

Quiz #6 - Answers

Economics— (ch. 5)

1. How have the things in your home been acquired? (gifts, purchases, inheritance, borrowed, etc.)

Discussion...

2. What are five adaptive strategies?

Foraging

Horticulturalism

Pastoralism

Intensive Agriculture

Industrialism

3. Why have anthropologists been interested in studying foraging societies?

They offer us insight into how early humans might have lived. (Early forager environments were different...today's foragers live in the Arctic, the desert, ultimately less favorable environments)

4. What activities does foraging encompass?

Hunting, Fishing, Scavenging and Gathering (unique skill sets)

5. T/F Foragers are generally preoccupied with food getting and have almost no art or ritual.

False...much time for other activities

6. Why are hunter-gatherers (foragers) considered the original affluent society?

They did have much leisure time; may have only foraged a couple of hours a day...consider how many hours some of us work..

7. T/F Contemporary foraging societies can be seen as isolated or pristine survivors of the stone age.

False...they are living on the edges of civilization. They are fully Homo sapiens

8. T/F It's rare that foragers interact with horticulturalists and pastoralists.

False...may trade wild products for grown and produced ones

9. T/F Peoples might remain foragers due to environmental obstacles to food production.

False. More people become food producers because the natural environment doesn't produce enough to sustain their populations

10. T/F Amongst foragers there can be divisions of labor based on both age and gender.

True – children may do particular tasks...grandmothers are often the biggest collectors of food. Females more often gatherers and males more often hunters

11. T/F The concept of private property does not exist in foraging societies.

Mostly true. No land rights...found foods are shared. Still have personal things like a tooth brush and penis sheath

12. T/F Amongst contemporary foragers, women contribute more to subsistence than men do.

False, but not in sub-Saharan regions; certainly in Artic Regions and in Fishings

13. How do fishing societies differ from hunting and gathering ones?

Men are the primary food hunters...women may assist with making fishing nets.

14. T/F A major characteristic of foraging bands is that members tend to stay within the same band for most of their lives.

False..bands are too small; they fission when they get large. Also practice exogamy; marrying outside of the band.

15. T/F Most foraging societies are egalitarian.

True..no one person wields power.

16. The immediate event that produced the human cultural "revolution" transforming hunter-gatherers into food producers was:

- a. the development of permanent settlements.
- b. the development of irrigation agriculture.
- c. the development of the plow.
- d. the domestication of plants and animals.
- e. extra-terrestrial contact

D – occurred 10,000 years ago

17. T/F Horticulturalists do not incorporate irrigation.

True..nor do they use fertilizers

18. T/F Most horticultural societies do not rely on crops alone for food.

True – will also hunt or keep animal herds

19. Compared to foragers, horticulturalists:

- a. are more sparsely populated
- b. are more nomadic
- c. get more food from a given area
- d. have fewer differences in prestige between people
- e. are healthier

C (only)

20. Describe slash and burn horticulture.

Land lies fallow; they growth is chopped (slashed) down and then burnt (in a controlled way) they remaining ash is rich in nitrogen.---fields are rotated...

21. T/F Slash and burn cultivation has been shown to be an environmentally destructive practice.

True – requires lots of land; burning adds to air pollution

22. T/F Contemporary horticultural societies exhibit the beginnings of social differentiation.

True – some may do arts, crafts, political activities...individual status' may vary.

23. Which of the following was not generally associated with early agricultural populations?

- a. increased population densities b. increased technological complexity c. a more nutritious diet d. a sedentary way of life e. none of the above; all were associated

C (only)

24. Which of the following is typically true about strategies of adaptation?

- a. Cultivators do not forage b. Foragers do not cultivate c. Pastoralists do not cultivate d. Cultivators do not herd animals e. Cultivators practice crop rotation

B

25. A society that employs irrigation, fertilizers, and the plow to produce food on large scale plots of land is known as:

- a. horticulturist b. intensive agriculturist c. pastoralist d. hunter-gatherer e. forager

