

# A Sociology of the Family Inquisitive Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

**Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.**

**ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.**

**No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.**

**Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.**

**SAMPLE**

# Table of Contents

**Copyright** ..... 1

**Table of Contents** ..... 2

**Introduction** ..... 3

**How to Use This Guide** ..... 4

**Questions** ..... 5

**Answers** ..... 8

**Explanations** ..... 10

**Next Steps** ..... 16

SAMPLE

# Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

**Remember:** successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

# How to Use This Guide

**This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:**

## **1. Start with a Diagnostic Review**

**Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.**

## **2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions**

**Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.**

## **3. Learn from the Explanations**

**After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.**

## **4. Track Your Progress**

**Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.**

## **5. Simulate the Real Exam**

**Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.**

## **6. Repeat and Review**

**Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.**

**There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!**

## Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. Another factor contributing to eviction, as identified by Desmond, is what?**
  - A. The high cost of housing**
  - B. Increased home ownership**
  - C. Expanded public transportation**
  - D. Lower population density**
  
- 2. What conclusion about education level and socioeconomic status (SES) can be drawn from the figure?**
  - A. Young people often replicate their parents.**
  - B. SES determines education level for all individuals.**
  - C. Education level is unrelated to SES.**
  - D. Education levels exceed parental SES in most cases.**
  
- 3. Matthew Desmond is the author of which sociological work?**
  - A. Evicted**
  - B. Invisible Man**
  - C. The Power Elite**
  - D. The Sociological Imagination**
  
- 4. Which term describes wealth and power transmitted from fathers to sons?**
  - A. Matrilineal**
  - B. Patrilineal**
  - C. Nuclear**
  - D. Conjugal**
  
- 5. Which institutional arena is associated with companionate marriage?**
  - A. The Family**
  - B. The State**
  - C. The Market**
  - D. Religion**

- 6. The concept introduced by Weber is used to explain the social class position of which group?**
- A. College students who may not have an occupation or earnings**
  - B. Factory workers**
  - C. Retired individuals**
  - D. Immigrant families**
- 7. Which statement about how the Census enumerates families is true?**
- A. It counts only nuclear families**
  - B. It enumerates families based on respondents' definitions of their family relationships**
  - C. It excludes extended family members**
  - D. It relies on official government records only**
- 8. Which description best matches a conjugal family?**
- A. Nuclear family—monogamous couple and their biological children**
  - B. Matrilineal—wealth transmitted from mothers to daughters**
  - C. Patrilineal—wealth transmitted from fathers to sons**
  - D. Conjugal—monogamous couple and their biological children, independent of extended family**
- 9. In a historical sequence with end of the Civil War, The Great Migration, government policies denying rights, and deindustrialization, which event occurred second?**
- A. End of Civil War**
  - B. The Great Migration**
  - C. Government denies (policies)**
  - D. Deindustrialization**
- 10. In the left-to-right bar graph, which label corresponds to the highest social class?**
- A. Lower**
  - B. Working**
  - C. Middle**
  - D. Upper**

## Answers

SAMPLE

1. A
2. A
3. A
4. B
5. A
6. A
7. B
8. D
9. B
10. D

SAMPLE

## **Explanations**

SAMPLE

**1. Another factor contributing to eviction, as identified by Desmond, is what?**

- A. The high cost of housing**
- B. Increased home ownership**
- C. Expanded public transportation**
- D. Lower population density**

The main idea here is that housing affordability, specifically the high cost of housing, is a central factor Desmond identifies as contributing to eviction. In his work, eviction isn't just about job loss or personal failings; it's closely tied to rent burdens. When housing costs take up a large share of income and there aren't enough affordable options, households become vulnerable to eviction even when they are employed. This pricing pressure enables landlords to push tenants out through eviction as a routine response to market dynamics, helping explain why eviction is so prevalent in low-income urban areas. Increased home ownership wouldn't directly drive eviction; it typically reduces the number of renters and doesn't explain eviction on a broad scale. Expanded public transportation can improve access to jobs and services but doesn't address the underlying rent burden that fuels eviction. Lower population density usually relates to different housing pressures and doesn't inherently explain eviction risk in the same way high rents do.

**2. What conclusion about education level and socioeconomic status (SES) can be drawn from the figure?**

- A. Young people often replicate their parents.**
- B. SES determines education level for all individuals.**
- C. Education level is unrelated to SES.**
- D. Education levels exceed parental SES in most cases.**

Intergenerational transmission of educational attainment is the idea at play. The figure shows that young people's education levels tend to track their parents' SES, meaning families pass on resources, expectations, and social norms that shape what children achieve academically. When parents have higher SES, their children are more likely to reach higher education levels; when SES is lower, children are more likely to follow similar, lower levels. This pattern—education levels mirroring parental background—best captures what the data are showing. The other statements overgeneralize or contradict what the figure suggests. Saying SES determines education for all individuals ignores the evident variation and mobility that can occur. Claiming no relation conflicts with the visible association between family background and schooling. Suggesting that education levels exceed parental SES in most cases implies widespread upward mobility beyond what the figure depicts.

**3. Matthew Desmond is the author of which sociological work?**

- A. Evicted**
- B. Invisible Man**
- C. The Power Elite**
- D. The Sociological Imagination**

Matthew Desmond is the author of *Evicted*, a detailed sociological study that follows families in Milwaukee as they contend with eviction and housing precarity. The book is built on extensive fieldwork and interviews, using those real-life stories to show how eviction acts as a structural condition that shapes health, safety, and life chances for the poor. This distinguishes it from other works with similar-sounding titles or themes but by different authors. *Invisible Man* is a novel by Ralph Ellison about race and identity; *The Power Elite* and *The Sociological Imagination* are foundational sociological texts by C. Wright Mills that discuss power, society, and methods of sociology. *Evicted* stands out as Desmond's empirical, contemporary examination of housing and poverty.

