

1. How many research credits do you need to obtain by the end of the year?
 - A) 1
 - B) 100
 - C) 6
 - D) 2500
 - E) research credits?

2. Which of the following statements comparing the behavioral and psychodynamic perspectives is most accurate?
 - A) though they are rather different on the surface, the perspectives are similar in that they both place a strong emphasis on free will and personal choice
 - B) the behavioral approach emphasizes free will and personal choice while the psychodynamic approach does not
 - C) the behavioral approach emphasizes internal causes while the psychodynamic approach places more emphasis on external causes
 - D) the behavioral approach emphasizes external causes while the psychodynamic approach places more emphasis on internal causes
 - E) A & C are correct

3. Professor Abel views the causes of schizophrenia as strictly biological, while Professor Worth sees the causes as completely environmental. Both are wrong. Why?
 - A) the causes of abnormal behaviour are best described at the psychological level
 - B) the causes of abnormal behaviour are best described in terms of psychodynamic principles
 - C) interaction must be considered—both levels are likely involved and each influence the other
 - D) there are no known explanations for schizophrenia.
 - E) B & D are correct

4. Dr. Mitchell is interested in the aggressive behaviour of pigeons. So, he goes to the park and records how many times one pigeon “attacks” another. This aspect of Dr. Mitchell’s research is MOST consistent with which goal of psychology?
 - A) description
 - B) understanding
 - C) prediction
 - D) control
 - E) usefulness

5. As you listen to one of your psychology professors talking to a colleague, she uses the words “childhood sexuality” and “repression” when speaking about memory. Most likely, she is speaking about which psychological perspective?
 - A) social constructivism
 - B) psychodynamic
 - C) humanistic
 - D) neuroscience
 - E) sociobiology

6. You overhear two psychologists talking about a patient. Dr. A insists that the patient’s problem is the result of turning away from self actualization. Dr. B says no, it is the result of collectivism. Most likely

- A) Dr. A is a behaviourist; Dr. B is humanist
- B) Dr. A follows the cognitive perspective; Dr. B is a structuralist
- C) Dr. A is a sociobiologist; Dr. B is a functionalist
- D) Dr. A follows the humanistic perspective; Dr. B follows the sociocultural perspective
- E) Dr. A is a cognitive behaviourist; Dr. B follows the behavioural perspective

7. Which of the following factors has NOT been suggested as a cause of depression?

- A) disruption in the sleep/wakefulness cycle
- B) self-blame for negative events
- C) an environment with far too many rewards
- D) a significant loss (e.g., of a parent) early in life
- E) all of the above have been suggested as causes of depression

8. Dr. Chan is interested in the study of basic processes in learning and memory. He conducts his research in a laboratory. Most likely, Dr. Chan is

- A) a clinical psychologist
- B) an educational psychologist
- C) a social psychologist
- D) a neuroscientist
- E) an experimental psychologist

9. Your friend is a bit unsure about her answers to a number of the questions on this exam and has asked you for your opinion. She wants to know what she should do in the future. According to the text, you would recommend all of the following EXCEPT

- A) you can rule out some alternatives immediately. Eliminate them and choose from the rest
- B) try to answer the questions before you look at the alternatives
- C) answer the questions you know first, then come back to the more difficult ones
- D) do not change your answers—your first guess is likely to be correct
- E) check your progress from time to time and make sure that you are on track

10. Which of the following statements would likely have been made by a sociobiologist?

- A) reality is a social construction and little is shared across cultures
- B) an individual's social behaviour is determined by external rewards
- C) much of our behaviour is unknown to our conscious mind—we are driven by unconscious impulses and desires
- D) social behaviours that increase our ability to pass on our genes will be more likely to be represented in future generations
- E) all humans seek to self-actualize and grow

11. During dinner one evening, Ariel mentions that she just read in a popular magazine that a particular herbal substance improves memory. She's very excited about trying this supplement in hopes that it might improve her grades. Sitting across the table from her, Juan is skeptical. He begins to ask her about such things as the nature of the evidence regarding the herb's effectiveness and how big the memory improvement effect is supposed to be. Juan's behavior is most consistent with which of the following concepts discussed in the text?

- A) Gestalt psychology
- B) functionalism
- C) British empiricism

- D) critical thinking
- E) A & C are both correct

12. You are listening to a psychologist describe his view of human nature. He uses terms like “free will”, “choice” and the “search for meaning”. This illustrates which of the major perspectives on psychology?

