Kinship and Descent

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. If you belong to a publicly recognized social entity by virtue of being a lineal descendant of a particular ancestor, you are a member of a (p. 260)
   
   a. descent group.
   b. lineage.
   c. clan.
   d. moiety.
   e. phratry.

2. In a(n) _____________ descent group, membership is traced either through males or through females but not both. (p. 260)
   
   a. matrilineal
   b. patrilineal
   c. unilineal
   d. double
   e. ambilineal

3. _____________ kinship affiliates a person with close relatives through both sexes; in other words, the individual traces descent through both parents, all four grandparents, and so forth, recognizing multiple ancestors. (p. 272)
   
   a. Bilateral descent
   b. Ambilineal descent
   c. Bilateral kinship
   d. Unilineal descent
   e. Double descent

4. If you are a member of a patrilineal descent group, (p. 261)
   
   a. descent is traced exclusively through females.
   b. your sisters belong to the same patrilineal descent group that you do.
   c. you are likely to live in a horticultural society.
   d. your brothers belong to the same descent group but your sisters do not.
   e. you do not have a mother.

5. You belong to a patrilineal descent group. Which of the following belong(s) to the same group? (p. 261)
   
   a. your mother
   b. your father’s sister
c. your mother’s sister
d. your mother’s father
e. your father’s sister’s children

6. Patrilineal descent is likely to be found in societies where (p. 261)

a. women are breadwinners.
b. male labor is a prime factor.
c. horticulture is done primarily by women.
d. pastoralism and intensive agriculture are practiced.
e. b and d

7. Matrilineal descent groups are associated with farming societies in which _____________ are the breadwinners. (p. 261)

a. men
b. women
c. children
d. outsiders
e. matriarchal grandmothers

8. A boy is born into a society that practices matrilineal descent. The person who exercises authority over him is (p. 265)

a. his sister.
b. his father.
c. his mother
d. his mother’s brother.
e. his father’s sister.

9. Among the Yako of Nigeria, an individual might inherit grazing lands from his father’s patrilineal group, and livestock and ritual knowledge from his mother’s matrilineal group. This is an example of _____________ descent. (p. 267)

a. ambilineal
b. bilocal
c. patrilateral
d. indivisible
e. double

10. A young man of Jewish affiliation moves to New York City to find a job. He calls everyone he knows of from both his mother’s and father’s side of the family, and attends various meetings to which he is invited by virtue of his being related to various ancestors on both his parents’ side. These groups support him when he runs out of money and help him find an apartment and a job. We can say that he is a member of a/an _____________ descent group. (p. 267)

a. matrilineal
b. patrilineal
c. ambilineal  
d. double  
e. cognatic

11. Lineages, clans, phratries, and moieties are types of (p. 260)

a. family get-togethers.  
b. social clubs.  
c. descent groups.  
d. households.  
e. societies

12. A _____________ is a noncorporate descent group whose members claim descent from a common ancestor but cannot trace their genealogical links to that ancestor. (p. 260)

a. family  
b. totem  
c. clan  
d. kindred  
e. lineage

13. A lineage is a corporate descent group (p. 260)

a. the members of which claim descent from a common chief executive officer.  
b. the members of which claim descent from a common ancestor.  
c. the members of which know the exact genealogical linkages by which they are related to the common ancestor.  
d. composed of consanguineal kin.  
e. all but a

14. A clan is similar to a lineage except that (p. 260)

a. a clan has fewer people.  
b. clan members are unable to trace exact genealogical links to their common ancestor.  
c. clans are more likely to hold tangible property corporately.  
d. clans are exogamous whereas lineages are endogamous.  
e. clans are patrilocal whereas lineages are matrilocal.

15. A totem (p. 270)

a. is a word that comes from the Ojibwa American Indian word which means “he is a relative of mine.”  
b. is a symbol of animals, plants, natural forces, and objects.  
c. is usually associated with a clan’s concept of its mythical origins.  
d. may be found in our own society in the names we give to baseball and football teams.  
e. All of the above.