B – defines intensive agriculture

26. Horticulture differs from agriculture in that:

- a. fields are not permanent and must be allowed time for periodic regeneration
b. it requires less land and more elaborate technology c. yearly supplements of animal fertilizers are essential d. only undomesticated animals are suitable for such cultivation techniques e. it requires a higher level of human organization and labor input

A re: slash and burn

27. T/F In cultures where women are essential to planting and harvesting they have a relatively high status.

True important in production

28. T/F Societies practicing intensive agriculture are the most likely to suffer famines and food shortages.

True – reliant on a low number of crops

29. How can crop diversity offer protection against crop failure?

Not all crops vulnerable to the same pests...some may be more drought resistant

30. T/F In the U.S. less than one percent of the total population works on farms.

True ...very different from how it once was (industrial society)

31. T/F Some intensive agriculturalists do not sell their crops; their products are simply for their own use.

True

32. What is pastoralism and how is it practiced?

Keeping of herd animals; symbiotic relationship between animals and humans

33. What animals might pastoralists rely on?

Goats, Sheep, Camels, Cows

34. What is the difference between transhumance and nomadic pastoralism?

Transhumance – a portion of the group lives in one area.

Nomadic – the whole group is on the move.

35. Individual pastoralists are most likely to own:

- a. animals b. grazing lands c. permanent dwelling places d. land for cultivating crops e. none of these

A

36. T/F The number of animals needed to support a family is a constant concern of pastoralists.

True

37. What are three possible reasons for why food production developed?

Population Growth in bountiful areas forced populations to marginal areas.

Global Population filled habitable regions.—forced people to use a broader spectrum of resources

Climatic change—favored settling near seasonal stands of grain crops where more then was planted.

38. How have environmental circumscription and population pressure contributed to the intensification of agriculture?

Limited land areas and growing population forces innovation to generate a higher yield. Intensification could include irrigation, fertilizers, crop rotation, pest control...

39. How do governmental rules impact notions of “private” property?

This can involve things like “beach access” from otherwise private properties. Also the cultivation of illegal crops on privately owned land.

40. T/F Like foragers, most horticulturalists do not own land.

True—may not be individually owned.

41. T/F Pastoralists have rights to use land to sustain their herds, but do not formally own such territories.

True – just grazing rights...

42. What are some examples of food production strategies in industrialized societies?

Intensive agriculture (agribusiness). Scavenging/Freegan Movement. Home gardening.

43. What factors have contributed to the abandonment of family farming in America?

Agribusiness. Monsanto (can’t reuse seeds). Soil is overused—nutrients leached out. Imported foods. Sales of large quantities to megastore enterprises (Walmart)

44. T/F Under industrialism there is both formal and informal sector work.

True – not everyone has a form job—informal sector includes swap meets; farmers markets

45. T/F Informal sector work tends to be illegal.

False..could be, but more people piece together a living

46. Where is the food you eat produced?

Local? Imported? Organic? Not sure??

47. What are the global consequences of importing and exporting food?

Overuse oil to move food around; more sensible to grow/eat locally.

48. What is an environmental footprint?

How much energy is used to create and deliver an item. (Delivery costs can dramatically impact an environmental footprint.

49. How do you feel when you purchase or are served organic food?
Better? Healthier? Suspicious? What does organic really mean?

50. If you were hosting a dinner party for six people, what would you serve? How much time would it take to prepare? How much might it cost?

Discussion

Economic Systems

1. What is production?

The infusing of labor into a product to make it usable (saleable)

2. T/F Factory workers who feel alienated, do not personally identify with the product they are producing.

True – common experience amongst American workers

3. T/F A mode of production is a way of organizing production.

True - e.g. factory, handmade, organic, mass-production

4. What are some of the things that you consume?

Discussion – food, beverages, clothes, music, entertainment

5. How do you decide how much time you should allocate to studying, socializing and sleeping?

Discussion – many Americans do not get enough sleep...How important is socializing? Does social media count as socializing??

