

# AP<sup>®</sup> Psychology

## Practice Exam

The questions contained in this AP<sup>®</sup> Psychology Practice Exam are written to the content specifications of AP Exams for this subject. Taking this practice exam should provide students with an idea of their general areas of strengths and weaknesses in preparing for the actual AP Exam. Because this AP Psychology Practice Exam has never been administered as an operational AP Exam, statistical data are not available for calculating potential raw scores or conversions into AP grades.

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## Contents

Directions for Administration .....	ii
Section I: Multiple-Choice Questions .....	1
Section II: Free-Response Questions .....	17
Student Answer Sheet for Multiple-Choice Section .....	20
Multiple-Choice Answer Key .....	21
Free-Response Scoring Guidelines.....	22

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## **AP<sup>®</sup> Psychology**

### **Directions for Administration**

The AP Psychology Exam is two hours in length and consists of a multiple-choice section and a free-response section.

- The multiple-choice section is 1 hour and 10 minutes and contains 100 questions, accounting for two-thirds of the final grade.
- The free-response section is 50 minutes and contains 2 questions, accounting for one-third of the final grade.

A 10-minute break should be provided after Section I is completed.

The actual AP Exam is administered in one session. Students will have the most realistic experience if a complete morning or afternoon is available to administer this practice exam. If a schedule does not permit one time period for the entire practice exam administration, it would be acceptable to administer Section I one day and Section II on a subsequent day.

Many students wonder whether or not to guess the answers to the multiple-choice questions about which they are not certain. It is improbable that mere guessing will improve a score. However, if a student has some knowledge of the question and is able to eliminate one or more answer choices as wrong, it may be to the student's advantage to answer such a question.

- The use of calculators, or any other electronic devices, is not permitted during the exam.
- It is suggested that the practice exam be completed using a pencil for Section I and a pen for Section II to simulate an actual administration.
- Teachers will need to provide paper for the students to write their free-response answers. Teachers should provide directions to the students indicating how they wish the responses to be labeled so the teacher will be able to associate the student's response with the question the student intended to answer.
- Remember that students are not allowed to remove any materials, including scratch work, from the testing site.

## **Section I**

### **Multiple-Choice Questions**

# PSYCHOLOGY

## SECTION I

Time—1 hour and 10 minutes

100 Questions

**Directions:** Each of the questions or incomplete statements below is followed by five suggested answers or completions. Select the one that is best in each case and place the letter of your choice in the corresponding box on the student answer sheet.

1. When asked which of two countries has a larger population, participants are likely to judge the country that is more familiar to them as being more populous. Which of the following best explains this finding?
  - (A) A means-end analysis
  - (B) The representativeness heuristic
  - (C) The availability heuristic
  - (D) Algorithms
  - (E) Inductive reasoning
2. An individual with damage to Wernicke's area is most likely to have difficulty
  - (A) identifying an object held in the hand but not seen
  - (B) planning what to wear to a party
  - (C) remembering the name of a person in a photograph
  - (D) comprehending a spoken request for information
  - (E) distinguishing between red and green
3. The psychoanalytic concept of repression suggests a difficulty in the functioning of which aspect of memory?
  - (A) Encoding
  - (B) Short-term memory
  - (C) Procedural memory
  - (D) Explicit memory
  - (E) Retrieval
4. Which psychologist reported that infant attachment to another goes beyond the satisfaction of the need for nourishment?
  - (A) Albert Bandura
  - (B) Jean Piaget
  - (C) Harry Harlow
  - (D) Erik Erikson
  - (E) Konrad Lorenz
5. Edward L. Thorndike argued that responses that lead to satisfying outcomes are more likely to be repeated, and that responses followed by unpleasant outcomes are less likely to be repeated. This became known as the law of
  - (A) reinforcement
  - (B) associations
  - (C) punishment
  - (D) effect
  - (E) outcomes
6. When trying to solve a problem, Bret uses a logical, step-by-step formula called
  - (A) a heuristic
  - (B) incubation
  - (C) insight
  - (D) priming
  - (E) an algorithm

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

7. It is well established that certain autonomic responses such as heart rate, perspiration, and respiration change under stress. In view of the fact that people generally have stronger autonomic responses when lying than when telling the truth, it follows that the polygraph would be a foolproof approach to lie detection. Which statement best explains why the polygraph is not more widely used in courtrooms and in testing of job applicants?
- (A) Most people can avoid detection when they lie.
  - (B) Physiological arousal is much the same for several emotions, so the polygraph cannot always reliably distinguish guilt from other reactions.
  - (C) A significant number of people show paradoxical autonomic reactions, responding more strongly when telling the truth than when lying.
  - (D) In controlled studies, the polygraph has correctly identified guilty individuals in only a small percentage of cases.
  - (E) The polygraph has been shown to be reliable only in highly emotional cases, such as child abuse and spying.
8. The principles of operant conditioning are best illustrated by
- (A) exposing a client to anxiety-provoking stimuli
  - (B) replacing a response to a stimulus with an alternative response
  - (C) deep relaxation techniques
  - (D) a token economy to reinforce adaptive behaviors
  - (E) development of intrinsic motivation
9. A man is feeling depressed about his inability to support his family after losing his job. The fact that the patient is currently unemployed is coded on which axis in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV-TR)*?
- (A) Axis I
  - (B) Axis II
  - (C) Axis III
  - (D) Axis IV
  - (E) Axis V
10. Researchers find that there is a significant, positive correlation between the number of hours students sleep and their grades. The researchers would be justified in concluding that
- (A) earning good grades causes people to sleep more
  - (B) sleeping more causes students to perform better in school
  - (C) students who earn good grades tend to sleep more than those who do not
  - (D) more sleep has a beneficial impact on students' grades
  - (E) sleep deprivation has no impact on school performance
11. In phase one of a study, a researcher classically conditions a dog to salivate to the ringing of a bell. In the second phase, the researcher pairs a flashing light with the ringing of the bell. After several pairings of the light and the bell, the dog will
- (A) no longer salivate when the bell is rung
  - (B) only salivate when the bell is rung
  - (C) salivate when the light is flashed
  - (D) stop salivating when the light is flashed
  - (E) salivate when the researcher comes into the room
12. Jason is attending a parade that features the local high school band. Jason's friend Brent plays the trombone in the band. It is difficult for Jason to hear Brent play at the parade. Which of the following would best allow Jason to hear Brent's trombone?
- (A) Sensory adaptation
  - (B) Selective attention
  - (C) Perceptual constancy
  - (D) Weber's law
  - (E) Functional fixedness

