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Chapter 02 Thinking through the Disciplines

True/False Questions

1. The humanities are academic disciplines that include various branches such as art, history, and languages.
True; Easy
2. If you are reading or writing texts in the social sciences, for example, you will notice a meticulous emphasis on the specifics of careful statement of the hypothesis and prediction of the experiment.
False; Hard
3. Most disciplines have similar styles and modes of communication.
False; Easy
4. Different disciplines tend to recommend collecting different types of evidence from research sources.
True; Easy
5. Part of any apprenticeship involves an understanding of the conventions of a discipline's key genres.
True; Moderate
6. To meet the demands of writing and thinking in a certain discipline, you need to learn its conventions.
True; Moderate
7. Elementary schools are much more conducive to making connections across disciplines than middle schools or high schools.
True; Moderate
8. New knowledge about the world is typically produced when a practitioner builds on a previous body of work in the discipline.
True; Easy
9. Various disciplines such as business, humanities, and natural and applied sciences are totally unconnected and have nothing in common.
False; Moderate
10. One can learn to make "Aha!" moments happen on purpose by memorizing the content of each selected course.
False; Easy
11. Binary oppositions gain power and complexity when they are applied to multiple disciplines.
True; Moderate
12. Most disciplines do not have long-standing binary oppositions.
False; Moderate

Multiple Choice Questions

13. The binary opposition between _____ and _____ in the humanities is borrowed from the social sciences.
- a. labor; capital
 - b. empiricism; rationalism
 - c. text; context
 - d. nature; nurture
 - e. text; determinism
- c; Moderate**
14. Accounting, economics, finance, management, and marketing are branches of which of the following disciplines?
- a. Humanities
 - b. Social sciences
 - c. Applied sciences
 - d. Business
 - e. Natural science
- d; Easy**
15. Mathematics is a branch of which of the following disciplines?
- a. Management
 - b. Accounts
 - c. Finance
 - d. Natural and applied sciences
 - e. Humanities
- d; Easy**
16. Ralph loves studying geography, law, and political science. It can be said that he is inclined towards the discipline of _____.
- a. business
 - b. marketing
 - c. social sciences
 - d. humanities
 - e. engineering
- c; Hard**
17. Medicine and engineering are branches of which of the following disciplines?
- a. Business
 - b. Management
 - c. Humanities
 - d. Natural and applied sciences
 - e. Social sciences
- d; Easy**
18. Religion and literature are branches of which of the following disciplines?
- a. Business
 - b. Humanities
 - c. Social sciences
 - d. Natural sciences
 - e. Applied sciences
- b; Easy**
19. Ronnie did his majors in sociology and psychology. It can be said that he majored in _____.
- a. business
 - b. humanities

- c. social sciences
 - d. natural sciences
 - e. applied sciences
- c; Hard**
20. While collecting different types of evidence from research sources, art historians are most likely to:
- a. use demographic data for government surveys and opinion polls.
 - b. gather information through directly ethnographic observation, interviews and fieldwork.
 - c. do a laboratory research.
 - d. conduct a hypothetical and rhetorical analysis.
 - e. use details from primary and secondary sources.
- e; Easy**
21. Biologists are typically required to:
- a. do a primary and secondary research.
 - b. gather data from a variety of research study reports.
 - c. gather data from direct interviews.
 - d. use demographic data from government surveys.
 - e. do laboratory research.
- e; Easy**
22. _____ are likely to gather data from a variety of research study reports and direct ethnographic observation, interviews, and fieldwork.
- a. Biologists
 - b. Businessmen
 - c. Art historians
 - d. Social scientists
 - e. Political scientists
- d; Easy**
23. A(n) _____ uses demographic data from government surveys and opinion polls along with direct quotations from political candidates and party platforms.
- a. biologist
 - b. businessman
 - c. art historian
 - d. social scientist
 - e. political scientist
- e; Easy**
24. If you are reading or writing texts in _____, you will notice a meticulous emphasis on the specifics of methodology (especially key concepts surrounding the collection of data, such as reliability, validity, sample size, and variables) and a careful presentation of results and their significance.
- a. natural sciences
 - b. biology
 - c. accounts
 - d. social sciences
 - e. humanities
- d; Easy**
25. Which of the following statements is true?
- a. All disciplines are strikingly similar.

- b. One is more likely to make connections between disciplines in high school than in elementary school.
 - c. Business is a branch of humanities.
 - d. Core curriculum includes only those subjects that one wants to do his/her major in.
 - e. Accounting is a branch of natural sciences.
- a; Moderate**
26. An academic category characterized by particular areas of study, methods of inquiry, and standards of proof is called a(n) _____.
- a. practice.
 - b. experiment
 - c. ideology
 - d. discipline
 - e. instruction
- d; Easy**
27. The more of those “Aha!” (that happen when you grasp a concept that reminds you of something you have learned in another course) moments you have in the first two years of college,:
- a. the more difficult it will get to make connections between disciplines.
 - b. the better you’ll be at your specialization.
 - c. the more confusing your specialization gets.
 - d. the more difficult it gets to remember the concept.
 - e. the weaker you get at your communication.
- b; Easy**
28. The binary opposition in the natural and applied sciences between empiricism (the so-called scientific method) and rationalism (using pure reason to speculate about one’s surroundings) originated as a debate in _____, a branch of the humanities.
- a. business
 - b. management
 - c. philosophy
 - d. accounting
 - e. economics
- c; Moderate**
29. On-off, up-down, left-right, nature-nurture, and observer-subject are all examples of:
- a. hypothesis.
 - b. rhetorical terms.
 - c. binary oppositions.
 - d. biases and preconceptions.
 - e. discipline specific conventions.
- c; Hard**
30. Which of the following statements is true?
- a. Binary oppositions are found only in the field of business.
 - b. Binary oppositions move freely from one discipline to another.
 - c. Disciplines in business do not use binary opposition from other disciplines.
 - d. Binary oppositions are generated in those disciplines in which they are most commonly used.
 - e. Borrowings from natural and applied sciences such as economics and marketing furthered the notion of a literary and artistic “marketplace”.
- b; Easy**

