



**SIR ARTHUR LEWIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ACADEMIC YEAR (2024/2025) - SEMESTER ONE  
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION**

*COURSE CODE* : SOC217  
*COURSE TITLE* : Caribbean Social Problems  
*LECTURER(S)* : Tasha Saiwak-William  
*DATE* : May 8, 2025  
*TIME* : 9 a.m.  
*DURATION* : 2 Hours  
*STUDENT ID #* : \_\_\_\_\_

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**GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS**

- Students must sign **IN** and **OUT** on the examination class list.

**Instructions:**

1. This paper consists of **Two (2) Sections**.
2. **Section A** consists of Fifty (50) Multiple Choice Questions.
3. **Section B** Short Answer Questions.
4. Write your ID Number on each answer sheet.
5. Please number your responses accurately.
6. Answer **ALL** questions.

**DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO**

## SECTION A - MULTIPLE CHOICE

### **Instructions**

1. This section consists of fifty (50) Multiple Choice Questions.
2. **Read** each question carefully. **Select** the correct answer on the answer sheet provided.

1. The minimum required to keep an individual in food clothing and shelter is referred to as:  
A) Bread line  
B) Poverty line  
C) Deprivation index  
D) Psychological needs
2. All of the following are types of poverty EXCEPT:  
A) Absolute  
B) Relative  
C) Objective  
D) Subjective
3. All of the following are causes of poverty EXCEPT:  
A) Large family and single parenting  
B) Unemployment and low pay  
C) Political cohesion  
D) Inherited factors
4. Which of the following describes when a person is born in poverty and dies in poverty?  
A) Absolute poverty  
B) Subjective poverty  
C) Critical poverty  
D) Chronic Poverty
5. Which of the following is considered the cause of poverty by Marxists?  
A) Cultural Patterns of working-class people  
B) Exploitation faced by working-class people  
C) Consumption patterns of working-class people  
D) Poor education among working-class people
6. All of the following strategies can help to reduce poverty EXCEPT:  
A) Banning inferior cultures  
B) Creating employment opportunities  
C) Developing welfare programmes  
D) Promoting equity in education
7. Which of the following does NOT explain the continuance of poverty in society?  
A) The inability of the poor to create generational wealth  
B) The increased industrialization of society  
C) The uneven distribution of wealth between social groups  
D) The increased pressure on welfare programmes
8. John is the CEO of a multinational organization and lives in one of the most exclusive communities in the country. In a recent interview, John expressed that he is a member of the working class. Which definition of poverty can be used to explain this situation?  
A) Relative  
B) Subjective  
C) Seasonal  
D) Generational

9. It is necessary to monitor poverty in the Caribbean MAINLY because:
  - A) It reflects the level of equity between social groups
  - B) It leads to the collation of poverty data
  - C) It facilitates the creation of development strategies
  - D) It determines the effectiveness of poverty reduction programmes
  
10. Which of the following statements would not fall under the ambit of the Functionalist Perspective of poverty:
  - A) The poor are less able and less talented than others in society
  - B) Poverty encourages poor people to better themselves
  - C) The real cause of poverty is the uneven distribution of wealth
  - D) Poor unemployed people create a reserved army of labourers
  
11. According to the individualistic conservative theory:
  - A) The cause of poverty and inequality are rooted in the individual's failings
  - B) The individual's inability to create generational wealth
  - C) The individual's willingness to work
  - D) The individuals' unwillingness to be educated
  
12. Which of the following theorists stated that "one should help those who helped themselves".
  - A) Oscar Lewis
  - B) Herbert Spencer
  - C) Max Weber
  - D) Karl Marx
  
13. All of the following are poverty trends in the contemporary Caribbean EXCEPT:
  - A) More women suffer from poverty than men
  - B) Poverty is higher in urban areas
  - C) Education has reduced poverty
  - D) Intergenerational poverty has increased
  
14. Oscar Lewis developed the \_\_\_\_\_thesis.
  - A) Labor market
  - B) Cyclical poverty
  - C) Critical poverty
  - D) Culture of poverty
  
15. People who are not working and who have no interest in obtaining a job for example students and housewives fall in the following category:
  - A) Unemployed
  - B) Unemployable
  - C) Outside the labour force
  - D) Employed
  
16. Which of the following is the MAIN criterion used by sociologists to determine whether a family is in absolute poverty?
  - A) Living conditions
  - B) Income
  - C) Education
  - D) Size

