NAME: MGBEMENA IFUNANYA PRECIOUS.

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ASSIGNMENT; summary of chapter 8 in history and philosophy of science .

ANSWERS

The success of science has been recorded in the 18th and 19th century as enormous and intellectual life of people in Europe and the stated trusting the words of the scientists, they sought their opinions on matters unrelated to science such as law and forensic. The positive response to science happened as a result of a change in the socio-cultural milieu of time and it explains why application to science to any issue is therefore called POSITIVISM.

The socio-cultural milieu in which positivism grew is called the renaissance period. It is because it marked a period of revolution of when people started a revolution to return to their Greek heritage of using reason in matters of public concern .the aeon prior to the renaissance period was called the Dark Age, because it was the time religious belief reigned supreme .

However Intellectual at the time saw a threat to human survival. So they started infiltrating literature with the benefits of using reason to arrive at justified conclusions just as Plato, Aristotle, Socrates used. This became known as classical period of romanticism . it gave rise to humanism and naturalism and it works of art and literature produced at this time were also regarded as classic. Discipline , intellectual ,moral and political was associated in the minds of the men of the renaissance with the scholastic philosophy and ecclesiastical government .positivism rejects theoretical speculations that are not based on the facts of experience as a means of obtaining knowledge .there are lots of problems with this conception of ideal knowledge seeking enterprise first of these is observation upon which the basic justification of positivism came to laden with error. However irrespective of the shortcomings on positivism let us explicate the ideas on social science . Social science is an area of study dedicated to the study of human behaviour as an individual in the society . social science seeks to employ the method of science in the investigation of social phenomena taking the human person as the object of study. However, the philosophy of social science arouse out of the curiosity that the central focus and the propelling motive of the social science may be impossible or unachievable due to methodological mismatch.

Another problem with the project of social science is that according to max weber , methodology of science becomes inapplicable due to the fact that the object of study in social science is man , a rational being with freewill , desire and emotions , all these factor undermine the notion of predictability of behaviour with which natural science is known to deduce their principals and law .

Now if a supposed scientific law is neither absolute nor held quite often, should we continue to call it scientific laws or economics .