Practice questions: Test

These questions are provided to give you an idea of the type of questions you might see on your test, but not the full range of material that might be tested. Try to answer all questions before you look at the answer key.

1. To better understand how brain malfunctions influence behaviour, Dr. Mo extensively and carefully observes and questions two stroke victims. Which research method is Dr. Mo using?
    a. Random sampling
    b. Survey
    c. Case study
    d. Experiment

2. The myelin sheath helps to increase the _____ of neural impulses
    a. Frequency
    b. Intensity
    c. Threshold
    d. Speed

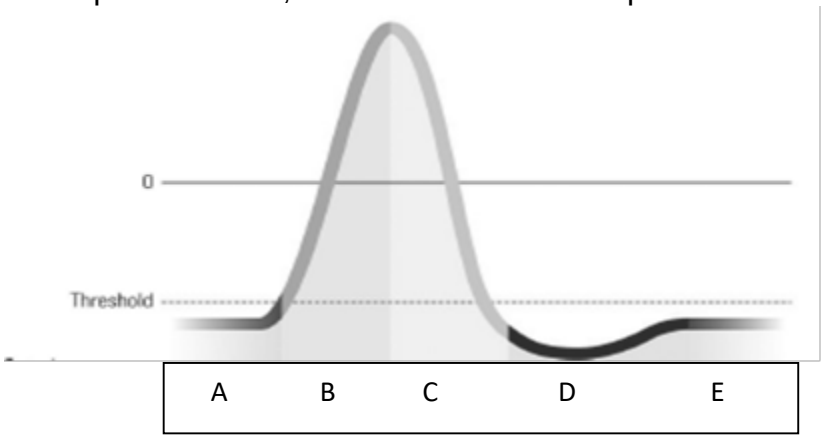
3. A researcher would be most likely to find a negative correlation between
    a. Body height and body weight
    b. Self-esteem and depression
    c. Education and personal wealth
    d. Intelligence and academic success

4. The part of the neuron that transmits neural signals to other neurons or to muscle or glands is called the
    a. Dendrite
    b. Synapse
    c. Axon
    d. Cell body

5. A statement describing how a researcher manipulated an independent variable is known as a(n)
    a. Control condition
    b. Replication
    c. Operational definition
    d. Hypothesis

6. Dr. Wilcox conducts basic research on the behavioural differences between introverted and extraverted people. She is most likely a(n) _____ psychologist.
    a. Biological
    b. Cognitive
    c. Industrial/organizational
    d. Personality

7. In the picture below, where is the neuron depolarized? Where is it hyperpolarized?



   a. A, E
   b. B, D
   c. B, C
   d. A, D

8. What is one benefit that phrenology contributed to the field of psychology?
   a. The idea that the brain molds the skull
   b. The idea that people have different characteristics
   c. The idea that different areas of the brain are involved in different behaviours
   d. The idea that neurotransmitters are involved in synaptic communication

9. What is the main difference between an experimental and a correlational design?
   a. With a correlation you can infer causation but with an experiment you can't
   b. With an experiment you have much less control
   c. With an experiment, you don't actively manipulate your independent variable
   d. You can only infer causation in an experimental design
   e. Correlations are much better

10. Which area of the brain is crucial in forming memories?
   a. Hypothalamus
   b. Hippocampus
   c. Thalamus
   d. Reticular formation
   e. Brainstem
   f. Amygdala

11. What are the three measures of central tendency?
   a. Mean, median, mode
   b. Mean, average, median
   c. Mean, standard deviation, average
   d. Mode, average, standard deviation

NOTE: the following question type would not be on your test because it is not multiple choice, but it provides good practice with the material so I have included it here.

12. For each of the questions below, identify the independent variable and the dependent variable, and indicate whether we could test it using an experiment.
    a. Does smoking cause lung cancer?
    b. Does basketball camp improve skill?
    c. Do doctors and nurses differ in anatomy knowledge?
    d. Do Toyotas have better gas mileage than Hondas?