

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

## Study Guide



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

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# 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

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- 1. Which group exhibited relatively greater gender equality than other groups?**
  - A. Mexican Americans**
  - B. Chinese Americans**
  - C. Mormons**
  - D. African Americans**
  
- 2. Which term describes a family arrangement consisting of a monogamous couple and their biological children?**
  - A. Nuclear**
  - B. Matrilineal**
  - C. Patrilineal**
  - D. Conjugal**
  
- 3. Which factor contributed to increasing economic inequality between husbands and wives during the nineteenth century?**
  - A. Industrialism**
  - B. The spread of urbanization**
  - C. The decline of manufacturing**
  - D. The rise of agriculture**
  
- 4. Which term represents class differences in media use?**
  - A. bedroom**
  - B. unstructured free time**
  - C. media time**
  - D. time squeeze**
  
- 5. Which type of connection is NOT listed as binding families in the broad definition?**
  - A. Biological**
  - B. Legal**
  - C. Emotional**
  - D. Economic**

- 6. Which method best explores what meaning marriage holds for young people?**
- A. Longitudinal survey**
  - B. In-depth interview**
  - C. Observation**
  - D. Sample survey**
- 7. 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**
- 8. 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.**
- 9. Which data collection method would study how married and cohabiting partners interact at home and how this interaction differs between the two groups?**
- A. Longitudinal survey**
  - B. In-depth interview**
  - C. Observation**
  - D. Sample survey**
- 10. During the End of the Nineteenth Century, which description applies to family structure?**
- A. High proportion of married couples and low proportion of individuals living on their own.**
  - B. Predominantly nonfamily households.**
  - C. High divorce rates.**
  - D. Low rate of marriage.**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which group exhibited relatively greater gender equality than other groups?**

- A. Mexican Americans**
- B. Chinese Americans**
- C. Mormons**
- D. African Americans**

The main idea here is how power and decision-making within families are distributed between genders. In many studies of family life, African American households have been described as showing relatively greater gender equality in the domestic sphere. This doesn't mean there is no gender hierarchy at all, but women often play a central and influential role in managing resources, caregiving, and daily family life, especially in contexts where men face unemployment, absence, or economic strain. That dynamic can lead to more collaborative or woman-empowered decision-making within the home. In contrast, the other groups tend to be associated with stronger traditional gender scripts: Mexican American families often reflect machismo and marianismo beliefs that emphasize male authority and traditional gender roles; Chinese American families have been noted for emphasizing filial piety and male-headed households; and Mormon families have explicit religiously framed norms that assign primary leadership to men in the family structure. Because of these patterns, those groups are typically viewed as exhibiting less relative gender equality in the family context compared to African American families, although there is variation within each group.

**2. Which term describes a family arrangement consisting of a monogamous couple and their biological children?**

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

This describes the idea of a family unit defined by who lives together: a monogamous couple and their biological children sharing a household. That arrangement is the classic nuclear family—two parents in a marriage with their offspring living under one roof. Matrilineal and patrilineal focus on descent or inheritance through the mother or father, not the household composition, so they don't fit here. Conjugal refers to the marital relationship itself, not the broader family structure. So the described setup is best understood as a nuclear family.

**3. Which factor contributed to increasing economic inequality between husbands and wives during the nineteenth century?**

- A. Industrialism**
- B. The spread of urbanization**
- C. The decline of manufacturing**
- D. The rise of agriculture**

Industrialization reshaped family economics by creating a wage-based system where men typically earned higher wages in factories, while women were more often relegated to lower-paid work or unpaid domestic labor. As factory wages rose, the male breadwinner became the main source of family income, and women's earnings either disappeared into the household or remained minimal due to discrimination and limited access to high-paying jobs. This divergence in earnings widened the economic gap between husbands and wives, contributing to greater economic inequality within marriages. Urbanization reinforced this pattern by concentrating workers in cities and expanding factory employment, but the key driver of the growing inequality within couples was the shift to industrial wage structures and the gendered division of labor. Decline of manufacturing or rise of agriculture would not explain the same intensification of intra-household economic disparity in the nineteenth century.

