

University of Toronto (UofT) SOC100H1 Introduction to Sociology I - Sociological Perspectives Practice Exam (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 are ascribed statuses?

- A. Attributes gained through education**
- B. Attributes assigned at birth**
- C. Attributes earned through hard work**
- D. Attributes related to occupational status**

2. What does the term sportswashing refer to?

- A. Using sports to promote nationalism**
- B. Improving reputation through sports sponsorship**
- C. Excluding certain cultures from sports events**
- D. Promoting cultural diversity in sports**

3. How is 'overt' commonly defined in sociological terms?

- A. Indirect and hidden actions**
- B. Notable and clearly evident actions**
- C. Subtle and difficult to interpret**
- D. Secretive and private interactions**

4. How is race typically defined in sociological terms?

- A. A shared cultural heritage**
- B. Distinct physical characteristics deemed socially significant**
- C. Personal identity based on cultural practices**
- D. A historical event leading to societal change**

5. What is a primary feature of abstract cultural qualities?

- A. They are tangible and easily measurable**
- B. They profoundly affect everyday life while being intangible**
- C. They are mandated by law**
- D. They consist solely of physical artifacts**

6. What does objectivity in sociology refer to?

- A. The reliance on anecdotal evidence and personal experiences**
- B. The use of personal opinions and subjective interpretations**
- C. Basing conclusions on verifiable facts and scientific principles**
- D. Assessing information through emotional responses**

7. Which one of the following statements best describes the impact of social media on science perception?

- A. It has completely replaced traditional education**
- B. It has diminished skepticism toward scientific claims**
- C. It encourages critical thinking and skepticism**
- D. It solely promotes misinformation**

8. What is the concept of intergenerational trauma?

- A. The transfer of trauma across generations**
- B. The trauma experienced by individuals alone**
- C. A type of mental health disorder**
- D. A form of historical documentation**

9. What is the most common type of crime reported across countries?

- A. Violent crimes**
- B. Robbery**
- C. Theft**
- D. Fraud**

10. Changes and inequality within the labor market are characterized by:

- A. Increased job security**
- B. Reduced power of Multi-National Corporations**
- C. Violations of human rights and labor standards**
- D. Uniform employee wages**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What are ascribed statuses?

- A. Attributes gained through education
- B. Attributes assigned at birth**
- C. Attributes earned through hard work
- D. Attributes related to occupational status

Ascribed statuses are defined as attributes that individuals are assigned at birth and are typically not chosen or earned through personal effort. These statuses can include factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, and family background, which significantly influence a person's identity and social standing within society. Since ascribed statuses are innate and often unchangeable, they form a foundational aspect of an individual's social identity. In contrast, attributes gained through education or earned through hard work relate to achieved statuses, which reflect personal accomplishments and choices made later in life. Likewise, occupational status usually pertains to roles that individuals enter into by virtue of their professional achievements rather than characteristics assigned to them at birth. Thus, the distinction is crucial for understanding how different types of social status affect individuals' experiences and opportunities in a society.

2. What does the term sportswashing refer to?

- A. Using sports to promote nationalism
- B. Improving reputation through sports sponsorship**
- C. Excluding certain cultures from sports events
- D. Promoting cultural diversity in sports

The term sportswashing primarily refers to the practice of improving a country's or corporation's reputation by sponsoring or hosting sporting events, thereby distracting from negative perceptions or controversial actions. This strategy involves utilizing the positive appeal and widespread popularity of sports to reshape public opinion, often in an effort to draw attention away from issues such as human rights violations, political controversies, or other unethical behaviors. By hosting major sporting events or investing in sports teams, entities can project an image of progressiveness or benevolence, which can help rehabilitate their public image. This tactic has been observed in various contexts, where governments or corporations seek to align themselves with the values of sportsmanship, competition, and unity—values that are typically celebrated globally—while other aspects of their policies or actions may starkly contradict those values. Understanding this concept helps clarify how sports can be leveraged as a tool in broader social and political strategies, emphasizing the impact of sporting events on national and corporate branding efforts.

