Focus Questions:

What are the various ways to approach theoretical sociology?
What questions do theoretical sociologists need to answer?
What are various ways of defining social class?
What factors affect the level of violence and intensity of a conflict? How does that affect the outcome of the conflict?
What are the positive/functional consequences of conflict for the groups involved and for society?
What conditions need to be met for conflict to develop, either between two social groups, or against the state?
What roles do emotions and rituals play in the development of violence during a conflict?
Why didn’t the revolution predicted by Marx occur?
How can the world be analyzed as stratified in a Marxian way?

Key terms:

Social class
Exploitation of labor (Marx)
Proletariat, bourgeoisie (Marx)
Alienation
Status and party (Weber)
Routinization of charisma (Weber)
Imperatively coordinated associations (Dahrendorf)
Quasi groups, interest groups, conflict groups (Dahrendorf)
Technical, political, and social conditions of conflict
Conflict intensity
Core/peripheral/semi-peripheral nations (Wallerstein)

Conflict violence
Non-elite mobilization/Elite mobilization
Coercive, material, and symbolic resources of control (Collins)
Interaction rituals (Collins)
Marchland advantage (Collins)
Particularistic cultural capital (Collins)
Micro-level violence (Collins)
Realistic utopias (Wright)
Despotic/hegemonic reproduction (Wright)
Ruptural/interstitial/symbiotic metamorphosis (Wright)
World-systems (Wallerstein)