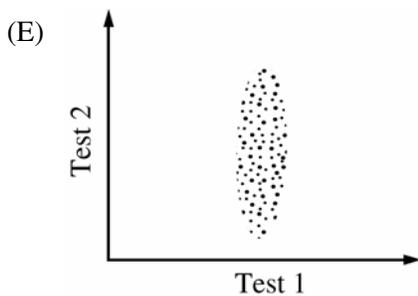
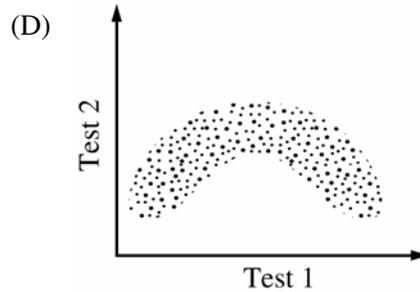
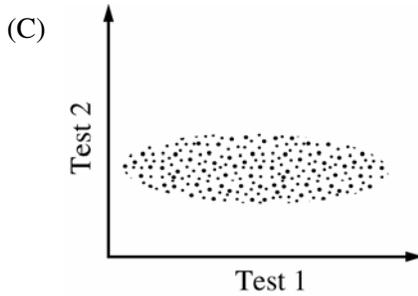
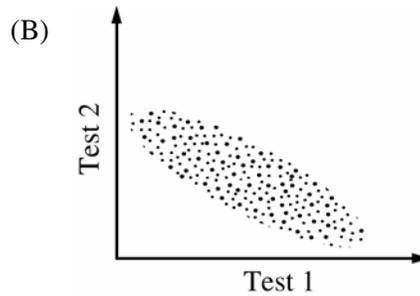
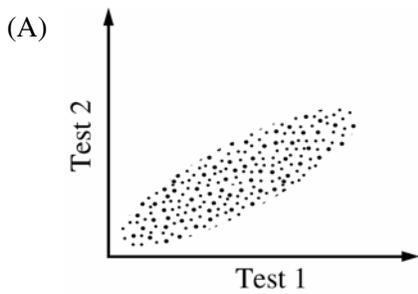
**Questions 13-15 refer to the information below.**

A psychologist describes the following steps to a client, while the client is practicing relaxation techniques, in order to treat the client's psychological disorder:

1. You are entering a large building.
  2. You are pressing a button for an elevator.
  3. You are stepping into an elevator.
  4. You are watching the doors close after entering the elevator.
  5. You are traveling five floors on the elevator.
13. Which of the following categories would most likely represent the diagnosis associated with this set of behaviors?
- (A) Mood disorder
  - (B) Anxiety disorder
  - (C) Dissociative disorder
  - (D) Schizophrenic disorder
  - (E) Somatoform disorder
14. What type of treatment technique is described above?
- (A) Aversion therapy
  - (B) Systematic desensitization
  - (C) Extinction
  - (D) Flooding
  - (E) Punishment
15. Which type of therapy is most closely associated with the technique used in this method?
- (A) Psychoanalytic
  - (B) Behavioral
  - (C) Biomedical
  - (D) Cognitive
  - (E) Client centered

16. A statistical technique that would allow a researcher to cluster such traits as being talkative, social, and adventurous with extroversion is called
- (A) a case study
  - (B) meta-analysis
  - (C) statistical significance
  - (D) factor analysis
  - (E) z score
17. Ralph is aware that smoking is harmful to his health, but he continues to smoke. According to cognitive dissonance theory, it is most likely that Ralph will
- (A) gather information on the dangers of smoking
  - (B) start smoking more frequently
  - (C) argue that his friends should stop smoking
  - (D) focus on the social advantages to smoking
  - (E) experience no tension
18. Curare blocks action at acetylcholine synapses and causes paralysis. This drug is an example of an
- (A) antagonist
  - (B) agonist
  - (C) inhibitory postsynaptic potential (IPSP)
  - (D) excitatory postsynaptic potential (EPSP)
  - (E) excitatory neurotransmitter

19. Which of the following graphs shows the most desirable test-retest correlation?



20. Which of the following is a type of medication that has been linked to the side effect of tardive dyskinesia?

- (A) Antidepressants
- (B) Benzodiazepines
- (C) Neuroleptics
- (D) Anxiolytics
- (E) Tricyclics

21. A researcher surveyed social adjustment in the same group of 20 people from early childhood through adulthood. In this example, the group of 20 people surveyed was the study's

- (A) Sample
- (B) Population
- (C) Operational definition
- (D) Control group
- (E) Randomization

22. Which theoretical perspective in psychology attempts to characterize the way in which humans store and process sensory information?