17. According to functionalists, the BEST function that deviance serves is that it:
- A) Helps to maintain group equilibrium.
  - B) Creates confusion with regard to what is expected.
  - C) Helps to alleviate tensions between segments of society.
  - D) Undermines trust, making people unsure of the behaviour of others.
18. Social control is MOST accurately defined as:
- A) A combination of internal and external factors that encourage conformity.
  - B) Institutional values, norms and attitudes that constrain human behaviour.
  - C) The external factors that encourage normative behaviour.
  - D) The internal factors that constrain human behaviour.
19. Tevin lives in a community labelled a high crime area, where he is able to learn criminal techniques. Which of the following theorists claim that such behaviour is learned from criminals in the community?
- A) Becker and Lea & young
  - B) Cohen and Merton
  - C) Marx and Lemert
  - D) Sutherland and Cloward & Ohlin
20. Which of the following theorists believe that the bourgeoisie utilizes both the ideological state apparatus and the repressive state apparatus to control the proletariat?
- A) Talcott Parsons
  - B) Max Weber
  - C) Louis Althusser
  - D) Emile Durkheim
21. Albert Cohen and Walter Miller believe that most crime is committed among:
- A) Low-income youth
  - B) High income youth
  - C) Middle class men
  - D) Middle class women
22. Cloward and Ohlin maintain that three subcultures may arise as a result of differential access to illegitimate and legitimate opportunities. Which of the following is NOT one of these subcultures?
- A) Retreatist subculture
  - B) Lower class subculture
  - C) Criminal subculture
  - D) Conflict subculture
23. According to Merton's strain theory, which term refers to the situation in which someone seeks the goals of society but rejects the conventional means to do so?
- A) Ritualism
  - B) Innovation
  - C) Rebellion
  - D) Retreatism
24. According to Sutherland one of the main reasons for the prevalence of crime in society is that:
- A) Criminals are born bad.
  - B) Criminals need resources.
  - C) Criminals do not feel sorry for anybody.
  - D) Criminal behavior is learnt

25. Which of the following statements is associated with the Marxist theory of crime?
- A) Criminal behaviour is linked to personality and intelligence.
  - B) Some crime is necessary for the survival of the social system.
  - C) Most laws concern the protection of private property.
  - D) Delinquent subcultures emerge when juveniles band together to form gangs.
26. All of the following are issues related to crime and deviance in Caribbean EXCEPT:
- A) Domestic violence
  - B) Drug abuse and trafficking
  - C) Juvenile delinquency
  - D) Teenage Pregnancy
27. Some Caribbean youth turn to drug trafficking to realize their goals. Robert Merton views this phenomenon as:
- A) Innovation
  - B) Rebellion
  - C) Conformity
  - D) Ritualism
28. Which of the following statements is TRUE of white-collar crime?
- A) It is a visible type of crime.
  - B) It includes crimes such as fraud, bribery, theft of services.
  - C) This type of crime does not involve deception.
  - D) Political and corporate crime is not viewed as white-collar crime.
29. From a functionalist perspective which of the following is the main reason why people abuse drugs?
- A) Weak self-control as a result of inadequate parenting.
  - B) Exposure of individuals to learning environments that promote crime.
  - C) The social and economic conditions in which the members of the working class live.
  - D) Failure to develop strong bonds with conventional people.
30. Hirschi's control theory indicates that deviant behavior will most likely occur among:
- A) High income youth who are disenchanting with their lives.
  - B) Middle class college students.
  - C) Youth with unstable family structures and weak attachments.
  - D) Youth with strong attachments to social institutions.
31. White collar and corporate crimes pose a serious social problem to Caribbean nations, yet often remain unnoticed. Why are these types of crimes so difficult to detect?
- A) These tend to be made up of simple small-scale actions.
  - B) Perpetrators are not high-profile individuals in society.
  - C) Perpetrators are usually first-time offenders.
  - D) These tend to be intermingled with legitimate behaviour.
32. A juvenile is usually defined as:
- A) An individual who is 18 years of age who violates the laws of society.
  - B) A middle-aged male who violates the laws of society.
  - C) An individual who is under the age of 18 who violates the laws of society.
  - D) A middle-aged female who violates the laws of society.

