

Ques  
Ideal types of Weber are mental constructs, they do not correspond to reality. Give your views.

According to Weber, essence of reality can be understood through sociological research, but not totality of reality. Therefore Sociology must have to admit its limitations of studying reality.

Weber advocates that reality is vast, unorganised & chaotic so methods like Ideal type should be used.

Acc. to him, Ideal types are mental constructs of sociologist to guide research.

For construction of ideal types, sociologist should select ~~more~~ only a certain number of traits from the whole to constitute an intelligible entity.

Weber says that Ideal types are not a presentation of total reality instead they exhibit partial conception of the whole.

This is because reality is vast & chaotic and if studied in totality, it will ~~not~~ lead to confusion & obscurity.

Thus ideal types do not correspond to reality but are only mental constructs to study the essence of reality.

for eg - instead of studying all kinds of authority in society, Weber constructed an ideal type of  $\S 3$  authorities and similarly, while studying Bureaucracy he constructed an Ideal type.

Thus, as said by Lachman, ideal types only acts as the measuring rod to understand the phenomenon & they do not correspond to total reality.

Ques - Distinguish b/w fact & value  
in Weber's Protestant ethics &  
spirit of capitalism

Facts are empirically verified  
observations which can be studied  
directly & one can be termed  
as true or false. ~~& correct~~

Values are subjective disposition arising  
out of beliefs, bias & experience

Weber in his study of Protestant  
Ethics & spirit of capitalism first  
studied facts & then referred to  
values arising out of those facts.

While talking about facts, Weber  
finds that business leaders, capitalists,  
entrepreneurs & skilled workers in  
Europe belonged to Protestantism.

He also observed the fact that  
other religions like Confucianism &  
Hinduism did not have capitalists.

So, he advocated that only material  
conditions are not important for  
development of capitalism but there  
are certain values which need

to be there.

Thus, he studied values of protestantism which favours the growth of capitalism in west.

<u>Protestant Values</u>	<u>Capitalism Values</u>
1). Materialistic Ascetism	1) Accumulation of capitalism & reinvestment .
2). calling - work is a mission.	2). Efficiency & Time bound work
3). In-worldly religion	3). work is worship
4). Equality of origin - People should be judged on performance .	4). Equality of opportunity

In this way Weber studied facts & values and concluded that protestant values & capitalistic values have a harmonic negotiation which gave growth of capitalism in west.