Name: ibeh Victoria chinalonma

Department: media and communication

College: social and management sciences

Matric no: 19/sms04/016

**Give a brief summary of chapter 8 on the book history and philosophy of science**

During the eighties and nineties the success recorded in the aspect of natural science was so big that it affected the Europeans to the extent that they sought for the view of the scientists not only in the ways of science but in diverse ways.

The positive results to science was as a result of change in the social-cultural milieu of the time and it explains why belief in science or application of science to issue is called **positivism** from then on. Social-cultural milieu in which positivism grew is called **renaissance** and the enlightenment period. It is called the renaissance period because it marked a period when people started revolution return to their Greek heritage using reason in matter of public concern and not the dictate of religion as it was the age prior of time. The aeon prior was the time in which religion reigned supreme. The words of the Pope was the final authority on any matter either it was politics, social or intellectual. It was at the time people found guilty by the church either witchcraft or sorcery were burnt at stake. Diseases were said to be the consequences of sin and idolatry. The intellectual community saw it as a big treat to human happiness and survival so they infiltrated literature with the benefit of using reason to arrive to justified conclusion like Socrates, Plato etc did. This brought the **romanticism** period which gave rise to humanism and naturalism, works of art and literature produced at that time was regarded as classic. Positivism declared false all proposition that could not be solved or verified by experience such as metaphysical statements due to the high degree of abstract nature. There are a lot of problem with the concepts. First is observation in which the basic justification of positivism came is laden

* Observation are concepts laden
* Observation are hypothesis laden
* Observation are theory laden
* Observation are value laden
* Observation are interest laden
* Observation are laden with culture specific ontologies

 **What is social science?**

Social science is an area of study dedicated to the explanation of human behaviour interaction and manifestations either as an individual in a society or collectively as a group including the institution, norms and mores such interaction created. Discipline in the social sciences includes sociology, psychology, economics, political, archaeology and anthropology. The philosophy of social science arouse out of the curiosity that the central focus and the propelling motive of social science may be impossible or unachievable due to the methodological mismatch. In other words, there exist an incongruity in using methods of scientific enquiry to study human and his society. The incongruity stem from the fact that human beings do not behave in exact way objects of natural science behave

**The problem of reason and causes.**

To understand this problem with social sciences better, we need to understand that one of the essential features of science and scientific explanation is to provide a causal or correlational connection between an event and its cause

Francis offor explains this point in the following words. ‘The principles of cause and effects states that for every event in the universe, there is a set of conditions such that if the are all fulfilled then the event invariably occurs put differently then the event invariable occurs put b in the universe there is always a cause. A such that b always explained by reference to the activities of event A. This is the principle that underlines the method of explanation in science. We have the

**Problem of human person as subject of study in social science**

According to max Weber;

Methodology of science becomes inapplicable due to the fact that the objects of study in social science is man, a rational being with freewill, desires, emotions and other sentient features that come into play in his action or reaction. The law of demand and supply in economics which predicts that human as rational being will buy less when the price us high and more when the price is low. However , the economists themselves that these law do not hold all the time since man does not behave rationally all the time. During the years capitalists have been able to manipulate consumers behaviour and attitudes to the extent it is doubtful if these law no longer hold