

Quiz #9

Chapter 7 – *Magic and Divination*

1. What is magic? When might it be used?
**Activities – usually rituals that compel the supernatural to behave in certain ways
Used to bring about desired outcomes (both good and evil)...recall difference
between prayer and magic...one a thanks, the other a desperate request.**
2. What's the difference between illusion and magic?
**Illusion- trickery/deception; sleight of hand, manipulating perception (e.g.
entertainment)
Magic – compelling the supernatural world**
3. What is the difference between science and magic?
**Science – a methodology for understanding world processes/phenomenon
e.g. observation, hypothesis, experimentation, theory, law
Magic – activities to bring about automatic results, e.g. farming: rain, pest control**
4. T/F In most societies magic, religion and science co-exist.
T – Magic and Religion have not given way to science
5. T/F According to the Law of Similarity, things that are alike are the same.
T – gives rise to homeopathic/imitative magic.
6. T/F Homeopathic magic is the same thing as contagious magic.
F – Contagious magic refers to things in association...
7. Contagious magic can be applied to: (select those that apply)
a. the placenta b. personal clothing c. nail clippings d. portrait paintings e. photographs
ABC (touched, once connected to the subject/victim) also hair, blood
7. What can imitative magic be applied to?
DE (likeness –paintings, photos)
8. Which kind of magic might employ the use of a voodoo doll?
Imitative/homeopathic - doll represents the subject/victim
9. T/F Both sorcerers and magicians can be considered evil figures.
F – just sorcerers
10. How might a farmer use magic to ensure his success?
**Rain rituals, protection from predators, planting rituals (time of the moon, time of
day) If seasonal, quite successful!**
11. What kinds of magic do Trobrianders value?
Rain magic, garden magic, carpentry magic (re: building canoes)

12. T/F Apprenticeship is the most common way to learn magic.

T – similar to shamanic apprenticeship...learning rituals and spells.

13. T/F The formulas for spells are frequently adapted to function more effectively in present day environments.

F – Must maintain archaic languages and formulas...any deviation may cause them not to work!

14. What causes bad luck? Good luck? What evidence do we have to verify this?

Evidence of things happening as desired or not, experience, coincidence

15. T/F Magic often is performed to bring on events that will appear naturally.

T –e.g. rain; might be wary of testing to see if this is not true.

16. When performing a ritual does not bring about desired ends, who/what might be faulted?

Magician/Performer is blamed. Didn't perform ritual correctly, didn't use correct materials. Never fault ritual/spell. Someone doing counter magic

17. T/F We're more likely to remember failures than successes.

F – Selective memory. Success of rituals more often remembered. Becomes the reason to keep practicing them.

18. How do the Australian Aborigines of Arnhem Land rely on magical beliefs regarding death that prove to be true?

Victims believe their time has come. Families confirm symptoms, then deny them food and water; ultimately they die of starvation.

19. What is the difference between fortuitous and deliberate divination techniques?

Seeing an omen vs. conscious effort to get answers (doing a test)

20. Where did astrology originate?

21. Greece b. Rome c. Egypt d. Babylonia

D

22. Why do you think astrology is so popular in the U.S.?

Traffic in relationships, wealth, opportunity...identity, connection, belonging. Entertainment- newspaper columns, internet sites

Baseball Magic

1. Trobrianders practice magic when: (select those that apply)

a. gardening b. fishing inside of lagoons c. canoeing in unfamiliar waters d. constructing canoes e. making baskets and pots

ACD

2. Malinowski contends that preliterate peoples use magic to: (select those that apply)
 a. reduce anxiety b. provide a feeling of control c. increase their knowledge of the world d. to ensure safety and success.

ABD

3. How and why are baseball players like Trobriand fishermen?

Rely on magic in uncertain situations

4. According to Gmelch baseball players do not use magic when:
 a. hitting b. fielding c. pitching d. running

B – all others have more factors of uncertainty

5. What are some examples of ritual actions that baseball players engage in?

Tugging a hat, eating certain foods, carrying good luck charms

6. What are some examples of baseball taboos? How do they come about?

No sex before a game, don't eat certain foods.. Experiences "prove" them to be true.

7. T/F Once a baseball player starts to rely on magic, it's likely he'll require it to keep up his confidence.

T

Strange Beliefs

1. T/F Evans Pritchard studied witchcraft amongst the Azande of Africa.

T

2. How do the Azande explain things that don't work out as expected?

Witchcraft/sorcery...e.g. fallen granary

3. T/F Rituals of divination involve the use of oracles and omens.

T

4. Compare and contrast oracles and omens

Oracles involve a test (e.g. the poison/chicken oracle) Omens are a sign (e.g. a four leafed clover)

5. What oracles do the Azande consult?

Rubbing board, termite (re: granary) poison/chicken

6. Why are Azande witch-doctors trusted despite much evidence that challenges their reliability?

Tradition...comfort with cultural practice

7. How does divination differ from operating an oracle?

Prediction re: an omen vs. doing a test where the outcome depends on the oracle process

8. What must a Azande diviner ingest to acquire *mangu*?

Mangu considered witchcraft – often inherited from same sex parent

9. T/F Control over the poison oracle is a principle source of prestige for older Azande men.

T – secret society

10. What sort of involvement do Azande women have with the poison oracle?

None – no access to this realm of knowledge

11. In conducting a poison oracle seance, what needs to be considered?

Everything – all possibilities of causes and potential outcomes.

12. T/F The oracle is offered very limited information by the consulting Azande men.

F- all that is known must be revealed

13. How do the Azande frame the questions they ask of the oracles?

Yes/No and then done in reverse to assure verity of answer