- (A) Behavioral
- (B) Psychodynamic
- (C) Evolutionary
- (D) Cognitive
- (E) Sociocultural

23. Gestalt psychology is concerned primarily with understanding which of the following?

- (A) Learning
- (B) Motivation
- (C) Development
- (D) Sensation
- (E) Perception

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.**

24. During the night, Alicia stops breathing repeatedly, frequently gasps for air, and snores loudly at regular intervals. Alicia is most likely suffering from which of the following conditions?
- (A) Sleep apnea
  - (B) Narcolepsy
  - (C) Insomnia
  - (D) Night terrors
  - (E) The REM rebound effect
25. All summer Thomas hears the sound of the ice-cream truck approaching before his brother Oscar hears it. Thomas most likely has which of the following?
- (A) A lower absolute threshold for hearing than Oscar
  - (B) A greater difference threshold for hearing than Oscar
  - (C) A deficit in a sensory system other than hearing
  - (D) A greater amount of experience with approaching ice-cream trucks than Oscar
  - (E) A tendency for confabulation
26. A therapist who emphasizes helping clients to identify and change irrational beliefs that underlie feelings of anxiety is using which therapeutic technique?
- (A) Client-centered therapy
  - (B) Rational-emotive behavior therapy
  - (C) Aversion therapy
  - (D) Psychoanalytic therapy
  - (E) Social-learning therapy
27. Julio has fragmented thinking and distorted false beliefs. Which of the following psychological disorders is Julio most likely experiencing?
- (A) Simple phobia
  - (B) Somatization disorder
  - (C) Antisocial personality disorder
  - (D) Obsessive-compulsive disorder
  - (E) Schizophrenia
28. Which of the following statements best describes the role of biological processes in classical conditioning?
- (A) A biologically-based unconditioned stimulus (UCS) must immediately follow a conditioned stimulus (CS) for learning to occur.
  - (B) Any novel or familiar stimulus could serve as a CS because the biological mechanisms underlying learning are very powerful.
  - (C) Because all animals share a common cellular history, the laws of classical conditioning apply to all species.
  - (D) Certain species are biologically predisposed to learn particular associations that enhance their survival.
  - (E) Biological reinforcers foster learning more quickly than do environmental reinforcers.
29. Respondents to surveys and questionnaires often report that they are healthier, happier, and less prejudiced than would be expected based on the results of other types of research. This finding can best be explained by which of the following?
- (A) Sampling bias
  - (B) Experimenter bias
  - (C) The social desirability bias
  - (D) The bystander effect
  - (E) The placebo effect
30. Synesthesia is a phenomenon that has been estimated to occur in only a few people in a million. Because of its rarity, researchers are likely to choose which research method to study it?
- (A) Naturalistic observation
  - (B) Correlational research
  - (C) Survey research
  - (D) Case study
  - (E) Experimental research

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.**

31. Paula lacks self-confidence. She has a difficult time expressing disagreement with others, and she usually lets friends make decisions for her. Others have commented that they do not know who the “real” Paula is. With which of the following personality disorders might Paula be diagnosed?
- (A) Histrionic
  - (B) Borderline
  - (C) Dependent
  - (D) Passive-aggressive
  - (E) Narcissistic
32. Chuck recalls the day last summer when he fell off his bicycle and scraped his knee. This is an example of
- (A) iconic memory
  - (B) procedural memory
  - (C) semantic memory
  - (D) episodic memory
  - (E) short-term memory
33. Researcher Renee Baillargeon found that four-month-old infants will look longer at a ball if it appears to roll through a solid barrier, demonstrating that babies seem to grasp basic physical laws intuitively. Which of the following theories does this finding challenge?
- (A) Lawrence Kohlberg’s theory of moral development
  - (B) Lev Vygotsky’s social cognition learning model
  - (C) Jean Piaget’s theory of cognitive development
  - (D) Mary Ainsworth’s findings from the Strange Situation
  - (E) Erik Erikson’s theory of psychosocial development
34. In vision, transduction occurs within the
- (A) optic nerve
  - (B) visual cortex
  - (C) retina
  - (D) lens
  - (E) cornea
35. In a classic study, a group of rats learned to run through a maze to obtain food, and another group of rats explored the maze without receiving food. Some time later, the researcher compared the two groups of rats to determine if both groups would find the food at the end of the maze. According to the researcher, the untrained rats found the food at the end of the maze as quickly as the trained rats as a result of
- (A) latent learning
  - (B) observational learning
  - (C) avoidance learning
  - (D) counterconditioning
  - (E) aversive conditioning
36. During a psychology experiment, a researcher uses a probe to lesion the ventromedial nucleus of a rat’s hypothalamus. After the procedure the rat most likely will
- (A) become less aggressive
  - (B) become more aggressive
  - (C) eat more and gain weight
  - (D) stop eating and lose weight
  - (E) experience a loss of coordination and muscular control
37. When a person is suffering from severe pain, the type of drug that will best help alleviate that pain is
- (A) an opiate
  - (B) an amphetamine
  - (C) a depressant
  - (D) a hallucinogen
  - (E) a stimulant
38. The defense mechanism of projection is best illustrated by which of the following examples?
- (A) When scolded by his parents, a college student reverts to childlike behavior to gain sympathy.
  - (B) A soccer player who does not have much athletic skill constantly criticizes other athletes’ performances.
  - (C) A young man who is shy becomes the center of attention at a party given by friends.
  - (D) After exams were graded and returned, a college student looked at his low grade and decided that the test was unfair and difficult.
  - (E) After a fight with her boyfriend, a woman yells at her roommate for sitting in her favorite chair.