- A) humanistic
- B) behavioural
- C) cognitive
- D) psychodynamic
- E) socio-cultural

13. A limitation of Correlational research is that

- A) the data do not permit cause and effect conclusions
- B) the correlation coefficient only goes from -1.00 to +1.00
- C) the data collected cannot be plotted
- D) it only addresses questions that cannot be studied experimentally
- E) it does not allow us to make predictions about the variables

14. A control group

- A) must always be used in correlational research
- B) is not exposed to the experimental treatment
- C) cannot be used as a comparison to the experimental group
- D) must be deceived into believing they are receiving treatment
- E) all of the above

15. With respect to ethics and the use of deception in research

- A) it should only be used when there is no other way to obtain natural, spontaneous responses from participants
- B) deception violates the principle of informed consent
- C) the participant should be told the true purpose of the study when it is over
- D) the benefits should clearly outweigh the ethical costs
- E) all of the above

16. A good theory should

- A) not follow the law of parsimony
- B) be testable
- C) produce predictions that are different and do not support findings of new research
- D) be regarded as absolute truth
- E) none of the above

17. A psychologist is studying the effects of orange juice on the prevention of colds. She has one group drink a glass of orange juice every day for the month of December. A second group drinks a glass of orange juice once a week during December, while a third group is not given any orange juice at all during this time period. Previous medical histories were obtained for all the participants. In January, she records how many colds each participant gets over the entire month. In this study, the independent variable is

- A) the severity of the colds in January
- B) the number of colds each participant got in January

- C) the prior medical histories
- D) drinking orange juice every day
- E) the amount of orange juice consumed

18. Dr. Barnes is an organizational psychologist who has just completed a profile of the employees of Alcan. He reports that there is a positive correlation ($r = +0.60$) between salary and job satisfaction while there is a negative correlation ($r = - 0.75$) between number of hours worked in a week and job satisfaction. Comparing the correlation coefficients, we can conclude that

- A) high salaries cause greater job satisfaction than less work hours
- B) less work hours cause greater job satisfaction than high salaries
- C) there is a stronger association between salary and job satisfaction
- D) there is a stronger association between number of hours worked and job satisfaction
- E) no conclusions can be made

19. Which of the following was discussed in the text as a disadvantage of the case study method of research?

- A) case studies are very vulnerable to demand characteristics
- B) case studies are not a good way to investigate rare or unusual behaviour
- C) case studies are not a good way to establish cause-effect relationships
- D) case studies give results that can be easily generalized to other people
- E) case studies are an effective way to investigate rare or unusual behaviour

20. Consider the following distribution: 5,3,1,2,4,3,3. Which of the following statements are true?

- A) the mean is greater than the mode
- B) the range is less than the median
- C) the median is less than the mode
- D) mean, median, and mode are equal
- E) mean and mode are equal, but the median is a lower number

21. Professor Miller studies aggression in real world settings. In one study, he measured the number of times someone honked their horn at a stalled car. Honking the horn

- A) is the operational definition of aggression
- B) is the independent variable
- C) is the dependent variable
- D) is a confounding variable
- E) A) and C) above

22. Dr. Lewis is interested in assessing the study habits of Western students. She wants to gather information about the number of hours spent in class, at a job, in extracurricular activity, exercising, sleeping, and studying for as many students as possible. Which research method should she use?

- A) experiment
- B) case study
- C) survey
- D) correlation
- E) observation

23. For your doctoral thesis, you spend two years observing a particular patient (P.T.) and then write up your observations and conclusions about P.T. Your thesis is a good example of
- A) an experiment
 - B) a Correlational study
 - C) a survey
 - D) a case study
 - E) a meta-analysis
24. You would really like to minimize any possible experimenter expectancy effects in your study. What can you do?
- A) use a double-blind procedure
 - B) use a placebo
 - C) decrease internal validity
 - D) increase the demand characteristics
 - E) nothing – you cannot minimize experimenter effects
25. Why is replication of research important?
- A) this increases internal validity
 - B) this increases external validity
 - C) this increases psychological validity
 - D) this decreases confounding
 - E) this insures random assignment
26. A new measure of I.Q. is normally distributed with a mean of 10 and a standard deviation of 1.0. Based on what you know about normal distribution, we should expect that 95% of all scores will fall between
- A) a score of 9 and a score of 11
 - B) a score of 70 and a score of 130
 - C) a score of 8 and a score of 12
 - D) a score of 1 and a score of 10
 - E) impossible to tell from this information
27. Stephanie sustained severe damage to her cerebellum in a motor vehicle accident. This damage would most likely cause difficulties with
- A) the timing and coordination of motor movements
 - B) language comprehension
 - C) language production
 - D) regulating biological drives, such as thirst, and hunger
 - E) organizing sensory information and sending this information to appropriate areas of the brain
28. Which of the following are NOT considered to be primarily right hemisphere functions (for the majority of right-handed males)?
- A) the ability to solve a maze
 - B) the ability to recognize faces
 - C) the ability to recognize a musical melody
 - D) the ability to recognize the meaning of words

