

# JCJC Sociology 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. What mode of transportation did cars displace, according to the material?**
  - A. Trains**
  - B. Bicycles**
  - C. Horse and buggy**
  - D. Airplanes**
  
- 2. Which change did automobiles bring about for women?**
  - A. Increased confinement**
  - B. Freedom from narrow confines of their homes**
  - C. Decreased mobility**
  - D. No change**
  
- 3. \_\_\_\_ mortgage applicants are most frequently offered subprime loans, which charge the highest interest.**
  - A. White American**
  - B. Asian American**
  - C. African American**
  - D. Hispanic**
  
- 4. In the Nazi of China, descent is traced only on the mother's side; there is no word for "father." In this system, what term describes the descent pattern?**
  - A. Patrilineal**
  - B. Matrilineal**
  - C. Bilateral**
  - D. Unilineal**
  
- 5. What does homogamy describe in sociological terms?**
  - A. The tendency of people with similar characteristics to marry one another.**
  - B. The tendency to marry someone with different characteristics.**
  - C. A form of marriage in which women have more than one husband.**
  - D. A system in which partners are chosen by social arrangement.**

- 6. Which occupation has the most prestige in the United States?**
- A. Physician**
  - B. Banker**
  - C. Actress**
  - D. Plumber**
- 7. Which term describes theories that claim all societies progress identically?**
- A. Unilinear**
  - B. Multilinear**
  - C. Cyclical**
  - D. Postindustrial**
- 8. Which factor is most closely associated with shaping the upper middle class, according to the material?**
- A. Wealth**
  - B. Occupation**
  - C. Education**
  - D. Geography**
- 9. The statement 'Authority is held by males' characterizes which type of society?**
- A. Pluralistic**
  - B. Matriarchal**
  - C. Egalitarian**
  - D. Patriarchal**
- 10. What percentage of the nation's wealth is owned by the wealthiest 10% of Americans?**
- A. 60%**
  - B. 77%**
  - C. 50%**
  - D. 25%**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What mode of transportation did cars displace, according to the material?**

- A. Trains**
- B. Bicycles**
- C. Horse and buggy**
- D. Airplanes**

The main idea here is how motorized vehicles replaced animal-powered transport in everyday mobility. Cars displaced the horse and buggy because they offered faster, more reliable travel and eliminated the need to feed, care for, and house horses. This shift transformed daily life, especially in cities and growing suburbs, where car use reduced demand for horse-drawn carriages and related services. Long-distance and bulk travel continued to rely on trains and airplanes, and bicycles remained a separate option for cheap, short trips, so they weren't the primary mode replaced by cars.

**2. Which change did automobiles bring about for women?**

- A. Increased confinement**
- B. Freedom from narrow confines of their homes**
- C. Decreased mobility**
- D. No change**

Automobiles expanded women's mobility and autonomy. Having a car allowed women to travel farther and on their own terms, beyond the limits of walking or relying on others for transportation. This made it easier to work outside the home, attend school, run errands, and participate in social and civic life, contributing to greater independence in daily routines. That shift—moving from being largely confined to the home to having more control over where and when to go—best captures the change described. The other options describe effects that don't fit this history: cars didn't increase confinement or decrease mobility, and there was indeed a change in how women moved and lived.

**3. \_\_\_\_ mortgage applicants are most frequently offered subprime loans, which charge the highest interest.**

- A. White American**
- B. Asian American**
- C. African American**
- D. Hispanic**

Subprime lending is about offering high-cost loans to borrowers with weaker credit, often with steeper interest rates and extra fees. In housing finance, African American applicants have historically been much more likely to be steered into these riskier, more expensive products. This pattern reflects a long history of discrimination and structural barriers in lending—where minority borrowers faced limited access to favorable prime loans and were disproportionately targeted for subprime terms. The combination of discriminatory steering and higher-risk pricing meant African American borrowers bore higher interest and costs, contributing to greater challenges in building wealth through homeownership. While other groups can encounter subprime options too, the historical pattern shows African American applicants face this outcome most frequently, making them the best fit for the statement.

**4. In the Naxi of China, descent is traced only on the mother's side; there is no word for "father." In this system, what term describes the descent pattern?**

**A. Patrilineal**

**B. Matrilineal**

**C. Bilateral**

**D. Unilineal**

Descent traced through the mother's line is matrilineal. In matrilineal systems, kinship, inheritance, and family membership are defined through female relatives, and the lineage is carried forward via the mother's side. The absence of emphasis on the father in the kinship terms fits this pattern, since the lineage is not tracked through the paternal line. This differentiates matrilineal from patrilineal (descent through the father's line) and bilateral (descent through both sides). While unilineal is a broader category describing descent through one line, matrilineal specifies the exact line being used—through women.

