Types of Groups

Section Quiz

Exercise 1
What does a Functionalist consider when studying a phenomenon like the Occupy Wall Street movement?
   a. The minute functions that every person at the protests plays in the whole
   b. The internal conflicts that play out within such a diverse and leaderless group
   c. How the movement contributes to the stability of society by offering the discontented a safe, controlled outlet for dissension
   d. The factions and divisions that form within the movement

Exercise 2
What is the largest difference between the Functionalist and Conflict perspectives and the Interactionist perspective?
   a. The former two consider long-term repercussions of the group or situation, while the latter focuses on the present.
   b. The first two are the more common sociological perspective, while the latter is a newer sociological model.
   c. The first two focus on hierarchical roles within an organization, while the last takes a more holistic view.
   d. The first two perspectives address large-scale issues facing groups, while the last examines more detailed aspects.

Exercise 3
What role do secondary groups play in society?
   a. They are transactional, task-based, and short-term, filling practical needs.
   b. They provide a social network that allows people to compare themselves to others.
   c. The members give and receive emotional support.
   d. They allow individuals to challenge their beliefs and prejudices.

Exercise 4
When a high school student gets teased by her basketball team for receiving an academic award, she is dealing with competing ______________.
   a. primary groups
   b. out-groups
c. reference groups
d. secondary groups

Exercise 5
Which of the following is NOT an example of an in-group?
  a. The Ku Klux Klan
  b. A fraternity
  c. A synagogue
  d. A high school

Exercise 6
What is a group whose values, norms, and beliefs come to serve as a standard for one's own behavior?
  a. Secondary group
  b. Formal organization
  c. Reference group
  d. Primary group

Exercise 7
A parent who is worrying over her teenager's dangerous and self-destructive behavior and low self-esteem may wish to look at her child's:
  a. reference group
  b. in-group
  c. out-group
  d. All of the above

Short Answer

Exercise 1
How has technology changed your primary groups and secondary groups? Do you have more (and separate) primary groups due to online connectivity? Do you believe that someone, like Levy, can have a true primary group made up of people she has never met? Why or why not?

Exercise 2
Compare and contrast two different political groups or organizations, such as the Occupy and Tea Party movements, or one of the Arab Spring uprisings. How do the groups differ in terms of leadership, membership, and activities? How do the group's goals influence participants? Are any of them in-groups (and have they created out-groups)? Explain your answer.
Exercise 3

The concept of hate crimes has been linked to in-groups and out-groups. Can you think of an example where people have been excluded or tormented due to this kind of group dynamic?

Group Size and Structure

Section Quiz

Exercise 1

Two people who have just had a baby have turned from a ______ to a _______.
   a. primary group; secondary group
   b. dyad; triad couple;
   c. family de facto group; nuclear family

Exercise 2

Who is more likely to be an expressive leader?
   a. The sales manager of a fast-growing cosmetics company
   b. A high school teacher at a reform school
   c. The director of a summer camp for chronically ill children
   d. A manager at a fast-food restaurant

Exercise 3

Which of the following is NOT an appropriate group for democratic leadership?
   a. A fire station
   b. A college classroom
   c. A high school prom committee
   d. A homeless shelter

Exercise 4

In Asch’s study on conformity, what contributed to the ability of subjects to resist conforming?
   a. A very small group of witnesses
   b. The presence of an ally
   c. The ability to keep one’s answer private
   d. All of the above

Exercise 5

Which type of group leadership has a communication pattern that flows from the top down?
   a. Authoritarian
   b. Democratic
   c. Laissez-faire
d. Expressive

**Short Answer**

Exercise 1
Think of a scenario where an authoritarian leadership style would be beneficial. Explain. What are the reasons it would work well? What are the risks?

Exercise 2
Describe a time you were led by a leader using, in your opinion, a leadership style that didn’t suit the situation. When and where was it? What could she or he have done better?

Exercise 3
Imagine you are in Asch’s study. Would you find it difficult to give the correct answer in that scenario? Why or why not? How would you change the study now to improve it?

Exercise 4
What kind of leader do you tend to be? Do you embrace different leadership styles and functions as the situation changes? Give an example of a time you were in a position of leadership and what function and style you expressed.

**Formal Organizations**

**Section Quiz**

Exercise 1
Which is NOT an example of a normative organization?
- a. A book club
- b. A church youth group
- c. A People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) protest group
- d. A study hall

Exercise 2
Which of these is an example of a total institution?
- a. Jail
- b. High school
- c. Political party
- d. A gym

Exercise 3
Why do people join utilitarian organizations?
- a. Because they feel an affinity with others there
b. Because they receive a tangible benefit from joining
c. Because they have no choice
d. Because they feel pressured to do so

Exercise 4
Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of bureaucracies?
   a. Coercion to join
   b. Hierarchy of authority
   c. Explicit rules
   d. Division of labor

Exercise 5
What are some of the intended positive aspects of bureaucracies?
   a. Increased productivity
   b. Increased efficiency
   c. Equal treatment for all
   d. All of the above

Exercise 6
What is an advantage of the McDonaldization of society?
   a. There is more variety of goods.
   b. There is less theft.
   c. There is more worldwide availability of goods.
   d. There is more opportunity for businesses.

Exercise 7
What is a disadvantage of the McDonaldization of society?
   a. There is less variety of goods.
   b. There is an increased need for employees with postgraduate degrees.
   c. There is less competition so prices are higher.
   d. There are fewer jobs so unemployment increases.

Short Answer

Exercise 1
What do you think about the recent spotlight on fast food restaurants? Do you think they contribute to society’s ills? Do you believe they provide a needed service? Have you ever worked a job like this? What did you learn?

Exercise 2
Do you consider today’s large companies like General Motors, Amazon, or Facebook to be bureaucracies? Why or why not? Which of the main characteristics of bureaucracies do you see in them? Which are absent?
Exercise 3
Where do you prefer to shop, eat out, or grab a cup of coffee? Large chains like Walmart or smaller retailers? Starbucks or a local restaurant? What do you base your decisions on? Does this section change how you think about these choices? Why or why not?
Answers

Answers to “Types of Groups” Section Quiz

Answers to “Group Size and Structure” Section Quiz

Answers to “Formal Organizations” Section Quiz