

University of Colombo – Sri Lanka

Faculty of Arts

Third Year Examination in Arts – Semester I - 2021/2022

SOC 3173 – Neo-Classical Sociological Theory

Time: Two (02) hours

Answer Three (03) questions only

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1. Discuss how Talcott Parsons develops his “Voluntaristic Theory of Action” identifying a unique relationship between the social structure and individual action taking place within it.
2. ‘Claude Levi-Strauss ‘identifies social phenomena such as ‘kinship’ and ‘myths’ as subtle expressions of the social structure within which they emerge’. Critically examine the above statement.
3. According to the assumptions of Ethnomethodology, explain the way people make sense of their everyday life. .
4. According to Symbolic Interactionism, a person’s sense of self emerges from the interaction with others. Discuss.
5. Examine with examples the role that culture plays in maintaining the capitalist economic system with reference to the concepts ‘Cultural Hegemony’ of Antonio Gramsci and ‘Culture Industry’ of Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno.
6. Write short essays on any two (02) of the following topics:
  - I. Phenomenology
  - II. Labelling Theory
  - III. Dramaturgical Approach
  - IV. Louis Althusser’s Structural Marxism

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