

1. Define family and kinship.
2. Describe how kinship systems have changed over time
3. Describe how families reinforce systems of privilege and inequality, in terms of race, class, and gender
4. Define the nuclear family and its history, in terms of (a) when it came to be more common, and (b) how it has changed over the last 50-60 years. Pay careful attention to changes related to divorce, single-parent households, and co-habitation.
5. Describe some of the preferences (legal and otherwise) that are associated with marriage. Describe the main feminist critiques of the family, and assess how successful feminism has been in helping to change family dynamics.
6. Know the research about how parental conflict and divorce affects social outcomes for children.
7. Describe the main factors that caused the divorce rate to increase between the 1960s and the 1980s. Describe the main trends associated with divorce since the 1980s.
8. Describe some of the main trends in transnational families, and describe some of the distinctive ways these families are organized.
9. Describe changing attitudes, laws, and practices related to multiracial families as well as lesbian and gay families.
10. Define religion, and describe the main features that are common to all religions.
11. Define a cosmology. Describe the main differences between religious and scientific cosmologies.
12. Know the five major world religions. Be prepared to describe how these religions have developed over time.
13. Define secularization. Discuss the main points of evidence for and against the secularization thesis.
14. Define religious fundamentalism, and explain why it has spread since the 1970s.
15. Define post-secularism. Describe the main changes that science and religion each need to make in order co-exist more effectively.
16. Describe the four basic values and ideals of science, and explain how these values put scientists into conflict with other groups in society.
17. Describe some of the main hierarchies in science, as well as the main way that privilege and inequality works in scientific organizations.
18. Define power. Know the difference between coercive power and persuasive power.
19. Know the difference between traditional authority, rational-legal authority, and charismatic authority.
20. Describe how democracy developed historically. Know the difference between different types of democratic governments.
21. What is a push poll? What are some of the problems associated with push polls?
22. Describe some of the main ways that interest groups try to influence politics. Know the difference between a social movement and an interest group.
23. Describe the main ways that media organizations and journalists influence politics today.
24. Describe the main things that education is supposed to provide in society.
25. Define literacy. Describe the history of the mass literacy movement, including a discussion of its achievements.
26. Know how schools are organized. Be able to describe the difference between primary schools, secondary schools, and colleges and universities.
27. Know why standardized tests were developed, and how their use has changed over time.
28. Describe the characteristics of high-performing schools. Know which countries have performed the best on international educational assessments.
29. Describe the main characteristics that are associated with good jobs and with job satisfaction.

30. What is the experience economy?
31. Describe how the economy has changed over time, from feudalism to capitalism to post-industrialism.
32. Describe the main trends in population growth.
33. Describe how the patterns of population growth are connected to privilege and inequality.
34. Describe the challenges that are associated with an aging population.
35. Describe the main historical trends in immigration.
36. Describe how immigrant communities are organized, paying particular attention to (a) immigrant enclaves, (b) remittances, and (c) transnational communities.
37. Describe the theory of risk society, and explain how this theory helps us to understand environmental crisis.
38. What is the Giddens Paradox? What kinds of cultural and socialization processes are necessary to overcome the Giddens Paradox?
39. Describe how environmental risk reinforces patterns of privilege and inequality.
40. Describe the political and economic forces that contribute to environmental crisis.
41. Describe how environmental social movements have tried to change attitudes and policies about the environment. How successful have these movements been?