Socialization and Social Structure Worksheet

# Short-Answer

**Respond** to the following in 50 to 75 words each, unless otherwise specified.

1. In 25 to 50 words each, describe the following perspectives of development of the *self*:
   1. Cooley’s Looking Glass Self:

This self- psychological concept talks about the human interaction with the society. According to this concept, the interpersonal interaction of a human helps in making his or her personality. The looking glass self-concept further guides that people tend to look themselves based on the perception of other people about themselves. This makes them to confirm other people’s opinion about themselves.

* 1. Mead’s Role Taking:

Mead’s role taking theory is one of the very important concept of sociology. It talks about the development of social cognition among the children. This theory argues that social cognition helps in developing the feelings and understandings about others. This theory categorizes the growth of children in such manner as cognitive development.

* 1. Piaget’s Development of Reasoning:

Jean Piaget categorizes the development of children in four stages. He has worked on both the child development and in understanding the nature of intelligence development in children. His categorization of children development includes sensorimotor, preoperational, concrete operational and formal operational stage. He argued in his theory that children take on active role in the learning process and tends to pay much attention to their observations of things.

1. What role does socialization take in personality, morality, emotions, and gender? How do different agents of socialization contribute?

Since socialization is the development of personality from those around us, therefore socialization is effected much by some personalities around us, from the emotions, from moral values and finally the gender roles one finds himself or herself in. It is important in the process of personality formation and therefore the socialization process can mold it in any direction. Similarly the inculcation of moral values and the gender roles of human affect socialization by the introduction of new relations from human interactions. Different agents of socialization also contributes in the process of socialization by presenting some right and wrong choices which normally human cognitions interpret in different manners.

1. In 20 to 25 words each, describe how socialization occurs in each of the following developmental periods:
   1. Childhood (birth to age 12):

Socialization in childhood occurs through children’s learning of attitudes, values and perceptions. They learn socialization through the interaction with members of a particular culture.

* 1. Adolescence (ages 13-17):

In adolescence socialization occurs through the development of values in the child. At this stage of development, socialization is the result of interaction with overt norms and specific behavior. At this stage child observe things by being more participatory.

* 1. Transitional Adulthood (ages 18-29):

At this stage the process of socialization is taken over by some secondary sources. Children start interacting with some people they don’t know initially and at this very stage the socialization can occur as a result of interaction with different cultures by travelling as well.

* 1. The Middle Years (ages 30-65):

During this phase of life people are sure about their aims and purpose of life. Normally they don’t get influence by external circumstances and therefore the effect of external environment upon them remains of less significance.

* 1. The Older Years (ages 65 and above):

In the older year socialization becomes of least important. It overtakes other important matters of life for example, the health issues and age deprivations etc.

1. Different societies have different social structures. What is social structure? What components contribute to the macro sociological perspective of social structure?

The social structure in different societies are normally already defined. A specific social structure might be acceptable in one society and could be unacceptable in other societies. Asocial structure is kind of historically defined set of norms and social arrangements. These social arrangements are observable in manner of interactions of humans in different societies. The components which contribute to the macro sociological perspective of social structure includes social classes, social status, culture, gender roles and social intuitions etc. These all collectively guides the human behavior.