31. Borrowings from _____ disciplines, such as economics and marketing, furthered the notion of a literary and artistic “marketplace”.
- business
 - humanities
 - social sciences
 - natural sciences
 - applied sciences
- a; Easy**
32. The specialized language of a discipline is known as _____.
- linguistics
 - stylistics
 - jargon
 - grammar
 - punctuation
- c; Easy**
33. A particular system of communication developed over time within a discipline or social group is known as _____.
- linguistics
 - discourse community
 - jargon
 - grammar
 - stylistics
- b; Moderate**

Short Answer Questions

34. What are some of the common features in most college writing?
Most college writing has some basic features in common: a sense of ethical responsibility and the use of credible and credited sources, critical thinking, and sound argumentation.
Moderate
35. While you are writing an apprenticeship in a specific discipline, what formal aspects of articles within that discipline should you look for?
You should look for the following formal aspects of articles within that discipline and plan to emulate them in your work: Title format, Introduction, Overall organization, Tone, Person (first, second, or third person), Voice (active or passive), Sections and subheads, Use of images (photos, tables, graphics, graphs, etc.), Discipline-specific vocabulary, Types of sources cited, Use of source information, Conclusion, Documentation style (American Psychological Association, Modern Language Association, Chicago, Council of Science Editors, and so on), Intended audience, and Published format (print or online).
Hard
36. ‘Different disciplines tend to recommend collecting different types of evidence from research sources’. Give examples.
Different disciplines tend to recommend collecting different types of evidence from research sources. For example, biologists are typically required to do laboratory research; art historians often use details from a mix of primary and secondary sources (works of art

and art criticism, respectively); social scientists are likely to gather data from a variety of research study reports and direct ethnographic observation, interviews, and fieldwork; and a political scientist uses demographic data from government surveys and opinion polls along with direct quotations from political candidates and party platforms.

Easy

37. Give examples of a few types of assignments that may require discipline-specific organizational features.

What's required to complete a basic, introductory essay might essentially be the same across all disciplines, but some types of assignments require discipline-specific organizational features. For example, in business disciplines, documents such as résumés, memos, and product descriptions require a specialized organization. Science and engineering students follow specific conventions as they write lab reports and keep notebooks that include their drawings and results of their experiments. Students in the social sciences and the humanities often use specialized formatting to develop research papers, literature reviews, and book reviews.

Moderate

38. Why do most colleges insist on a 'core curriculum'?

Most colleges insist on a "core curriculum" to make sure you have the chance to be exposed to each major discipline at least once before you specialize and concentrate on one in particular.

Easy

39. When are you most likely to come across an "Aha!" moment during the course of your intellectual journey in college?

The signature "Aha!" moments of your intellectual journey in college will come every time you grasp a concept or a process in one course that reminds you of something you learned in another course entirely.

Easy

40. How can one learn to grasp concepts and make connections between disciplines deliberately?

In each course you take, instead of focusing merely on memorizing content for the purposes of passing an exam or writing an essay that regurgitates your professor's lecture notes, learn to look for the key questions and controversies that animate the discipline and energize the professions in it. If you organize your understanding of a discipline around such questions and controversies, the details will make more sense to you, and you will find them easier to master.

Moderate

41. How do "Aha!" moments help you improve at your specialization?

The more of those "Aha!" moments you have in the first two years of college, the better you'll be at your specialization because you'll have that much more perspective about how the world around you fits together.

Moderate

42. What does one require in order to be able to think, write, and function in interdisciplinary ways?

To think, read, and write in a given discipline, one must learn to uncover binary oppositions in the texts, objects, and phenomena that one is examining. Learning to think, write, and function in interdisciplinary ways requires practice that begins at the level of close reading and gradually expands into the way one interacts with one's surroundings as a college student and working professional.

Hard

43. Give one example each of binary oppositions used in business and the humanities.
Answer could vary among different students and may not be limited to the following:
Binary oppositions in business: production – consumption, labor – capital.
Binary oppositions in the humanities: artist – culture, text – context.
Easy

Fill in the Blanks

44. A political scientist uses _____ data from government surveys and opinion polls along with direct quotations from political candidates and party platforms.
demographic; Easy
45. To meet the demands of writing and thinking in a certain discipline, you need to learn its _____.
conventions; Moderate
46. Most colleges insist on a _____ to make sure you have the chance to be exposed to each major discipline at least once before you specialize and concentrate on one in particular.
core curriculum; Easy
47. The binary opposition between text and context in the humanities is borrowed from the _____.
social sciences; Easy
48. ‘Labour-capital’, ‘text-context’, and ‘production – consumption’ are examples of _____.
binary oppositions; Easy
49. An academic category characterized by particular areas of study, methods of inquiry, and standards of proof is a(n) _____.
discipline; Easy