E) the ability to build three-dimensional structure out of blocks

29. The portion of the nervous system that dominates under conditions of relaxation when heart rate and respiration are slower is the

- A) sympathetic nervous system
- B) parasympathetic nervous system
- C) somatic nervous system
- D) central nervous system
- E) immune system

30. The structure in the forebrain that is critical for organizing emotional response patterns (especially related to fear and aggression) is the

- A) hippocampus
- B) cerebrum
- C) amygdala
- D) thalamus
- E) medulla

31. Dr. Forsyth is assessing the cognitive functioning of an elderly patient who has recently suffered brain damage as a result of a stroke. If this patient has pronounced difficulties with both impulse control and planning behavior and has also experienced changes in personality, which area of the brain was most likely damaged by the stroke?

- A) the parietal lobe
- B) the temporal lobe
- C) the occipital lobe
- D) the frontal lobe
- E) the limbic system

32. Small changes in a neuron's electrical potential that do not reach the action potential threshold are

- A) resting potentials
- B) action potentials
- C) graded potentials
- D) polarized potentials
- E) Hebbian potentials

33. When writing an exam you feel tense and anxious and stressed. After the exam is over, you relax. During the exam the effects of your _____ system dominated, and after the exam your _____ system is responsible for calming and slowing down the body

- A) ascending reticular; somatic
- B) somatic; ascending reticular
- C) parasympathetic; sympathetic
- D) sympathetic; parasympathetic
- E) reticular; sympathetic

34. Although early research suggested that the hypothalamus was responsible for reward and motivation, more recent research has demonstrated that reward and motivation are associated with activity within the

- A) basal ganglia

- B) thalamus
- C) hippocampus
- D) reticular formation
- E) nucleus accumbens

35. Damage to the occipital lobe typically results in

- A) a loss of biological drives, such as hunger and thirst
- B) the inability to plan and carry out a sequence of actions
- C) the inability to remember recent information or events
- D) complete loss of intellectual functioning
- E) loss or reduction of vision

36. The neurotransmitter acetylcholine (ACh) is known to be involved in

- A) eating and sexual behaviour
- B) disordered thinking and emotions
- C) reducing pain
- D) memory and muscle activity
- E) mood, especially depression

37. Neurotransmitter substances are stored in the _____ of the neuron, and after an action potential fires at the axon terminal, the neurotransmitters _____

- A) dendrites; are released into the soma of the neuron
- B) synaptic vesicles; are released into the axon of the neuron
- C) glial cells; bind to receptor sites on the post synaptic membrane
- D) synaptic vesicles; are released into the synapse
- E) dendrites; are deactivated and broken down in the axon of the neuron

38. If a neuron has a charge of -85 mv, which of the following is most likely true?

- A) the neuron is depolarized and in its resting potential phase
- B) the neuron is depolarized and at its action potential threshold
- C) the neuron is hyperpolarized and is in its refractory period
- D) the neuron is hyperpolarized and in its action potential phase
- E) the neuron is polarized and in its resting potential phase

39. As Amy is studying at her desk, she hears a loud crash behind her. Instantly her heart begins to race, her breathing becomes faster, and her pupils dilate. This intense physiological arousal is caused by the activation of her _____

- A) autonomic nervous system
- B) somatic nervous system
- C) sympathetic nervous system
- D) parasympathetic nervous system
- E) both B) and D) above

40. A right-handed split brain patient is staring straight ahead at a screen and pictures are briefly flashed in both visual fields. A picture of a hammer is flashed to the left visual field and a picture of a rock is flashed to the right visual field. If the patient is asked to reach under the screen with their left hand and pick up what they saw, what will happen?