3. How is 'overt' commonly defined in sociological terms?

- A. Indirect and hidden actions
- B. Notable and clearly evident actions**
- C. Subtle and difficult to interpret
- D. Secretive and private interactions

In sociological terms, 'overt' refers to actions or behaviors that are notable and clearly evident. This means that the actions are observable and transparent, allowing individuals to see and understand them without ambiguity. Overt behavior is often contrasted with covert actions, which are hidden or not immediately apparent. The significance of understanding overt actions lies in their impact on social interaction and communication. For instance, in observational research or study design, focusing on overt behavior allows researchers to analyze and interpret social dynamics more straightforwardly because these behaviors can easily be seen and quantified. In contrast, the other options suggest characteristics of behavior that are indirectly expressed, hidden, or ambiguous, which do not align with the definition of 'overt.' Recognizing overt actions is crucial for analyzing, interpreting, and understanding the social world, as they form a fundamental part of human interaction.

4. How is race typically defined in sociological terms?

- A. A shared cultural heritage
- B. Distinct physical characteristics deemed socially significant**
- C. Personal identity based on cultural practices
- D. A historical event leading to societal change

In sociological terms, race is typically defined as distinct physical characteristics deemed socially significant. This understanding emphasizes that race is constructed socially rather than purely biologically. Sociologists recognize that the traits considered "racial" are grounded in the social meanings ascribed to them, which influence individuals' identities and experiences within society. This perspective highlights that although physical attributes may categorize individuals into different groups, these categorizations vary across cultures and historical contexts. The significance placed on these characteristics can lead to social consequences, including discrimination and privilege. By focusing on the social importance of these traits, sociology aims to unravel the complexities of race in social interactions, institutional practices, and systemic inequalities. The other options relate to different concepts. For instance, a shared cultural heritage pertains more accurately to ethnicity, which emphasizes cultural identity and practices rather than the socially significant physical traits associated with race. Personal identity based on cultural practices again emphasizes ethnicity rather than race, as it centers on how individuals identify with cultural groups. A historical event leading to societal change reflects a broader social phenomenon rather than a definition of race itself. The focus on physical characteristics that hold social meaning distinguishes the correct choice as the most aligned with sociological definitions of race.

5. What is a primary feature of abstract cultural qualities?

- A. They are tangible and easily measurable
- B. They profoundly affect everyday life while being intangible**
- C. They are mandated by law
- D. They consist solely of physical artifacts

The primary feature of abstract cultural qualities is that they profoundly affect everyday life while being intangible. Abstract cultural qualities include elements such as values, beliefs, norms, and social roles, which shape individuals' behaviors and interactions within a society. These aspects of culture are not physical objects but rather concepts and ideas that influence how people think, feel, and act on a daily basis. For example, a society's belief in the importance of individualism can guide the behavior of its members, even though this belief cannot be touched or seen. Such abstract qualities can significantly influence social relationships, institutions, and even societal structures. This makes the impact of such cultural qualities deeply ingrained in the social fabric, affecting everything from personal choices to social policies. The other options suggest characteristics that do not accurately capture the essence of abstract cultural qualities. Tangible and easily measurable attributes do not reflect the intangible nature of these cultural elements. Laws dictate behaviors in a more concrete manner, yet many cultural qualities exist independently of legal mandates. Lastly, focusing solely on physical artifacts overlooks the critical role that intangible ideas and values play in shaping culture.

6. What does objectivity in sociology refer to?

- A. The reliance on anecdotal evidence and personal experiences
- B. The use of personal opinions and subjective interpretations
- C. Basing conclusions on verifiable facts and scientific principles**
- D. Assessing information through emotional responses

Objectivity in sociology refers to basing conclusions on verifiable facts and scientific principles. This approach emphasizes the importance of using systematic research methods and empirical evidence to analyze social phenomena. By adhering to objectivity, sociologists aim to eliminate personal biases, emotional responses, and subjectivity that could distort their findings. This reliance on factual data allows sociologists to draw more reliable and valid conclusions, contributing to a more accurate understanding of social dynamics and structures. This rigor is essential in the study of social behaviors, institutions, and relationships, enabling sociologists to contribute meaningful insights to both academic discourse and societal issues.

