



Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which perspective would most likely explain anger as “an outlet for unconscious hostility”?
- Social-cultural
 - Psychodynamic
 - Behavioral
 - Functionalist
 - Biological
2. The debate on the relative contributions of biology and experience to human development is most often referred to as
- evolutionary analysis.
 - behaviorism.
 - the cognitive revolution.
 - the nature-nurture issue.
 - natural selection.
3. Which of the following professionals is also a medical doctor?
- Psychiatrist
 - Psychologist
 - Clinician
 - Counselor
 - Biologist
4. SQ3R is an acronym for a study method that includes survey, question, read, rehearse, and
- flgor.
 - recite.
 - response.
 - review.
 - reserve.
5. Which of the following psychologists would most likely explore how we view and affect each other?
- Developmental
 - Biological
 - Social
 - Cognitive
 - Personality
6. For behaviorists, psychological science is rooted in
- Introspection.
 - observation.
 - cultural influences.
 - growth potential.
 - basic needs.
7. Which of the following psychologists would most likely conduct psychotherapy?
- Biological
 - Clinical
 - Industrial-organizational
 - Cognitive
 - Evolutionary
8. The study of mental activity linked with brain activity best describes
- humanistic psychology.
 - Gestalt psychology.
 - cognitive neuroscience.
 - the psychodynamic perspective.
 - the evolutionary perspective.
9. The first psychological laboratory, opened in 1879, belonged to
- Charles Darwin.
 - Sigmund Freud.
 - René Descartes.
 - Wilhelm Wundt.
 - William James.
10. The _____ school of psychology focused on how mental and behavioral processes enable us to adapt and flourish.
- Functionalist
 - Structuralist
 - Behavioral
 - Humanistic
 - Psychodynamic
11. The study of current environmental influences and the importance of satisfying the needs for love and acceptance best describe which school of psychology?
- Humanistic
 - Behaviorial
 - Psychodynamic
 - Structuralist
 - Functionalist
12. Which of the following is the best example of applied research?
- Investigating basic human traits.
 - Using psychological concepts to boost morale and productivity.
 - Experimenting with how we perceive stimuli.
 - Studying the changing abilities of a child from age 2 to age 5.
 - Exploring the mind-brain connections in adolescents.

13. Self-reflective introspection (looking inward) to discern the elements of experience best describes a technique used by
- Darwinists.
 - empiricists.
 - structuralists.
 - behaviorists.
 - ancient Greek philosophers.
14. Which perspective would most look at how our *interpretation* of a situation affects how we react to it?
- Psychodynamic
 - Cognitive
 - Biological
 - Social-cultural
 - Evolutionary
15. The science of behavior and mental processes best defines
- philosophy.
 - cognitive neuroscience.
 - basic research.
 - applied research.
 - psychology.

Free-Response Question

Psychology has a variety of complementary yet incomplete perspectives that help us understand behavior. How might each of the following perspectives explain aggression?

- Biological
- Cognitive
- Evolutionary
- Social-cultural



AP* Practice Test Questions

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. What statistical technique would be appropriate for a researcher to use in trying to determine how consistent intelligence scores are over time?
 - a. Correlation coefficient
 - b. Mean
 - c. Median
 - d. Standard deviation
 - e. Range
2. A scientist's willingness to admit that she is wrong is an example of
 - a. curiosity.
 - b. intelligence.
 - c. humility.
 - d. skepticism.
 - e. cynicism.
3. Let's say a psychology researcher is interested in testing whether a particular parenting technique would lead adolescents to feel more satisfied with their lives. What method should be used?
 - a. Case study
 - b. Experiment
 - c. Survey
 - d. Naturalistic observation
 - e. Correlation
4. When a distribution of scores is skewed, the best representation of central tendency is the
 - a. inference.
 - b. standard deviation.
 - c. mean.
 - d. median.
 - e. correlation coefficient.
5. A researcher wants to conduct an experiment to determine if eating a cookie before class each day improves students' grades. He uses two psychology classes for the experiment, providing daily cookies to one and nothing to the other. At the end of the semester, the researcher compares the final grades of students in the two classes. What is the independent variable for this experiment?
 - a. The students in the class that received cookies.
 - b. The presence or absence of cookies.
 - c. The students in the class that didn't receive cookies.
 - d. The period of the day that the two classes met.
 - e. Semester grades.