**5. What does homogamy describe in sociological terms?**

**A. The tendency of people with similar characteristics to marry one another.**

**B. The tendency to marry someone with different characteristics.**

**C. A form of marriage in which women have more than one husband.**

**D. A system in which partners are chosen by social arrangement.**

Homogamy describes the tendency for people to marry someone who resembles them in important characteristics—things like education, religion, race or ethnicity, social class, age, and family background. This resemblance helps with shared values, lifestyles, and social networks, which can make daily life, childrearing, and mutual support smoother and more predictable. Because marriages often form within similar groups, homogamy reinforces existing social boundaries and patterns. The other choices point to different marriage patterns—marrying someone with different characteristics is heterogamy; a marriage where a woman has more than one husband is polyandry; and a system where partners are chosen by social arrangement describes arranged marriage.

**6. Which occupation has the most prestige in the United States?**

- A. Physician**
- B. Banker**
- C. Actress**
- D. Plumber**

Prestige in occupations is largely tied to education, responsibility, and the perceived impact on people's lives. Physicians fit this pattern because they undergo extensive training, obtain professional licensure, and hold authority in medical decisions. Their work directly affects health and survival, and they are trusted figures in society. This combination of advanced education, professional autonomy, and moral trust is why physicians consistently rank at the top of occupational prestige. Bankers are influential and well compensated, but public concerns about finance can complicate their prestige. Actors are highly visible and admired by many, yet fame doesn't always translate into systemic prestige as a profession. Plumbers perform essential, skilled work and are respected, but they typically don't carry the same level of formal education or public authority, which lowers their overall prestige on the scale.

**7. Which term describes theories that claim all societies progress identically?**

- A. Unilinear**
- B. Multilinear**
- C. Cyclical**
- D. Postindustrial**

The main idea being tested is how early theories of social development described human societies. Unilinear theories claim that all societies progress along the same universal path, moving through identical stages from simple to more complex forms. In other words, every culture would develop in the same sequence, regardless of environment or history. That makes unilinear the best description for theories claiming identical progression across all societies. In contrast, multilinear theories argue that societies can follow different developmental paths based on local conditions; cyclical ideas emphasize recurring rise-and-fall patterns rather than the same fixed sequence for everyone; and postindustrial refers to a later stage in industrialized societies, not a universal progression applicable to all cultures.

**8. Which factor is most closely associated with shaping the upper middle class, according to the material?**

- A. Wealth
- B. Occupation
- C. Education**
- D. Geography

Education is the strongest factor shaping the upper middle class because higher levels of schooling provide the credentials, specialized knowledge, and legitimacy that open doors to professional and managerial roles with higher pay and prestige. These occupations then reinforce social and cultural capital, helping sustain the lifestyle associated with the upper middle class. While wealth, occupation, and geography influence opportunities, the material emphasizes education as the closest link to this class because it directly determines qualification for the sought-after jobs and the status those jobs convey.

**9. The statement 'Authority is held by males' characterizes which type of society?**

- A. Pluralistic
- B. Matriarchal
- C. Egalitarian
- D. Patriarchal**

Authority held by males signals a patriarchal system, where men dominate the centers of power—political leadership, religious or moral authority, and control over resources and inheritance. In such a setup family and social structures often place men in the primary decision-making roles, with lineage and property passing through the male line. This contrasts with matriarchal arrangements, where women would hold the primary power, or egalitarian and pluralistic systems, which distribute influence more evenly among genders or groups.

**10. What percentage of the nation's wealth is owned by the wealthiest 10% of Americans?**

- A. 60%
- B. 77%**
- C. 50%
- D. 25%

Wealth is highly concentrated in the United States, with the top portion of households holding a large share of all assets. The figure around 77% means that roughly seven out of ten and more of the nation's wealth sits with the wealthiest tenth of the population, while the bottom 90% share the remaining about 23%. This level of concentration shows why the other numbers don't fit: 60% would understate how dominant the top group is, 50% would imply a perfectly even split, and 25% would say the bottom 90% hold most of the wealth, which isn't the case. This distribution arises from long-standing advantages in savings, investments, and inherited wealth, shaping how assets accumulate over time and persist across generations.

## 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://jcjsociology.examzify.com>**

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

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