33. All of the following are formal agents of control EXCEPT:
- A) Parliament
  - B) Judiciary
  - C) Church organizations
  - D) The Police
34. Another name for “lifestyle” diseases is:
- A) Communicable diseases
  - B) Non-communicable diseases
  - C) Infectious diseases
  - D) Cardiovascular diseases
35. All of the following are identified as leading causes of death in the Caribbean EXCEPT:
- A) Tuberculosis
  - B) Diabetes
  - C) Obesity
  - D) Heart disease
36. All of the following contribute to lifestyle diseases EXCEPT:
- A) Unhealthy diets
  - B) Regular exercise
  - C) Smoking
  - D) Excessive alcohol intake
37. Illness is socially constructed because:
- A) Nobody can truly tell whether a person is ill
  - B) People experience illness differently
  - C) Illnesses are transmitted through personal interaction
  - D) Illness cannot be empirically determined.
38. The poor in the Caribbean report lower levels of illness than the non-poor primarily because:
- A) The poor rarely get sick.
  - B) It is more likely that the non-poor will contract an illness.
  - C) The poor use local remedies.
  - D) Levels of reported illness will vary with educational levels and awareness.
39. Functionalists believe that doctors are important because:
- A) They studied medicine for many years
  - B) They distribute medicine
  - C) They determine who is ill or not
  - D) They prevent mortality
40. \_\_\_\_\_ describes good health and wellbeing as the ability to function effectively in many environments.
- A) Macionis and Plummer
  - B) World Health Organization
  - C) Ivan Illich
  - D) Talcott Parsons

41. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to a group of metabolic diseases in which a person has high blood sugar, either because the pancreas does not produce enough insulin or because cells do not respond to the insulin produced.
- A) Hypertension
  - B) Coronary heart disease
  - C) Diabetes
  - D) Liver cancer
42. This is a term used by sociologists to refer to rates of illness experienced by individuals in a society.
- A) Morbidity rate
  - B) Mortality rate
  - C) Infant mortality rate
  - D) Death rate
43. All of the following are sources of data used to compile the morbidity rate of a specific society EXCEPT:
- A) Hospital records
  - B) Private health institutions
  - C) Treasury
  - D) Social surveys
44. According to the \_\_\_\_\_ perspective all diseases are associated with capitalism.
- A) Functionalist
  - B) Interactionist
  - C) Feminist
  - D) Marxist
45. Carcinogen refers to:
- A) Consuming processed foods.
  - B) A substance that is directly involved in causing cancer.
  - C) Consuming products with chemical additives.
  - D) A substance found in cigarettes.
46. The process by which doctors swear to do all they can to help the sick regardless of material interests is referred to as:
- A) The sick role
  - B) Disease prevention
  - C) The Hippocratic Oath
  - D) The conservation function
47. Marxists believe that inequality in the health care is caused by:
- A) The class structures within society
  - B) The lack of funding by government agencies
  - C) The disparities between private and public healthcare
  - D) The cultural patterns of working-class people

48. Many infectious diseases such as measles and dysentery were brought to the Caribbean by the Europeans during:
- A) The Columbian era
  - B) The post emancipation era
  - C) The post-independence era
  - D) Slavery
49. All of the following contributed to high morbidity and mortality rates after emancipation in the Caribbean EXCEPT:
- A) Open pit latrines in the cities.
  - B) Absence of proper drainage systems.
  - C) Inefficient garbage disposal system.
  - D) A reliable water supply.
50. \_\_\_\_\_ is considered to be responsible for people in developing countries acquiring a desire for Western made items such as soft drinks.
- A) Fast food outlets
  - B) The ideology of Consumerism
  - C) The legacy of slavery
  - D) Industrialization

### SECTION B – SHORT ANSWER

**Instructions:**

**This section contains THREE (3) questions with different parts.**

**Answer any TWO (2) of the following questions.**

**Each question is worth TEN (10) marks.**

**Question One**

- (a) Define the following terms:
- (i) Crime
  - (ii) Deviance
- (2 Marks)
- (b) State two (2) causes of crime
- (2 Marks)
- (c) Explain the difference between drug abuse and drug trafficking.
- Use sociological theoretical perspectives to support your response.
- (6 Marks)

**Question Two**

- (a) Define the following terms:
- (i) Poverty
  - (ii) Deprivation Index
- (2 Marks)
- (b) Explain the difference between absolute poverty and subjective poverty.
- (4 Marks)
- (c) State two (2) causes of poverty.
- (2 Marks)
- (d) List two (2) poverty reduction strategies.
- (2 Marks)

### **Question Three**

- (a) Define the following terms:
- (i) Morbidity
  - (ii) Mortality
- (2 Marks)
- (b) Explain the difference between non – communicable diseases and communicable diseases.
- (4 Marks)
- (c) Describe two (2) strategies that governments can implement to alleviate diseases.
- (4 Marks)

**END OF EXAMINATION**