Past Quiz Questions
Chapter 1 (Gordis)

The answers to questions are on a separate page at the end. The sample questions are intended for the Option 1 students who plan to base 20 percent of their final grade on the quiz scores. Consultation on the questions is only available in-class from 5-6 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during the course, conducted by xxxxx, a doctoral student in the UCLA Department of Epidemiology. Consultation on past quiz questions or answers is not available via email.

1. In defining epidemiology, Gordis writes of a broader definition that is widely accepted, namely that epidemiology is “the study of the distribution and determinants of health-related states or events in specified populations and...” (circle one best answer)
   a. the use of this information to cure medical problems.
   b. the amelioration of population-specific health problems.
   c. the transfer of this knowledge to preventive programs.
   d. the employment of such findings to preventive and curative programs.
   e. the application of this study to control of health problems.

2. John Snow’s conclusion that contaminated water was associated with cholera was based entirely on... (circle one best answer)
   a. observational data.
   b. knowledge of the pathogenic organism, *Vibrio cholerae*.
   c. knowledge of the pathogenic organism, *Streptococcus cholerae*.
   d. the support of Registrar General William Farr for his hypothesis.
   e. his understanding of Jenner’s work with a cholera vaccine.

3. What is NOT an objective of epidemiology? (circle one best answer)
   a. To identify the cause of a disease and the risk factors for that disease.
   b. To provide therapeutic and surgical assistance to patients.
   c. To determine the burden of disease in a community.
   d. To provide information for developing public policy.
   e. To study the natural history and prognosis of disease.
4. *Epidemiology* is defined as the study of... (circle one best answer)

a. distribution and application of health-related problems in clinical populations and the application of this study to the treatment of such problems.
b. determinants and distribution of health-related events or states in specified populations and the application of this study to the control of health problems.
c. determinants and displacement of health-related states or events in specified populations and the application of this study to the control of populations.
d. distribution and determinants of events and states in specified populations and the application of this study to the control of problems.

5. The component not included in the main “widely accepted” definition of epidemiology (i.e., the one presented in lecture and in the book) is (circle one best answer):

a. the study of the determinants of health-related states or events in specified populations.
b. the study of the defamation of health-related states or events in specified populations.
c. the study of the distribution of health-related states or events in specified populations.
d. the application of this study to control of health problems.

6. In contrast to present time, the three most common causes of death in the USA in 1900 were... (circle one best answer)

a. diabetes, stroke, and suicide.
b. unintentional injuries, liver disease, and cancer.
c. pneumonia, tuberculosis, and diarrhea and enteritis.
d. heart disease, cancer, and stroke.

7. In nineteenth century London, *Dr. John Snow*, different from Registrar General William Farr, believed... (circle one best answer)

a. in the collection of data to support hypotheses.
b. in the miasmatic theory of disease over the germ theory.
c. in the elevation theory over the contaminated water theory.
d. in the germ theory of disease over the miasmatic theory.

8. John Snow believed that cholera was transmitted through water. His study in 1854 of two London water companies providing Thames river water to intermingled populations was based on... (circle one best answer)

a. removal of a pump handle in the Broad Street area.
b. one company having shifted its water intake upstream to a less polluted part of the river.
c. data on elevation of residence above sea level provided by Registrar General William Farr.
d. data on water supply to specific households provided by Registrar General Edward Jenner.
e. knowledge of the enterotoxic *Vibrio cholerae*. 
9. John Snow and William Farr differed on the *miasmata theory of disease* which holds that (circle one best answer):
   a. disease was transmitted by a cloud that clung low on the surface of the earth.
   b. disease was transmitted by microbes that persist in the environment.
   c. disease was transmitted by contaminated water that flows out of wells.
   d. disease was transmitted by infected dirt where animals grazed.

10. Edward Jenner is honored by epidemiologists for his use of observational data on *vibrio cholerae* cases, using vaccination against the agent as the basis for preventive intervention. (circle one best answer)
   a. True
   b. False

11. Edward Jenner was an important historical figure in epidemiology for his research on cholera vaccination (circle one best answer).
   a. true for vaccination, true for cholera
   b. true for vaccination, false for cholera
   c. false for vaccination, true for cholera
   d. false for vaccination, false for cholera

ANSWERS ON FOLLOWING PAGE
1. e.
2. a.
3. b.
4. b.
5. b.
6. c.
7. d.
8. b.
9. a
10. b.
11. b.