

Guided Reading Activity



An Invitation to Sociology

Lesson 3 *Theoretical Perspectives*

Review Questions

Directions: Locate each heading below in your textbook. Then use the information under the correct heading and subheading to help you write each answer.

I. The Role of Theoretical Perspectives

A. Why are there conflicting theoretical perspectives and what are the most widely-used ones in sociology?

B. What are the five key concepts in sociology?

II. Functionalism

A. According to functionalism, how does a change in one part of a society affect the society as a whole?

B. How could a latent function also be a dysfunction?

C. According to functionalism, when does a high degree of cooperation exist?

III. Conflict Perspective

A. What do supporters of the conflict perspective mean when they speak of "power"? Where does this "power" come from?

Guided Reading Activity *cont.*



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B. According to the conflict perspective, why does society change?

IV. Symbolic Interactionism

A. According to symbolic interactionism, what are symbols, and why are they important?

B. How do people in a societal group learn what a given symbol means?

C. What does the term *dramaturgy* have to do with this perspective?

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

What does each theoretical perspective believe about where a society's power lies?

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