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8. Which of the following represents naturalistic observation?

- a. From a third-floor window, researchers watch how elementary school children interact on a playground.
- b. Researchers bring people into a laboratory to see how they respond when asked to solve a puzzle with no solution.
- c. A principal sits in the back of a classroom to evaluate a teacher.
- d. A social worker spends the afternoon in the home of a mother accused of neglecting her children.
- e. Two grandparents sit in the front row to watch as their grandson performs his piano recital.

9. "Monday morning quarterbacks" rarely act surprised about the outcome of weekend football games. Their tendency to believe they knew how the game would turn out is explained by

- a. overconfidence.
- b. hindsight bias.
- c. intuition.
- d. illusory correlation.
- e. random sampling.

10. Researchers studying gender have found that

- a. there are more similarities than differences between the genders.
- b. there are no significant cognitive differences between the genders.
- c. there are no significant emotional differences between the genders.
- d. research tools are not capable of determining if there are true differences or not.
- e. differences between the genders are becoming more pronounced over time.

11. A student is writing an article for her school newspaper about the school's new cell phone policy, and she'd like to include survey results from a random sample of students in her article. Which of the following constitutes a random sample?

- a. The writer arrives at school early and interviews the first five students who come through the main entrance.
- b. The writer pulls the names of five students from a hat that contains all students' names. She interviews the five selected students.
- c. The writer asks her teacher if she can distribute a brief survey to the students in her AP Psychology class.
- d. The writer passes out brief surveys to 50 students in the hall and uses the 10 surveys returned to her as the basis of her article.

e. The writer asks the principal for the names of 10 students who have had their cell phones confiscated for a day for violating the policy. She interviews these 10 students.

12. Which of the following is a positive correlation?

- a. As study time decreases, students achieve lower grades.
- b. As levels of self-esteem decline, levels of depression increase.
- c. People who exercise regularly are less likely to be obese.
- d. Gas mileage decreases as vehicle weight increases.
- e. Repeatedly shooting free throws is associated with a smaller percentage of missed free throws.

13. Why is random assignment of participants to groups an important aspect of a properly designed experiment?

- a. If the participants are randomly assigned, the researcher can assume that the people in each of the groups are pretty similar.
- b. By randomly assigning, the researcher knows that whatever is learned from the experiment will also be true for the population from which the participants were selected.
- c. Random assignment keeps expectations from influencing the results of the experiment.
- d. If participants are not randomly assigned, it is impossible to replicate the experiment.
- e. Statistical analysis cannot be performed on an experiment if random assignment is not used.

14. Which of the following demonstrates the need for psychological science?

- a. Psychology's methods are unlike those of any other science.
- b. Psychological experiments are less valuable without psychological science.
- c. Intuition and common sense are not always correct.
- d. Intuition can never be right unless applied scientifically.
- e. Psychological science can be used to answer fundamental questions about religion.

15. Which of the following is a potential problem with case studies?

- a. They provide too much detail and the researcher is likely to lose track of the most important facts.
- b. They are generally too expensive to be economical.
- c. They may be misleading because they don't fairly represent other cases.
- d. They are technically difficult and most researchers don't have the skills to do them properly.
- e. The dependent variable is difficult to operationally define in a case study.

16. Which of the following is *not* an ethical principle regarding research on humans?

- a. Researchers must protect participants from needless harm and discomfort.
- b. Participants must take part in the study on a voluntary basis.
- c. Personal information about individual participants must be kept private.
- d. The research must be fully explained to participants when the study is completed.
- e. It is never acceptable for a researcher to deceive a participant during the research.

17. There is a negative correlation between TV watching and grades. What can we properly conclude from this discovery?

- a. We cannot conclude anything about cause and effect.
- b. We can conclude that TV watching leads to lower grades.
- c. We can conclude that TV watching increases grades.
- d. We can conclude that the grades students get have an effect on their TV watching habits.
- e. We can conclude that this is an illusory correlation.

Free-Response Question

Imagine that you are a sports psychologist interested in the usefulness of a new visualization technique that has been developed for Olympic divers. You have decided to conduct an experiment to determine if the technique is effective. Discuss the importance of each of the following in regard to the experiment you are designing: population, sample, hypothesis, independent variable, dependent variable, operational definitions, control group, random assignment, and replication.

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