**4. Which term represents class differences in media use?**

- A. bedroom**
- B. unstructured free time**
- C. media time**
- D. time squeeze**

The key idea is about how much time people spend with media and how that varies by social class. This is captured by media time—the amount of daily or weekly time devoted to watching, listening, gaming, and online activity. Class differences show up in media time because socioeconomic status shapes access to devices and internet, private space, and daily schedules, including work and family responsibilities. All of these factors influence how much time a person or family can allocate to media and what kinds they engage with. Other terms don't fit as well because they describe different things. Bedroom focuses on the location of media use rather than the amount of use across classes. Unstructured free time refers to available leisure time in general, not specifically to media consumption patterns tied to class. Time squeeze points to the pressure of busy lives, which can affect media use but isn't itself the standard term for class-based differences in media consumption.

**5. Which type of connection is NOT listed as binding families in the broad definition?**

- A. Biological**
- B. Legal**
- C. Emotional**
- D. Economic**

The broad definition of family centers on three main ways people are tied together: biological connections (blood or genetic ties), legal ties (marriage, adoption, guardianship with recognized rights and duties), and emotional bonds (affection, care, commitment that lead to mutual support). Economic connections—sharing money, property, or labor—can shape family life but aren't considered a defining binding link in this framework. You can have biological, legal, or strong emotional bonds without relying on shared economic resources, and some families with tight economic interdependence may still be defined by those other ties. So, economic ties aren't listed as a binding connection in that broad definition.

**6. Which method best explores what meaning marriage holds for young people?**

- A. Longitudinal survey**
- B. In-depth interview**
- C. Observation**
- D. Sample survey**

Understanding what meaning marriage holds for young people relies on capturing personal perspectives, interpretations, and the context in which they live. An in-depth interview provides a one-on-one, flexible conversation that lets respondents express what marriage signifies in their own terms. The interviewer can ask follow-up questions, explore experiences, and connect beliefs to family background, culture, and life goals. This depth is essential to reveal not just attitudes, but the reasoning, feelings, and symbols attached to marriage and how those meanings may differ across individuals. By comparison, structured approaches like longitudinal or sample surveys use predefined questions and fixed response options, which can quantify patterns but limit how meaning is described or how it changes over time. Observation records behavior in real settings but typically offers little access to the private meanings people attach to marriage. So, to truly explore what marriage means for young people, an in-depth interview is the most effective method.

**7. 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.

**8. 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.

**9. Which data collection method would study how married and cohabiting partners interact at home and how this interaction differs between the two groups?**

- A. Longitudinal survey**
- B. In-depth interview**
- C. Observation**
- D. Sample survey**

Capturing real-time behavior in the home is essential to understanding how married and cohabiting partners interact and how those patterns differ between groups. Observation lets researchers watch interactions as they occur—conversations, shared tasks, routines, conflict, affection, and nonverbal cues—in the actual environment. This naturalistic data reveal how partners negotiate, cooperate, or disagree in everyday life, providing a direct comparison of interaction styles across the two groups without relying on memory or self-reported tendencies that can be biased or incomplete. Other methods would fall short for this purpose. A longitudinal survey tracks people over time with questionnaires, which can show trends but relies on self-report and may miss the subtleties of everyday interaction. An in-depth interview explores participants' thoughts and explanations about their behavior, offering rich meanings but not enough detail about how interactions unfold in the home. A sample survey provides broad snapshots but typically lacks the in-depth, moment-to-moment data that naturalistic observation captures.

**10. During the End of the Nineteenth Century, which description applies to family structure?**

- A. High proportion of married couples and low proportion of individuals living on their own.**
- B. Predominantly nonfamily households.**
- C. High divorce rates.**
- D. Low rate of marriage.**

The main idea here is how family life was organized around marriage in the late 1800s. During this period, marriage was the expected path for adult life, and households were typically formed by a married couple, often with children, sometimes alongside other relatives. Economic and social structures supported co-residence and family-based living, so living alone or as a single person was relatively uncommon. Divorce rates were not high, and the social norms around permanence of marriage kept most families in two-spouse households rather than single-person living arrangements. All of this points to a pattern with a high proportion of married couples and a low proportion of individuals living on their own.

## 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!**

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