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.**

39. Damage to the occipital lobe would most likely affect a person's
- (A) balance
  - (B) ability to develop plans
  - (C) vision
  - (D) fine motor movements
  - (E) language processing
40. James was born with a condition that makes it impossible for him to metabolize certain proteins. Due to early screening and a special diet, he was able to avoid developing potentially serious symptoms. Which of the following disorders does James have?
- (A) Fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS)
  - (B) Down syndrome
  - (C) Autistic disorder
  - (D) Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
  - (E) Phenylketonuria (PKU)
41. Stanley Milgram's classic research on obedience showed that approximately what percentage of participants administered the highest voltage shock?
- (A) 10%
  - (B) 25%
  - (C) 40%
  - (D) 60%
  - (E) 85%
42. After staring at a green, black, and orange "American flag" for about a minute, an individual will see a red, white, and blue flag afterimage. Which of the following explains this phenomenon?
- (A) Trichromatic theory
  - (B) Opponent-process theory
  - (C) Retinex theory
  - (D) Color constancy
  - (E) Convergence

43. Certain cultures often place more emphasis on collective than on personal achievement. One result of this may be that people of these cultures are more likely to develop which type of self-system?
- (A) Interdependent
  - (B) Interrelated
  - (C) Independent
  - (D) Integrated
  - (E) Inner-directed
44. A basic assumption underlying short-term memory is that it is
- (A) limited in capacity
  - (B) unlimited in capacity
  - (C) long-lasting
  - (D) not under conscious control
  - (E) resistant to decay

<u>Set A</u>	<u>Set B</u>
60	60
56	41
58	76
62	35
61	65
59	50

45. Which of the following is true of the two sets of scores above?
- (A) Set A has a larger standard deviation.
  - (B) Set B has a larger standard deviation.
  - (C) The range is the same for both distributions.
  - (D) Set A has a lower median score than set B.
  - (E) The mean score is the same for both distributions.

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.**

46. Carol Gilligan, in her criticism of Lawrence Kohlberg, proposed that the moral reasoning of males is primarily based on
- (A) male repression of females, whereas the moral reasoning of females is based on economics
  - (B) rational abstract principles, whereas the moral reasoning of females is based on relationships and the social context
  - (C) legalistic ideals, whereas the moral reasoning of females is based on more humanistic ideals
  - (D) observational learning, whereas the moral reasoning of females is genetically determined for the most part
  - (E) physical strength, whereas males start developing morally later than females but surpass them soon afterward
47. Which process transfers information from sensory memory to short-term memory?
- (A) Attention
  - (B) Cognition
  - (C) Differentiation
  - (D) Perception
  - (E) Sensation
48. When the word “walk” is changed to “walked,” the suffix “ed” is an example of a
- (A) morpheme
  - (B) phoneme
  - (C) lexicon
  - (D) syntax
  - (E) language acquisition device (LAD)
49. The just-world hypothesis would best explain which of the following phenomena?
- (A) Blaming the victim
  - (B) Cognitive dissonance
  - (C) The need for power
  - (D) Bystander apathy
  - (E) Groupthink
50. Which of the following is a binocular cue for depth perception?
- (A) Linear perspective
  - (B) Texture gradient
  - (C) Interposition
  - (D) Retinal disparity
  - (E) Motion parallax
51. People who are color blind most likely have deficiencies in their
- (A) rods
  - (B) cones
  - (C) lens
  - (D) optic nerve
  - (E) occipital lobe
52. Research on human mating preferences suggests that men place greater value on physical attractiveness and youthfulness, whereas women place greater value on social status and financial resources. Which of the following psychological points of view best explains this behavior?
- (A) Collectivistic
  - (B) Individualistic
  - (C) Psychoanalytic
  - (D) Evolutionary
  - (E) Humanistic
53. If Juan tried to learn a long list of words, he would be most likely to forget words that
- (A) appeared early in the list
  - (B) appeared near the end of the list
  - (C) appeared in the middle of the list
  - (D) were very unlike the rest of the words
  - (E) were randomly dispersed throughout the list
54. Which of the following perspectives argues that every person has the potential to become self-actualized?
- (A) Humanistic
  - (B) Behavioral
  - (C) Gestalt
  - (D) Cognitive
  - (E) Psychodynamic
55. An image projected to the left visual field of a split-brained person will be processed in the
- (A) left visual cortex
  - (B) right visual cortex
  - (C) right side of the left retina
  - (D) left side of the right retina
  - (E) sensory cortex

