

Introduction to Sociology

Chapter 5: Social Structure

Study Guide

1. The Internet may free people to live wherever they want because many people will be able to perform their jobs from anywhere. How might this change affect society?
2. What do you think the simulated prison experiment says about the roles people are given?
3. What might be some advantages to living in a hunting and gathering society? What might be some disadvantages?
4. Describe a situation in which you or someone you know has experienced role conflict.
5. What does Francis Fukuyama think is the reason for the current decrease in crime rate and number of people on welfare?
6. Assume that you have joined a small theatrical group. Why might you want to learn about the social structure of the group?
7. If you had to live in a different type of society, which of the types discussed in this chapter would you choose? Why?
8. What behaviors would be expected of a person who had the role of being a football coach?
9. State two ways in which the coming of the industrial society affected families.
10. Role conflict is a popular topic in television shows and movies. Describe a situation in a television show or a movie where a character experienced role conflict. Why do you think role conflict is such a popular topic?
11. Identify and discuss the major elements of social structure.
12. Explain, using examples, the difference between rights and obligations that are attached to status.
13. Compare and contrast several predominant features of industrial and postindustrial societies.