

IJMB Sociology Past Questions (Compiled)

Sociology Questions

1. Define sociology and explain its scope.
2. Discuss the major stages in the development of sociology as a discipline.
3. What is culture? Explain its components and functions.
4. Describe the process of socialization and name the agents involved.
5. Discuss the concept of social stratification and its forms.
6. Explain the differences between primary and secondary groups.
7. Discuss the relationship between society and the individual.
8. Define deviance and discuss its types.
9. Explain the sociological perspectives of functionalism and conflict theory.
10. Discuss the methods of social research used in sociology.

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Answers

1. Sociology is the scientific study of society, social relationships and institutions; scope includes culture, socialization, stratification, deviance, and social change.
2. Major stages: Pre-sociology (17th–18th C.), Classical sociology (19th C.), Contemporary sociology (20th C. onwards).
3. Culture is the learned way of life; components include norms, values, symbols, language; functions: social cohesion, guiding behaviour.
4. Socialization transfers culture and inculcates norms; agents include family, school, peers, media.
5. Social stratification is hierarchical division; forms include caste, class, gender, ethnicity.
6. Primary groups are small, close-knit (e.g., family); secondary are larger and goal-oriented (e.g., workplace).
7. Society shapes individuals through norms and roles; individuals also influence society via actions and innovation.
8. Deviance is behaviour that violates social norms; types include criminal, moral, and social deviations.
9. Functionalism sees society as stable system for equilibrium; conflict theory views society as arena of inequality and conflict over resources.
10. Research methods include surveys, interviews, observation, case studies, and statistical analysis.