56. A researcher is training laboratory rats to run a complex maze. Each time the rats learn a new part of the maze, they are rewarded with a pellet of food. Within a few hours, the rats have learned the entire maze. Which of the following did the researcher use to teach the rats the maze?
- (A) Shaping
  - (B) Generalization
  - (C) Negative reinforcement
  - (D) A fixed-interval schedule of reinforcement
  - (E) Spontaneous recovery
57. Martha is an undergraduate student who is interested in pursuing a career in psychology. She wants to use her knowledge of psychology to help employees become more productive in the workplace. Which field of psychology should Martha select in graduate school?
- (A) Physiological
  - (B) Cognitive
  - (C) Educational
  - (D) Clinical
  - (E) Industrial-organizational
58. Although he finds it to be difficult and not much fun, Tomas puts in long hours practicing field hockey in the hope of getting an athletic scholarship to college. This best illustrates the idea of
- (A) homeostasis
  - (B) attribution theory
  - (C) catharsis
  - (D) extrinsic motivation
  - (E) arousal theory
59. The term group polarization refers to the tendency for
- (A) two opposing factions to emerge within a group
  - (B) the prevailing opinion within a group to become more extreme after discussion
  - (C) a single leader to eventually dominate most groups
  - (D) one or more group members to eventually have their opinions disregarded
  - (E) democratic leadership to decrease as the length of meetings increases
60. Which of the following assessment tools explores individuals' personalities by asking them to examine a series of inkblots and describe what they see in the inkblot?
- (A) Thematic Apperception Test
  - (B) Rorschach Test
  - (C) Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2
  - (D) Halstead-Reitan Battery
  - (E) Bender-Gestalt II
61. Which of the following neurotransmitters has been linked to Parkinson's disease and schizophrenia?
- (A) Acetylcholine
  - (B) Dopamine
  - (C) Gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA)
  - (D) Norepinephrine
  - (E) Serotonin
62. According to Sigmund Freud, our sexual and aggressive instincts are located primarily in the
- (A) frontal lobes
  - (B) ego
  - (C) superego
  - (D) id
  - (E) latent stage
63. Charles Spearman's concept of *g* is most accurately defined as
- (A) a specific type of performance that is affected by intelligence
  - (B) one of seven fundamental abilities that determine behavior
  - (C) a single, underlying intellectual capacity measured by intelligence tests
  - (D) the ability to create novel solutions to complex situations
  - (E) the storehouse of knowledge and facts that we accumulate during our adult years

64. Which of the following studies demonstrates a cross-sectional research design?
- (A) Testing the first graders, and testing them again when they are in third grade
  - (B) Testing first graders at the end of the school year
  - (C) Testing first, third, and fifth graders at the beginning of the school year
  - (D) Observing first graders as they test in two different subject areas
  - (E) Observing first graders as they interact with either third graders or fifth graders

65. Which type of therapy uses free association, dream interpretation, and analysis of transference?

- (A) Cognitive-behavioral
- (B) Humanistic
- (C) Behavioral
- (D) Psychodynamic
- (E) Client-centered

66. Which of the following psychometric properties is used to assess the extent to which the items on an intelligence test measure a person's intelligence?

- (A) Internal consistency
- (B) Split-half reliability
- (C) Standardization
- (D) Construct validity
- (E) Predictive validity

67. Marc performs poorly on a psychology exam and explains his failure by saying, "That test was so hard no one could pass it." This explanation illustrates

- (A) reciprocal determinism
- (B) self-serving bias
- (C) the fundamental attribution error
- (D) the representativeness heuristic
- (E) the just-world hypothesis

68. Martin fell off his skateboard and badly bruised his elbow. He immediately began rubbing the area around the bruise until the pain subsided. This method of reducing pain can be explained by which of the following?

- (A) Gate-control theory
- (B) Opponent-process theory
- (C) Trichromatic theory
- (D) Expectancy theory
- (E) Phantom pain

69. While grocery shopping, John heard voices that seemed to be narrating his every action. The voices made statements such as "Now he is picking up the bread" and "Now he is putting the bread in his shopping cart." No one else heard the voices. John has heard voices narrating his behavior on several other occasions. What is John experiencing?

- (A) Illusions
- (B) Delusions
- (C) Hallucinations
- (D) Hypnosis
- (E) Grandiosity

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**Questions 70-72 are based on this scenario.**

A researcher randomly assigned boys and girls to each of two groups. One group watched a violent television program while the other group watched a nonviolent program. The children were then observed during a period of free play, and the incidence of aggressive behavior was recorded for each group.

70. What is the dependent variable in this study?

- (A) Sex of the children
- (B) Duration of free play
- (C) Type of television program viewed
- (D) Level of televised violence
- (E) Incidence of aggressive behavior

71. What is the independent variable in this study?

- (A) Incidence of aggressive behavior
- (B) Type of television program viewed
- (C) Sex of the children
- (D) Number of groups
- (E) Duration of free play

72. This research method is best characterized as

- (A) experimental
- (B) correlational
- (C) longitudinal
- (D) naturalistic observation
- (E) case study

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.**

73. John is completing a lengthy test in which he must indicate whether various written statements are true or false about himself. He is most likely taking which of the following?
- (A) A personality inventory
  - (B) A projective test
  - (C) An achievement test
  - (D) An intelligence test
  - (E) A neuropsychological test
74. Damage to which of the following brain structures may cause the inability to detect the emotional significance of facial expressions, especially those demonstrating fear?
- (A) Hippocampus
  - (B) Thalamus
  - (C) Cerebellum
  - (D) Hypothalamus
  - (E) Amygdala
75. Of the following cognitive milestones, which ability tends to be acquired last?
- (A) Telegraphic speech
  - (B) Use of schemas
  - (C) Object permanence
  - (D) Hypothetical thinking
  - (E) Assimilation
76. Paul Ekman found that when Japanese students watched films of surgery, they masked their expressions of disgust with a smile when an authority figure entered the room but not when alone. American students maintained their expressions of disgust both alone and in the presence of an authority figure. Ekman's findings illustrate what he calls
- (A) the facial feedback hypothesis
  - (B) display rules
  - (C) phlegmatic personalities
  - (D) the two-factor theory
  - (E) adaptation-level phenomenon
77. A teacher finds the distribution of scores on a final exam to be positively skewed with low variability. On the basis of this information, the teacher would be most justified in concluding that
- (A) a small number of students in the class did poorly on the exam
  - (B) the students in her classroom have a very wide range of intellectual abilities
  - (C) the exam was too difficult
  - (D) the exam is not a reliable assessment tool
  - (E) most of her students are of above average ability
78. In which of the following techniques do researchers inject a harmless, radioactive substance into the living human brain to examine activity?
- (A) Lesioning
  - (B) Electroencephalogram (EEG)
  - (C) Computerized axial tomography (CAT)
  - (D) Positron-emission tomography (PET)
  - (E) Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
79. An individual who stomps angrily out of a restaurant after being kept waiting five extra minutes for a reserved table may be exhibiting symptoms of
- (A) schizophrenia
  - (B) antisocial personality disorder
  - (C) avoidant personality disorder
  - (D) dependent personality disorder
  - (E) narcissistic personality disorder
80. Students who enjoyed solving a puzzle were rewarded for doing so. Later, they played less with the puzzle than did their counterparts who were not rewarded for the same task. This illustrates which of the following principles?
- (A) Latent learning
  - (B) Self-fulfilling prophecy
  - (C) Intermittent reinforcement
  - (D) The overjustification effect
  - (E) The law of effect

