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Anthropology 124  
Third exam  
December 18, 1964

Comparative Religion

Dr. Crocombe

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ANSWER ANY TEN OF THE QUESTIONS BELOW (YOU MAY ELIMINATE TWO). EACH QUESTION IS WORTH TEN POINTS.

1. Define what one means by "the beneficent use of homeopathic magic," and illustrate this by a real or fictitious example.

*See pp. 249 ff*

2. According to Cannon, a famous American surgeon refuses to operate if the patient expresses fear of the result. What is the reason, according to Cannon?

*See p. 276, plus preceding pages*

3. Explain what is meant by the statement that, in Azande culture, witchcraft explains unfortunate events.

4. In Azande oracle divination, how does one determine whether the oracular verdict is invalid or valid?

5. Evans-Pritchard notes that among the Azande, the control of oracles by men gives them control over women. Please explain how this is so.

6. How does Lessa distinguish somatomancy from constitutional studies?

7. Discuss some of the positive functions of witchcraft.

8. Ackerknecht discusses several "reasons for the success of primitive medicine." Discuss these, pointing out what you think are questionable elements in Ackerknecht's analysis.

9. "It works, therefore it's valid." Please discuss.

10. Some attempts have been made to distinguish between magic and religion. Please list several criteria by means of which such a distinction may be made and discuss the difficulties one encounters in making such a division.

11. Explain how it is that magic persists in human society.

12. Describe a form of divination found in our society, perhaps one with which you are personally acquainted. Analyze it so as to show how a rational person may believe in it.