

1. Identify in what major way(s) the macrosociological and microsociological approaches differ. Then identify the main idea(s) of the following, and provide examples where possible.
 - (a) social structure
 - (b) social class
 - (c) ascribed vs achieved status vs master status
 - (d) role
 - (e) social institution
 - (f) division of labor
 - (g) stereotypes
 - (h) personal space
 - (i) dramaturgy
 - (j) ethnomethodology
 - (k) social construction of reality
2. We all are involved in the family institution, which can be analyzed from both a macrosociological and microsociological point of view. Briefly describe the following (See Fig.4.2 on p.98 and p.99):
 - (1) the general functions of family as an institution
 - (2) major statuses in the family unit
 - (3) contemporary roles of each status
 - (4) potential sources of conflict between the roles of family members
 - (5) changes in the definition of various family roles
3. Goffman suggests that we can learn a lot about social settings by analyzing them from the dramaturgical (i.e., theatrical) perspective. Choose a setting with which you are familiar (e.g., work, church, workout spa) and describe it in dramaturgical terms (see pages 111-116). For example, what kinds of physical props are used, and what image do those props project? What are the major kinds of actors and how do their attempts to create a particular impression (e.g., dress, behavior) differ? What areas would be considered frontstage and backstage, and how is behavior different in these areas? And so on.
4. All interactional settings involve a definition of the situation, or a working understanding between participants regarding what is supposed to happen. When this situational definition is shared, interaction is smoother. However, when participants have different definitions of the situation, interaction may be awkward and uneasy. Describe a situation you have experienced (e.g., a date) in which the participants had different definitions of the situation. What verbal or nonverbal behaviors showed that the definitions were different? How did the different definitions affect interaction in the situation? What, if anything, was (or could have been) done to make the definition of this situation more consensual?
5. The Symbolic Interaction perspective focuses on how we define and assign meaning to people and situations in interaction. For the following concepts, Identify the main idea(s), and discuss how they affect interaction with others. Provide concrete examples.
 - (a) stereotypes
 - (b) personal space and Hall's "distance zones"
 - (c) touching
 - (d) eye contact