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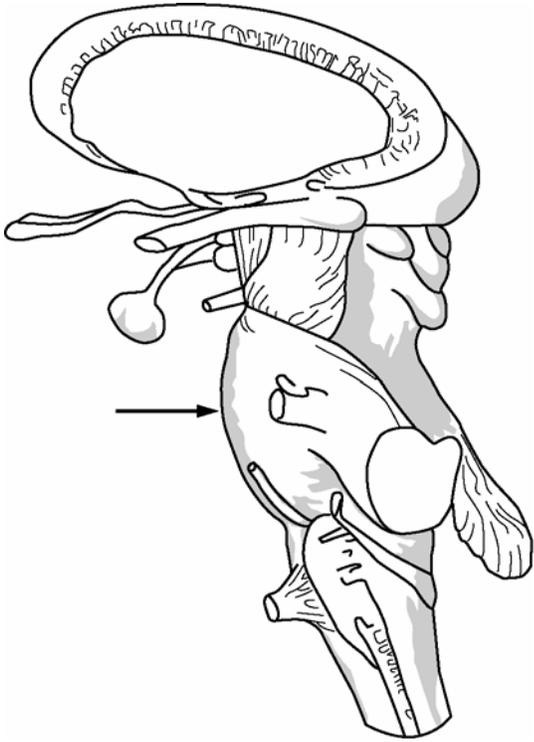
81. Jim is better at computer games when his friends are watching than when he plays alone. Researchers would explain Jim's behavior using which of the following theories?
- (A) Social facilitation
  - (B) Social loafing
  - (C) Group polarization
  - (D) Groupthink
  - (E) Normative social influence
82. Which of the following theories suggests that a physiological need creates a state of tension that motivates an organism to satisfy the need?
- (A) Opponent-process
  - (B) Drive-reduction
  - (C) Incentive
  - (D) Arousal
  - (E) Gate-control
83. According to Jean Piaget, children cease to exhibit egocentrism during which of the following stages?
- (A) Sensorimotor
  - (B) Preoperational
  - (C) Concrete operational
  - (D) Post-conventional
  - (E) Pre-conventional
84. The fundamental attribution error occurs when individuals do which of the following?
- (A) Mold their interpretations of the past to fit how events actually turned out
  - (B) Incorrectly assume that virtually all behavior is determined by genetic factors
  - (C) Underestimate the influence of unconscious motivation when trying to explain their own behavior
  - (D) Overestimate the influence of personal qualities relative to situational factors when trying to explain the behavior of others
  - (E) Assume that very attractive people tend to be more intelligent and more competent than people who are somewhat less attractive
85. Which procedure can reduce problems associated with the use of deception by a researcher?
- (A) Debriefing
  - (B) Random sampling
  - (C) Random assignment
  - (D) Using only single-blind studies
  - (E) Using only double-blind studies
86. Psychologists from which of the following perspectives of personality are most interested in assessing a person's locus of control?
- (A) Psychoanalytic
  - (B) Cognitive
  - (C) Evolutionary
  - (D) Humanistic
  - (E) Gestalt
87. Elizabeth picks up the clothes from her bedroom floor and puts them away to avoid her mother's repeated nagging. Elizabeth's behavior is being influenced by
- (A) classical conditioning
  - (B) positive reinforcement
  - (C) negative reinforcement
  - (D) extinction
  - (E) punishment
88. The diathesis-stress approach would likely support which of the following statements about psychological disorders?
- (A) Disorders are a result of the social and economic situations in which people live.
  - (B) Disorders are a result of unresolved, unconscious conflicts between the id and the superego.
  - (C) Disorders are a result of negative events that trigger irrational thoughts.
  - (D) Disorders are a result of whether or not showing emotions is accepted by the individual.
  - (E) Disorders are a result of predisposed, biological factors triggered by the environment.

