

1 Sociology and Anthropology

D – Definition

Sociology is the systematic study of society, social relationships and social life, whereas Anthropology is the study of human beings, their cultures, societies and ways of life.

E – Explanation

Both sociology and anthropology study human beings and society, so they overlap with each other. Traditionally, sociology has placed greater emphasis on social relationships, groups and institutions, while anthropology has placed greater emphasis on culture, customs and ways of life across different communities and societies.

F – Key points

- Sociology focuses on social relationships and social institutions.
- Anthropology focuses strongly on culture and ways of life.
- Both study human beings and society.

- There is considerable overlap between the two disciplines.

EX – Example

For example, while studying marriage, a sociologist may examine changing family patterns and social relationships, whereas an anthropologist may study marriage customs, traditions and cultural practices in different communities.

C – Conclusion

Thus, sociology and anthropology are closely related social sciences, but they traditionally differ in their areas of emphasis.

2 Sociology and Psychology

D – Definition

Sociology is the systematic study of society and social relationships, whereas Psychology is the scientific study of individual behaviour and mental processes.

E – Explanation

Sociology mainly examines individuals as members of society and studies social relationships, groups, culture and institutions. Psychology focuses more closely on the individual, including thoughts, emotions, learning and behaviour. However, both disciplines can overlap because individual behaviour is also influenced by society.

F – Key points

- Sociology focuses on society and social relationships.

- Psychology focuses on individual behaviour and mental processes.
- Sociology examines social factors affecting behaviour.
- Psychology examines individual thoughts, emotions and behaviour.

EX – Example

For example, if a student experiences pressure to get high marks, psychology may study how this pressure affects the student's thoughts and emotions, while sociology may study how family expectations and social pressures influence the student.

C – Conclusion

Thus, sociology mainly studies human behaviour in its social context, while psychology focuses more closely on individual behaviour and mental processes.

Sociology and Economics

D – Definition

Sociology is the systematic study of society and social relationships, whereas Economics studies the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services and the use of resources.

E – Explanation

Economics mainly examines economic activities such as income, employment, production, consumption and distribution of resources. Sociology studies the social relationships and consequences associated with economic activities, including social class, inequality and the effects of economic conditions on people's lives.

F – Key points

- Economics focuses on economic activities and resources.
- Sociology focuses on social relationships and social conditions.
- Economics studies income, production, employment and consumption.

- Sociology examines social class, inequality and social effects of economic conditions.

EX – Example

For example, in studying poverty, an economist may examine income, employment and distribution of resources, while a sociologist may examine how poverty affects family life, education, social status and opportunities.

C – Conclusion

Thus, sociology and economics are related because economic conditions influence social life, while each discipline approaches economic problems from a different perspective.

4 Sociology and Political Science

D – Definition

Sociology is the systematic study of society and social relationships, whereas Political Science studies government, politics, political institutions and power.

E – Explanation

Political Science mainly examines political systems, governments, elections, laws and the distribution of political power. Sociology examines how social groups, culture, class, caste and other social factors influence political behaviour and relationships.

F – Key points

- Political Science focuses on government and political institutions.
- It studies power, elections and political systems.

- Sociology studies the influence of social groups on political behaviour.
- Both subjects study aspects of power and social organisation.

EX – Example

For example, Political Science may study how an electoral system works, while Sociology may study how caste, class, religion or other social groups influence people's voting behaviour.

C – Conclusion

Thus, sociology and political science are closely connected because political behaviour and institutions are influenced by social relationships and social structures.

5 Sociology and History

D – Definition

Sociology is the systematic study of society and social relationships, whereas History is the systematic study of past events, societies and changes over time.

E – Explanation

History mainly focuses on understanding past events and how they developed over time. Sociology focuses on social relationships, structures and patterns and tries to understand how societies function and change. Sociology can also use historical information to understand social change.

F – Key points

- History focuses on past events.
- History examines change over time.
- Sociology studies social relationships and social structures.

- Sociology uses historical knowledge to understand social change.

EX – Example

For example, a historian may study the events and development of the Industrial Revolution, while a sociologist may study how industrialisation affected family life, working conditions and social classes.

C – Conclusion

Thus, sociology and history are closely related because understanding the past helps us understand the development and changes of society.

6 Practical Significance of Sociology

D – Definition

The practical significance of sociology refers to the usefulness of sociological knowledge in understanding society, social problems and social change.

E – Explanation

Sociology helps us understand how society works and why social problems occur. By studying social conditions systematically, sociology can provide useful knowledge for social planning, policy-making and addressing social problems.

F – Key points

- Helps us understand society and social relationships.
- Helps identify and analyse social problems.
- Helps understand the causes of social problems.

- Provides useful knowledge for social planning and policies.
- Helps us understand social change.

EX – Example

For example, if a community has a high school dropout rate, sociological research can examine factors such as poverty, family responsibilities, educational facilities and social pressures. This knowledge can help in planning appropriate measures.

C – Conclusion

Thus, sociology has practical significance because it helps us understand society, identify social problems, examine their causes and contribute to social planning and change.



UNIT 2 – Super-Fast Revision

Topic

Remember

Sociology +
Anthropology

Society/social
relationships ↔
Culture/ways of life

Sociology +
Psychology

Society/social context
↔ Individual
behaviour/mental
processes

Sociology + Economics

Social life ↔ Econom
activities/resources

Sociology + Political
Science

Social groups ↔
Government/politics/
power

Sociology + History

Social patterns ↔ Pas
events/change over
time

Practical Significance

Understand → Analys
problems → Find
causes → Help
planning/change



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