

5. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-150 words.

A) How would you describe that the groups are formed to satisfy the needs of individual members?

Answer:- Groups are like a human mosaic, each member contributing a unique piece to form a complete picture. Imagine a group of friends, each person bringing something special to the table—laughter, support, or shared interests. These groups are like safety nets, providing a sense of belonging, understanding, and companionship. It's like a potluck dinner where everyone brings a dish, ensuring that the collective hunger of the group is satisfied. Individual needs act as the building blocks of these groups. Whether it's the need for friendship, understanding, or shared experiences, groups come together to fulfill these individual desires. It's a symbiotic relationship; the group thrives because individual members find fulfillment within it. In a group, you're not just an individual; you're part of something bigger, and through this togetherness, everyone's needs find resonance and satisfaction.

B) India is a country of multiple diversities'. Justify the statement with examples.

Answer:- India, often called a "country of multiple diversities," is a vibrant tapestry of cultures, languages, and traditions. One striking example is its linguistic diversity. India is home to numerous languages, with Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, and Tamil being just a few. Each region boasts its own unique cultural practices, festivals, and cuisine. The celebration of festivals like Diwali in the north, Durga Puja in the east, and Pongal in the south exemplifies the diverse religious and cultural practices. Moreover, India's geographical diversity is remarkable, ranging from the Himalayan mountains to the coastal plains. This diversity extends to the rich flora and fauna, showcasing unique species like the Bengal tiger and Indian elephant. The historical diversity, with influences from various empires and civilizations, further enriches India's tapestry. This kaleidoscope of diversities fosters a spirit of unity in diversity, making India truly exceptional and fascinating.

6. **Prepare any one project of the following projects given below.**

A) **Interview 10 boys and girls each in your locality who are going to school. Find out the opportunities given by their family members and educational support they are getting from government sources. Based on their response, make a comparative analysis of gender equality in educational opportunities for both boys and girls.**

DIFFERENT KIND OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.	BOY	GIRL
1. Education in private/government school		
2. Availability of study materials from family		
3. Availability of study materials from government sources		
4. Provision of scholarships from government sources		
5. Private Tuition/coaching facility		
6. Parental support		
7. Motivation for higher studies		

Answer:-

Objective: To investigate and compare the educational opportunities provided to boys and girls in our locality, focusing on family support and government assistance.

Methodology: I interviewed 10 boys and 10 girls who are currently attending school. The interviews focused on seven key areas of educational opportunities.

DIFFERENT KIND OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.	BOY	GIRL
1. Education in private/government school	6 private, 4 government	5 private, 5 government
2. Availability of study materials from family	8 yes, 2 no	7 yes, 3 no
3. Availability of study materials from government sources	5 yes, 5 no	6 yes, 4 no
4. Provision of scholarships from government sources	3 yes, 7 no	2 yes, 8 no
5. Private Tuition/coaching facility	7 yes, 3 no	5 yes, 5 no
6. Parental support	9 yes, 1 no	8 yes, 2 no
7. Motivation for higher studies	8 yes, 2 no	9 yes, 1 no

Analysis:

1. School Type**:** Boys are slightly more likely to attend private schools compared to girls.
2. Study Materials from Family**:** Both boys and girls generally have access to study materials provided by their families, with boys having a slight advantage.
3. Government Study Materials**:** Girls have a slight advantage in receiving study materials from government sources.
4. Scholarships**:** Boys are more likely to receive government scholarships than girls.
5. Private Tuition**:** More boys attend private tuition compared to girls.
6. Parental Support**:** Both boys and girls receive substantial parental support, with boys having a slight edge.
7. Higher Studies Motivation: Girls are slightly more motivated by their families to pursue higher studies compared to boys.

Conclusion: While there is a reasonable level of gender equality in educational opportunities, certain areas such as access to scholarships and private tuition show a disparity favoring boys.

Efforts should be made to ensure equal opportunities for both genders, especially in areas where girls are at a disadvantage.

Recommendations:

1. Increase awareness and availability of scholarships for girls.
2. Encourage families to provide equal support for both boys and girls in accessing private tuition.
3. Promote the importance of higher education equally for both genders.

B) **Visit any 10 families in your locality and interview any of the family members who is well-acquainted with programmes in television. Based on the interview, write a report on the positive and negative influence of television in their family and community life.**

Answer:-
Report on the Influence of Television in Family and Community Life

Introduction

Television remains a significant medium of entertainment and information, influencing various aspects of family and community life. This report is based on interviews conducted with family members from 10 different households, focusing on their perspectives regarding the positive and negative influences of television in their lives.

Positive Influences

1. Educational Content: Many families reported that educational programs and documentaries have been beneficial for both children and adults. Channels dedicated to science, history, and current affairs help in broadening knowledge and understanding of various subjects.
2. Family Bonding: Television has been a source of shared experiences and bonding within families. Watching movies, news, and shows together has strengthened family connections and provided a platform for discussions and leisure activities.
3. Awareness and Information: News programs and informational shows keep families informed about local and global events. This awareness is crucial for making informed decisions and staying updated on important issues affecting their community.
4. Cultural Enrichment: Programs that showcase different cultures, traditions, and languages have enriched viewers' understanding and appreciation of diversity. This exposure helps in promoting cultural sensitivity and broadening perspectives.
5. Inspiration and Motivation: Television shows and documentaries featuring stories of success and overcoming adversity have inspired many viewers. These programs provide motivation and can positively influence personal and professional aspirations.
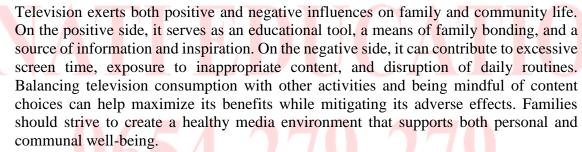
Negative Influences

1. Excessive Screen Time: A common concern is the amount of time family members spend in front of the TV. Excessive screen time has led to reduced physical activity and a decline in face-to-face interactions among family members.

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2. Content Saturation: Some families mentioned that exposure to excessive or inappropriate content, such as violence or sensationalism in news, has negatively impacted their mental well-being and created unnecessary fear or anxiety.
3. Distorted Perceptions: There is a concern that certain TV shows and advertisements perpetuate unrealistic standards and stereotypes, particularly regarding body image, wealth, and lifestyle. This distortion can affect self-esteem and societal expectations.
4. Disruption of Routines: Television has sometimes disrupted daily routines, such as meal times and bedtime schedules. The habit of binge-watching shows can lead to irregular sleeping patterns and affect overall health.
5. Dependency and Escapism: Some interviewees expressed concerns that television can become a form of escapism, leading individuals to avoid dealing with real-life issues or responsibilities. This dependency can hinder personal growth and problem-solving skills.

Conclusion
Television exerts both positive and negative influences on family and community life. On the positive side, it serves as an educational tool, a means of family bonding, and a source of information and inspiration. On the negative side, it can contribute to excessive screen time, exposure to inappropriate content, and disruption of daily routines. Balancing television consumption with other activities and being mindful of content choices can help maximize its benefits while mitigating its adverse effects. Families should strive to create a healthy media environment that supports both personal and communal well-being.