- A) the patient will pick up the hammer

- B) the patient will pick up the rock
- C) the patient will comment that they do not know how to do this task
- D) the patient will pick up any object except the rock or hammer
- E) the patient will pick up both the rock and the hammer

41. The fact that researchers have found that rat pups that were raised in a stimulating early environment have larger neurons and more dendrite branches supports

- A) the idea that brain development is primarily genetically determined
- B) the idea that the environment has an important impact on brain development
- C) the idea of neural plasticity
- D) all of the above
- E) Only B) and C) above

42. According to Trivers' (1972) "Parental Investment theory" an equal (or approximately equal) investment by both parents would predict

- A) a polyandry mating system
- B) a polygynandry mating system
- C) a polygyny mating system
- D) a monogamous mating system
- E) none of the above

43. Consider the following scenario: A group of psychologists are studying the genetic influence on intelligence. They find that identical twins (raised together) have a heritability coefficient of .88 and that fraternal twins (raised together) have a heritability coefficient of .42. Based solely on these findings, the psychologists can legitimately conclude that

- A) intelligence is entirely shaped by genetics
- B) intelligence is entirely shaped by the environment
- C) intelligence is impacted by genetics
- D) intelligence is not impacted by the environment
- E) intelligence is not at all impacted by genetics

44. _____ refers to the specific genetic makeup of an individual, and it is _____

- A) genotype; present at birth and never changes
- B) phenotype; present at birth and never changes
- C) genotype; present at birth and is potentially modified by environmental factors
- D) phenotype; present at birth and is potentially modified by environmental factors
- E) genotype; develops after birth and is potentially modified by environmental factors

45. A chromosome is:

- A) synonymous with the term "gene"
- B) a coiled molecule of DNA that is covered by protein
- C) the portion of the gene that carries the hereditary blueprint
- D) the observable characteristics produced by a given genetic makeup
- E) synonymous with the term "phenotype"

46. Which of the following statements about genetic transmission from parents to offspring is true?

- A) 46 chromosomes from the egg combine with 46 chromosomes from the sperm

- B) 23 chromosomes from the egg combine with 23 chromosomes from the sperm regardless of the gender of the child
 - C) all 46 chromosomes in a developing fetus come from the egg regardless of the gender of the child
 - D) all 46 chromosomes in a developing fetus come from the sperm regardless of the gender of the child
 - E) all 46 chromosomes in a developing fetus come from the egg if the child is female, and all 46 chromosomes in a developing fetus come from the sperm if the child is a boy
47. The gene knockout procedure refers to the process in which
- A) a specific gene is altered in such a way that it prevents it from carrying out its normal function
 - B) pieces of DNA from several organisms are put together and allowed to divide and copy in a new organism
 - C) chromosomes are transplanted within a single organism
 - D) the dominant or recessive qualities of a particular gene are changed
 - E) none of the above
48. While genetic engineering gives humans potential control over heredity and evolution processes, your text emphasizes which key issue with respect to their use?
- A) uncertainty whether findings on animals can be meaningfully applied to humans
 - B) uncertainty whether these techniques actually produce any lasting changes
 - C) uncertainty whether this research is valuable enough to warrant research on animals
 - D) uncertainty about moral/ethical issues related to manipulating genetic makeup
 - E) uncertainty about whether these techniques are even useful
49. Any given child has a 50% chance of sharing any particular gene with his/her
- A) biological mother
 - B) biological father
 - C) non-twin biological sibling
 - D) fraternal twin
 - E) all of the above
50. The heritability coefficient is highest for which of the following human characteristics?
- A) conscientiousness
 - B) height
 - C) intelligence
 - D) extroversion
 - E) impulsivity
51. Social Darwinism was a term generated by _____ which was used to explain _____
- A) Darwin; the evolution of social mechanisms
 - B) Darwin; natural selection
 - C) Spencer; how the genes of certain individuals are superior to the genes of others
 - D) Spencer; the evolution of social aggression
 - E) Freud; why certain individuals feel socially inadequate

52. One of the most common causes of homicide in humans is sexual jealousy. According to an evolutionary perspective, this example best supports which of the following functions of aggression?

- A) kin selection
- B) establishing dominance hierarchies
- C) protecting young
- D) protecting food supply.
- E) competing for resources

Practice Exam Answer Key

1. C
2. D
3. C
4. A
5. B
6. D
7. C
8. E
9. D
10. D
11. D
12. A
13. A
14. B
15. E
16. B
17. E
18. D
19. C
20. D
21. E
22. C
23. D
24. A
25. B
26. C
27. A
28. D
29. B
30. C
31. D
32. C
33. D
34. E
35. E
36. D
37. D
38. C
39. C
40. A
41. E
42. D
43. C
44. A
45. B
46. B
47. A

- 48. D
- 49. E
- 50. B
- 51. C
- 52. E