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.**

89. John regularly stops at the pharmacy to collect pamphlets that list symptoms of different illnesses, because he is worried about his health. Each day he carefully monitors his vital signs, and he also frequently meets with a physician. On his most recent visit, the physician suggested that John was perfectly healthy. With which of the following psychological disorders might John be diagnosed?
- (A) Somatization disorder
  - (B) Conversion disorder
  - (C) Hypochondriasis
  - (D) Generalized anxiety disorder
  - (E) Dissociative disorder
90. The Psychology Aptitude Test (PAT) was administered to incoming college psychology majors. Their scores were later compared to their performance in the introductory psychology course, and high scores on the PAT were related to high grades in the course. Therefore, the PAT has
- (A) adequate standardization
  - (B) internal consistency
  - (C) face validity
  - (D) predictive validity
  - (E) content validity
91. Joseph never sleeps through the night. He wakes up at least once per hour to check all the doors and windows in his house to make sure they are locked and to check the stove to make sure it is turned off. Joseph's behavior would be classified as
- (A) an obsession
  - (B) an avolition
  - (C) a fixation
  - (D) a panic attack
  - (E) a compulsion
92. When given a drug that produced general arousal, research participants placed in a room with a happy confederate described their emotional state as happy, while those placed in a room with an angry confederate described their emotional state as angry. Which theory of emotion best explains these results?
- (A) James-Lange
  - (B) Ekman
  - (C) Cannon-Bard
  - (D) Schachter-Singer
  - (E) Opponent-process
93. Under hypnosis, Jerry is able to withstand pain without showing any outward signs of discomfort. However, when asked to signal if some part of his consciousness is aware of the pain, he raises his hand. Which of the following is a theory that best explains Jerry's behavior?
- (A) Dissociation
  - (B) State
  - (C) Role
  - (D) Social influence
  - (E) Age regression
94. A person eats a hamburger at a restaurant and develops a very bad stomachache after finishing eating. As a result of the sudden illness, the person cannot eat hamburgers anymore. Just thinking about them makes the person feel sick to the stomach. In this scenario, the thought of a hamburger is
- (A) an unconditioned stimulus
  - (B) an unconditioned response
  - (C) a conditioned stimulus
  - (D) a conditioned response
  - (E) a negative reinforcer

95. Research on stereotype threat indicates that students might not do as well as they can on a test if
- (A) they are informed that people of their ethnicity, age, or gender usually do not perform well on the tests
  - (B) the group taking the test is not ethnically diverse
  - (C) they are forced to take a test that is known to have low test-retest reliability
  - (D) other students perceive them to be of a minority ethnic group
  - (E) the test does not have standardized administration or scoring procedures
96. When parents set few controls on their children's television viewing, allowing the children freedom to set individual limits, make few demands, and do not punish for improper television viewing, the parents exemplify a parenting style referred to as
- (A) permissive
  - (B) authoritative
  - (C) authoritarian
  - (D) rejecting-neglecting
  - (E) pessimistic
97. Which of the following is the best example of a homeostatic process?
- (A) Manny decides that he is overweight and goes on a diet.
  - (B) Cathy drinks a large amount of water to reduce thirst after a long race.
  - (C) Bert eats nothing but fruits and grains for a week before a huge holiday dinner.
  - (D) Edesa stays up later than normal to study for a test.
  - (E) Lian becomes angry after sitting in traffic for an hour and a half.
98. Brad hears a report on the evening news that diets low in carbohydrates are beneficial to one's health. Considering this advice, he begins such a diet. Later he hears another report condemning low-carbohydrate diets as harmful to one's health. Based upon research on belief perseverance, how would Brad respond to this new information?
- (A) Decide to begin a low-calorie diet and increase his physical activity
  - (B) Believe the second news story and discontinue his diet
  - (C) Study low-carbohydrate diets on his own
  - (D) Continue to believe in the beneficial effects of low-carbohydrate diets
  - (E) Decide to try a high-carbohydrate diet instead

Questions 99-100 refer to the illustration below.



99. Which of the following brain regions is indicated by the arrow?

- (A) Cerebellum
- (B) Amygdala
- (C) Hypothalamus
- (D) Hippocampus
- (E) Pons

100. What is the primary function of the brain region indicated by the arrow?

- (A) Memory formation
- (B) Sleeping, waking, and dreaming
- (C) Problem solving
- (D) Regulation of body temperature
- (E) Emotional responses

**END OF SECTION I**

**IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, YOU MAY  
CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS SECTION.**

**DO NOT GO ON TO SECTION II UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.**

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## **Section II**

### **Free-Response Questions**

**PSYCHOLOGY**

**SECTION II**

**Time—50 minutes**

**Percent of total grade— $33\frac{1}{3}$**

**Directions:** You have 50 minutes to answer BOTH of the following questions. It is not enough to answer a question by merely listing facts. You should present a cogent argument based on your critical analysis of the questions posed, using appropriate psychological terminology.

1. The goal of a psychology class project is to have students teach a course concept to their classmates as a review for a later examination. Students in the class have been randomly assigned to work in small groups on the project. Each group's grade for the project will be based on how well the entire class performs on the exam section that tests knowledge of the concepts each group respectively presents.
  - A. Explain how each of the psychological concepts below may affect the development of student projects.
    - Social loafing
    - Mental set
    - Self-fulfilling prophecy
    - Extrinsic motivation
  - B. Explain how each of the following concepts might influence the class's ability to retain the information presented by the groups.
    - Proactive interference
    - Absolute threshold

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.**

2. James was the lead in the school play. It was opening night. Mr. Ramirez, the director, asked James if he was ready to go on and reminded him about a few last-minute changes in the script.

A number of thoughts and feelings came over James as the curtain went up. James became anxious when he saw all the faces of the audience members. Then he saw his mother, who is a professional actress, sitting in the front row. James could not relax.

At that instant, he saw his psychology teacher in the audience. He knew that he needed to use the concepts learned in her class to make sense of these thoughts, feelings, and surroundings.

Describe how each of the following concepts might help James give a strong performance.