16. Clans, because they may have members living in many different villages, depend on
to provide symbolic identification and promote solidarity. (p. 270)

a. totems  
b. signs  
c. promises  
d. treaties  
e. frequent feasts

17. A phratry is a unilineal descent group composed of two or more ____________ that believe they are related to each other. (p. 271)

a. moieties  
b. totems  
c. kindred  
d. lineages  
e. clans

18. The word “moiety” comes from the French word for ____________, and exists when a society is divided into two and only two major descent groups. (p. 272)

a. melon  
b. half  
c. mote  
d. whole  
e. model

19. Members of a moiety (p. 272)

a. belong to one of two major descent groups in a society.  
b. are those who are divorced (they lack their “better half”).  
c. are usually able to trace their exact genealogical links to their common ancestor.  
d. feel a much stronger feeling of kinship than is felt by members of a lineage or clan.  
e. belong to a group that is smaller than a lineage.

20. North Americans assume that they are related equally to the relatives on both the mother’s and father’s side. The group composed of such people to which these individuals feel that they belong is called a(n) ____________ descent group. (p. 272)

a. ambilineal  
b. double  
c. bilateral  
d. patrilineal  
e. matrilineal

21. A person in a system of bilateral descent (p. 272)

a. traces descent through his father for some purposes, and through his mother for other purposes.  
b. traces descent through female lines.
c. traces descent through male lines.

22. Jane Doe, after being away from home for many years, decides to hold a family reunion. She invites her siblings, parents, both sets of grandparents, her great-aunts and great-uncles, their children, her aunts and uncles and their children. This group brought together for a temporary time, with such vague boundaries, is called a(n) (p. 272)

a. clan.
b. kindred.
c. family circle.
d. lineage.
e. explosive situation.

23. ________________ develop out of extended families when families split up and move to nearby regions, and the core members of these families recognize their descent from common ancestor and continue to organize activities based on this idea. (p. 268)

a. Phratries
b. Kindred groups
c. Lineages
d. Moieties
e. Cognatic groups

24. If two people are given the same kinship term, this means that (p. 275)

a. they have the same genes.
b. no one can tell the difference between them.
c. they occupy a similar status.
d. they are identical twins.
e. they are members of an adopted family.

25. In ________________ kinship terminology, ego’s “brother” and “sister” are distinguished from “cousins”; both father’s brother and mother’s brother are given the same kinship term, “uncle.” (p. 275)

a. Eskimo
b. Hawaiian
c. Crow
d. Omaha
e. Iroquois

26. The least complex system of kinship terminology (the one with the fewest terms for an anthropologist to memorize) is (p. 276)

a. Eskimo
b. Hawaiian
27. The Hawaiian system of kinship terminology is usually associated with _______________ descent. (p. 276)
   a. patricidal
   b. matrilineal
   c. patrilineal
   d. avunculineal
   e. amblineal

28. _______________ kinship terminology is associated with matrilineal descent. (p. 277)
   a. Eskimo
   b. Hawaiian
   c. Iroquois
   d. Crow
   e. Omaha

29. The Crow kinship terminology system (p. 277)
   a. is used by African Americans.
   b. merges paternal cross cousins with the parent’s generation.
   c. merges maternal cross cousins with the generation of ego’s children.
   d. is associated with matrilineal descent.
   e. all but a

TRUE/FALSE

30. Among pastoralists and intensive agriculturalists, matrilineal descent is common. (p. 260)  
    T  F
31. Matrilineal societies are matriarchal—that is, women have the primary authority. (p. 265)  
    T  F
32. Bilateral kinship and bilateral descent can be used interchangeably since they mean the same thing. (p. 272)  
    T  F

MATCHING

1. Match the terminological system to its definition.

   _____ Eskimo  a. bilateral system that distinguishes cross from parallel cousins

   _____ Iroquois  b. most specialized system with a different term for each kin position
| _____ Hawaiian | c. bilateral system that distinguishes the nuclear family from all others |
| ______ Descriptive | d. a system linked to matrilineality |
| ______ Crow | e. generalized system that notes only generation and gender |