6. How do Westerners measure prestige? How does this differ from other world cultures?

Cars, homes, clothes, vacations, boats. Ways to appear prestigious....

Other world cultures—large family, secluded women who don't need to work, gold jewelry

7. T/F Gaining prestige in an egalitarian society requires giving away any wealth that an individual may have accumulated.

True – cargo system, potlatch.. Accumulation has no value

8. T/F An indirect form of forced labor is taxation.

True – labor power goes into earning money to pay taxes.

9. T/F All societies have gendered divisions of labor.

True...but they vary.

10. Do you eat pork? Why? Why not?

Discussion

11. Compare and contrast symbolic and cultural materialist reasons for why pork should be avoided.

Symbolic – pigs are bottom-feeders. They eat garbage and thus are beneath human consumption (emic

Cultural Materialist – In arid regions it is difficult to raise pigs—they require a moist environment (re: Papua New Guinea). It is more efficient to raise camels in arid regions.

12. T/F All non-Western (non-state) societies have some **medium of exchange**--for example, shells, beads, or cattle--that can be used to buy anything else that a person wants or needs.

False – can be just reciprocity....

13. What is reciprocity?

Giving and getting without the use of money, beads, shells, etc!

14. Contrast generalized, balanced, and negative(unbalanced) reciprocity.

Generalized – giving without the expectation of a return (e.g. surplus fruits)

Parents gifts to their children

Balanced – Direct Exchange; apples for oranges

Negative – Taking advantage of one of the traders—e.g. Trading an island for some beads and trinkets.

15. T/F Generalized reciprocity (e.g. food sharing) tends to break down during times of scarcity.

False - if scarcity, need to share. During surplus don't need to share.

16. T/F The ethic of generalized reciprocity declines when it comes to giving away money (as opposed to goods).

True. Goods can have a limited shelf life and need to be given away.

17. How do you feel if you've exchanged holiday gifts with someone when they gave you something much cheaper than you gave them?

Discussion...Pleasure of giving? Feel taken advantage of? Not want to "trade" again?

18. What are revolving credit associations?

Members take turns giving each other loans. Whoever receives the loan of the month can start a business, etc. Way to raise capital based on a trust network.

19. What are the functions of the Trobriand Island Kula Ring?

Create life-long trading relationships. Starts with symbolic trade of arm bands for necklaces..then move onto to trade fish for firewood, vegetables, etc.

20. T/F Potlatching provided a way for individuals to gain greater permanent control over strategic resources than their neighbors, and thus it helped stratification develop.

False – the opposite ... prevented stratification. It's a levelling mechanism

21. What are the ways that subsistence economies transition into commercialized ones?

a. migration in search of work b. higher dependence on trading c. producing surpluses to sell d. practice of commercial agriculture e. increased generalized reciprocity

ABC (first steps to generate more cash)

22. Match the economic practice with the appropriate distribution system

Sharing Meat with the Band **A** a. generalized reciprocity
 Cargo/Fiesta System **C** b. negative reciprocity
 Cheating on a Business Deal **B** c. redistribution
 Keeping up with the Jones' **E** d. balanced reciprocity
 Gift Exchange **D** e. conspicuous consumption

23. Do you keep track of the gifts you give and receive?

Discussion...give more to those who give to you? Give more to those who can use your assistance?

24. What are the functions of a leveling mechanism?

Redistribute surplus wealth, goods and energy

25. T/F Personalty refers to the private and personal property of foragers.

True – e.g. toothbrush, razor, jewelry, personal decorations

26. Why do people in societies that don't have money work, provide for others, and provide for themselves?

Social obligations to family, kin group, congregation, etc. Protect/Defend their reputation!

27. T/F In many non-industrial societies people lack the Western economic notion of scarcity.

True..they are not aware of what they don't have...only when they see such items/life styles do they become aware that they are poor.

28. In what ways do you participate in our capitalist economy?

Work? Own a Business? Purchase things?

vs. Give things away...share, avoid conspicuous consumption activities