**4. Which term describes wealth and power transmitted from fathers to sons?**

- A. Matrilineal**
- B. Patrilineal**
- C. Nuclear**
- D. Conjugal**

Patrilineal describes a kinship and inheritance pattern where lineage, wealth, and power are traced and transmitted through the father's line to sons. In such systems, inheritance and succession follow the male lineage, reinforcing status and property within the paternal line and often supporting patriarchal social organization. This contrasts with matrilineal, which follows the mother's line, and with terms like nuclear (a family structure of parents and children) or conjugal (relating to marriage, not lineage).

**5. Which institutional arena is associated with companionate marriage?**

- A. The Family**
- B. The State**
- C. The Market**
- D. Religion**

Companionate marriage is defined by partnerships built on emotional closeness, affection, and mutual companionship within the home. This form of marriage emphasizes spouses as companions who share in daily life, leisure, and domestic responsibilities, rather than arranging marriage for economic or hereditary reasons. The family is the arena where these intimate ties are formed, practiced, and reinforced through daily interactions, roles, and mutual support. While the state provides laws governing marriage, and the market or religion influence how marriages are arranged or valued, the defining setting for companionate marriage—where the focus is on emotional connection and domestic partnership—is the family.

**6. The concept introduced by Weber is used to explain the social class position of which group?**

- A. College students who may not have an occupation or earnings**
- B. Factory workers**
- C. Retired individuals**
- D. Immigrant families**

Weber's idea about social class focuses on the position in the labor market and the life chances people have—what opportunities they can access to obtain goods, status, and power, not just how much they currently earn. This means class is tied to future prospects as much as present earnings. College students who may not have an occupation or earnings illustrate this clearly. Even without current income, their class position is defined by their future labor-market opportunities—their education, skills, and the likelihood of obtaining a good job and income after graduation. Weber's concept helps explain how their life chances shape where they stand in the social hierarchy, based on what they are likely to be able to achieve in the job market, rather than on present earnings alone. Factory workers, retirees, or immigrant families have more immediate, observable economic positions, so while Weber's framework can still apply, the example that best highlights the notion of class tied to future market opportunities is students awaiting entry into work.

**7. Which statement about how the Census enumerates families is true?**

- A. It counts only nuclear families**
- B. It enumerates families based on respondents' definitions of their family relationships**
- C. It excludes extended family members**
- D. It relies on official government records only**

The main idea is that the Census builds its notion of a family from how people report their relationships to the householder on the census form. Respondents indicate who is related to the householder and in what way (spouse, child, parent, other relative, etc.), and those relationships define who counts as a family unit in the data. This approach allows a wide range of family forms to be captured—extended households, step-relations, cohabiting partners, and other non-nuclear arrangements can be included if they are connected to the householder. That's why this option is the best: it centers on respondents' own definitions of family relationships, rather than assuming a fixed type like only nuclear families, excluding extended members, or relying solely on official records. The Census uses self-reported relationships to organize household members into family units, reflecting social definitions of family rather than a rigid structural standard.

**8. Which description best matches a conjugal family?**

- A. Nuclear family—monogamous couple and their biological children
- B. Matrilineal—wealth transmitted from mothers to daughters
- C. Patrilineal—wealth transmitted from fathers to sons
- D. Conjugal—monogamous couple and their biological children, independent of extended family**

Conjugal family focuses on the bond between spouses and their children, forming a unit that stands independently from extended kin. The description matches this by specifying a monogamous couple and their biological children, with independence from the extended family network. This highlights the key feature: the family's primary ties are the conjugal relationship of the parents, rather than connections to a broader kin group. We can see why other ideas don't fit as well. Inheritance patterns labeled matrilineal or patrilineal describe who inherits wealth or how kinship lines are traced, not the basic structure of the family unit. The term nuclear family can overlap—it's a household of parents and biological children—but the conjugal description explicitly emphasizes the couple's relationship as the organizing center and its independence from extended relatives.

**9. In a historical sequence with end of the Civil War, The Great Migration, government policies denying rights, and deindustrialization, which event occurred second?**

- A. End of Civil War
- B. The Great Migration**
- C. Government denies (policies)
- D. Deindustrialization

The main idea here is understanding how major historical shifts unfold in time and how they reshape family life. The Civil War ends in 1865, setting the earliest anchor in this sequence. The Great Migration begins in the early 20th century—roughly around 1916—and lasts for several decades, marking a clear turning point as hundreds of thousands of Black Americans move from the rural South to urban centers in the North and West. This movement fundamentally changes where families live and work, how households are organized, and the communities they form. The later items—government policies denying rights and deindustrialization—occur after this shift, with deindustrialization mainly in the late 20th century and Jim Crow-style policies spanning late 19th into mid-20th centuries. In this ordering, the Great Migration is the second event.

**10. In the left-to-right bar graph, which label corresponds to the highest social class?**

- A. Lower**
- B. Working**
- C. Middle**
- D. Upper**

The main idea is how to read an ordered graph. When a left-to-right bar graph places categories in increasing status from left to right, the far-right label represents the highest level. Among the labels provided, Lower, Working, Middle, and Upper, the far-right category is Upper, which denotes the top tier of social class. Since Upper is higher than the others, it is the correct choice. Lower, Working, and Middle all fall below Upper in the social hierarchy, so they do not indicate the highest class.

SAMPLE

## Next Steps

**Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.**

**As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.**

**If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at [hello@examzify.com](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://sociologyoffaminquisitive.examzify.com>**

**We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!**

SAMPLE