Purpose: To help you gain insight into the taken-for-granted knowledge needed to survive in various social classes.

**Assignment: For each of the three questionnaires below, place a check mark in front of each item that you definitely know how to do-- right now, today, at this very minute. Be honest. If you are the least bit unsure, do not check the item.**

Surviving in Poverty

\_\_\_\_\_1. I know which churches and sections of town have the best rummage sales.

\_\_\_\_\_2. I know where the nearest food bank is and when it is open.

\_\_\_\_\_3. I know which grocery stores’ garbage bins can be accessed for discarded food.

\_\_\_\_\_4. I know how to physically fight and can defend myself if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_5. I know how to keep my clothes from being stolen at the Laundromat.

\_\_\_\_\_6. I know what problems to look for in a used car.

\_\_\_\_\_7. I know how to live without a checking account.

\_\_\_\_\_8. I know how to get by without electricity and without a phone.

\_\_\_\_\_9. I know how to use a knife as scissors.

\_\_\_\_\_10. I can entertain a group of friends with my personality and my stories.

\_\_\_\_\_11. I know how to move my residence in less than a day..

\_\_\_\_\_12. I know where the free medical clinics are and when they are open.

\_\_\_\_\_13. I am very good at trading and bartering.

\_\_\_\_\_14. I know how to get around without a car.

Functioning in the Middle Class

\_\_\_\_\_\_1. I know how to properly set a table.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. I know which stores are most likely to carry the clothing brands I wear.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. I know how to order in a nice restaurant.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. I know how to use a credit card, checking account, and savings account.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. I know how to use an ATM card, and I know where the nearest ATM machines are.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. I expect to go to college.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. My parents can help me with my homework.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. If I have a problem at school, my parents do not hesitate to contact the teacher or principal.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. I know how to get a library card and how to check out books at the public library.

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. My parents repair items in my house immediately when they break or they know a repair

service and call it.

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. I use at least two of the following on a regular basis: laptop, cell phone, DVD player, mp3

player, digital camera, social networking site(s).

\_\_\_\_\_\_12. I know how to use various tools in the garage or basement.

Functioning in the Upper Class

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. I can read a menu in French, English, and another language.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. I have several favorite restaurants in different parts of the country or in different countries.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. My parents know how and where to hire domestic help, including maids, caterers, gardeners.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. I have at least two residences which are staffed and maintained.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. I frequently vacation in foreign countries.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. My family belongs to at least two exclusive, members-only private clubs.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. My parents know how to enroll their children in the preferred private schools.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. My parents know how to host parties that “key” people attend.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. My parent(s) is on the boards of at least two charities.

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. I am familiar with personal security systems and devices.

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. I have a favorite artist whom I support by buying his or her work (originals, not prints).

\_\_\_\_\_\_12. My clothing, personal items, and residential furnishing were created by the most exclusive designers.