7. Which one of the following statements best describes the impact of social media on science perception?

- A. It has completely replaced traditional education**
- B. It has diminished skepticism toward scientific claims**
- C. It encourages critical thinking and skepticism**
- D. It solely promotes misinformation**

The statement that social media encourages critical thinking and skepticism accurately reflects the nuanced role that social media plays in the dissemination of scientific information. Social media platforms provide a vast array of content, including scientific discussions, studies, and debates, which can stimulate critical engagement among users. Through the ability to share, comment on, and discuss various scientific claims and findings, individuals can develop a more discerning approach to information, questioning and seeking evidence before accepting assertions as truth. This environment enables users to encounter diverse viewpoints, leading to a better understanding of scientific concepts and an increased ability to differentiate credible information from less reliable sources. Additionally, as people share their own experiences and knowledge, it cultivates an atmosphere where healthy skepticism can thrive, allowing users to challenge or support scientific claims based on presented evidence. The other options suggest a more binary understanding of social media's influence. These implications overlook the complexity of its impact, which includes fostering informed skepticism rather than outright replacing educational methods or solely spreading misinformation.

8. What is the concept of intergenerational trauma?

- A. The transfer of trauma across generations**
- B. The trauma experienced by individuals alone**
- C. A type of mental health disorder**
- D. A form of historical documentation**

The concept of intergenerational trauma refers to the transfer of trauma across generations. This idea posits that the effects of trauma experienced by one generation can be passed down to subsequent generations, influencing their psychological, emotional, and social well-being. This transmission can occur through various means, such as family narratives, parenting behaviors, and the social environment, where children may inherit the psychological scars and patterns of coping that their parents experienced. Understanding intergenerational trauma is crucial because it highlights how the repercussions of historical events, such as genocide, colonization, war, or systemic oppression, can affect not just those who directly experienced the trauma but also their descendants. This concept is significant in fields such as psychology, sociology, and social work, as it emphasizes the importance of considering the broader historical and familial context when addressing mental health and well-being in communities. The other choices do not capture the essence of intergenerational trauma. While trauma can certainly affect individuals, the core idea here is specifically about the transmission across generations. It is not merely a mental health disorder but rather a complex interplay of historical trauma and its impact on future generations. Additionally, intergenerational trauma is not limited to documentation; it encompasses lived experiences and emotional legacies that transcend temporal boundaries

9. What is the most common type of crime reported across countries?

- A. Violent crimes**
- B. Robbery**
- C. Theft**
- D. Fraud**

The choice of theft as the most common type of crime reported across countries is supported by a variety of social and economic factors. Theft, which encompasses a range of offenses such as burglary, shoplifting, and petty larceny, often occurs in various forms that can be prevalent in many communities. One reason theft is widespread is that it often stems from economic necessity; individuals may resort to stealing due to poverty or lack of access to resources. Additionally, theft-related crimes are relatively easier to commit compared to violent crimes, which often involve a higher degree of risk for offenders. As a result, theft tends to be reported more frequently, as it can happen in a wide array of settings, from urban areas to rural communities. In contrast, violent crimes, while serious, occur less frequently in comparison to theft. Robbery, though it involves theft, also includes elements of force or intimidation, which makes it less common than simple theft. Fraud often requires a level of sophistication and can be more complex to perpetrate, which may limit its occurrence compared to more straightforward acts of theft. Overall, the broader scope and varying contexts in which theft can occur contribute to its status as the most commonly reported crime globally.

10. Changes and inequality within the labor market are characterized by:

- A. Increased job security**
- B. Reduced power of Multi-National Corporations**
- C. Violations of human rights and labor standards**
- D. Uniform employee wages**

The changes and inequality within the labor market are particularly characterized by violations of human rights and labor standards. This answer highlights a significant issue in contemporary labor dynamics, where workers, especially in less regulated environments or developing economies, often face exploitative conditions. These violations can manifest in various forms, such as inadequate wages, unsafe working conditions, and insufficient rights for workers to organize or voice grievances. This context is essential in sociology, as it emphasizes how systemic inequalities are perpetuated through labor practices. For instance, multinational corporations may prioritize profit over ethical labor standards, leading to exploitative practices. The focus on human rights violations highlights the broader implications of labor market inequalities and their impact on social justice and workers' rights, making it a critical point of analysis in sociological discussions. Other options do not reflect the current realities of labor market changes, as job security has often decreased in many sectors, multinational corporations have been seen increasing their influence rather than losing power, and uniform wages are uncommon in a diverse labor market characterized by significant variance in pay.

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.

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

<https://uoft-soc100h1.examzify.com>

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

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