- State-dependent memory
- Arousal theory
- Positive reinforcement
- Selective attention
- Imagery
- Social facilitation
- Sensory adaptation

**STOP**

**END OF EXAM**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**AP<sup>®</sup> Psychology**  
**Student Answer Sheet for Multiple-Choice Section**

No.	Answer
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No.	Answer
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**AP® Psychology**  
**Multiple-Choice Answer Key**

No.	Correct Answer
1	C
2	D
3	E
4	C
5	D
6	E
7	B
8	D
9	D
10	C
11	C
12	B
13	B
14	B
15	B
16	D
17	D
18	A
19	A
20	C
21	A
22	D
23	E
24	A
25	A
26	B
27	E
28	D
29	C
30	D

No.	Correct Answer
31	C
32	D
33	C
34	C
35	A
36	C
37	A
38	B
39	C
40	E
41	D
42	B
43	A
44	A
45	B
46	B
47	A
48	A
49	A
50	D
51	B
52	D
53	C
54	A
55	B
56	A
57	E
58	D
59	B
60	B

No.	Correct Answer
61	B
62	D
63	C
64	C
65	D
66	D
67	B
68	A
69	C
70	E
71	B
72	A
73	A
74	E
75	D
76	B
77	C
78	D
79	E
80	D
81	A
82	B
83	B
84	D
85	A
86	B
87	C
88	E
89	C
90	D

No.	Correct Answer
91	E
92	D
93	A
94	C
95	A
96	A
97	B
98	D
99	E
100	B

# AP<sup>®</sup> Psychology

## Free-Response Scoring Guidelines

### Question 1

The goal of a psychology class project is to have students teach a course concept to their classmates as a review for a later examination. Students in the class have been randomly assigned to work in small groups on the project. Each group's grade for the project will be based on how well the entire class performs on the exam section that tests knowledge of the concepts each group respectively presents.

- A. Explain how each of the psychological concepts below may affect the development of student projects.
- Social loafing
  - Mental set
  - Self-fulfilling prophecy
  - Extrinsic motivation
- B. Explain how each of the following concepts might influence the class's ability to retain the information presented by the groups.
- Proactive interference
  - Absolute threshold

### Scoring Criteria

#### General Considerations

1. Answers must be presented in sentences, and sentences must be cogent enough for the student's meaning to come through. Spelling and grammatical mistakes do not reduce a student's score, but spelling must be close enough so that the reader is convinced of the word.
2. Within a point, a student will not be penalized for misinformation unless it *directly contradicts* correct information that would otherwise have scored a point.
3. A student can only score points if information is presented in the *context* of the question. For example, it must be clear to the reader that the student is discussing social loafing to score Point 1. The best way for a student to establish context is to explicitly state it (e.g., "Social loafing may affect the development of student project by..."). In the absence of such language, the reader may infer context if the paragraph structure or order of the answer makes the context clear. However, if a student uses language like, "individual effort is often reduced on a group project" without identifying this concept as social loafing, the point cannot be scored because the reader has no way of knowing for sure that the student understands that this is social loafing.
4. While students may define the concept in question, definitions alone are never sufficient to score the point. For all points, students must make clear their understanding of the concept through their analysis of the application of the concept to the group project example.

# AP® Psychology

## Free-Response Scoring Guidelines

### Question 1 (continued)

**PART A. Psychological concepts that may affect the development of the group projects.** *All of the psychological concepts in Part A apply to individuals within a group, not to the group as a whole. Do not award the point unless this is clear.*

**Point 1: Social loafing** occurs when individual effort is reduced on a group project.

- The student must clearly recognize that social loafing would have a *negative* effect on the group project.

Example: “Social loafing would lead to poorer group projects because individual members of the group wouldn’t work as hard.”

**Point 2: Mental set** is the tendency to approach a problem in a specific way, typically in a way that has worked in the past.

- Mental set could have either a *positive* or *negative* effect on the group project.

Example: “The group members assign each member a part of the project to prepare, as they have in the past. When one group member does not prepare and present his or her part of the project, the entire group gets a bad grade. Using an approach that had worked in past projects was ineffective in this case.” (This point only scores if context is established—see general consideration number 3 above.)

**Point 3: Self-fulfilling prophecy** occurs when a person’s expectation of another person leads that person to behave in the expected way.

- Self-fulfilling prophecy could have either a *positive* or *negative* effect on the group project.

Example: “If the leader of a group expected members of the group to do poorly (or well), the members might not do as well because of this self-fulfilling prophecy.”

**Point 4: Extrinsic motivation** occurs when a person has a desire to do something to gain a reward or avoid a punishment.

- In this case the reward would be the good grade that would result from effectively teaching the concept assigned to the group. Therefore, extrinsic motivation should have a *positive* effect on the group project.

Example: “A member of the group might work especially hard because she is extrinsically motivated to earn a high grade in the class.”

# AP<sup>®</sup> Psychology

## Free-Response Scoring Guidelines

### Question 1 (continued)

#### PART B. Psychological concepts that might influence the class's ability to retain information.

**Point 5: Proactive interference** occurs when an older memory disrupts the ability to recall a newer memory.

- The material presented by an earlier group might make it more difficult for students to remember the material presented by a later group. Therefore, proactive interference would have a *negative* effect on the group project.

Example: “When they take the exam, students in the class might have trouble remembering what a small group presented because something they had learned earlier interferes with the information.”

**Point 6: Absolute threshold** is the minimum stimulus strength necessary for a person to detect a stimulus.

- Students in the class must be aware of a small group's presentation in order to retain the information from the presentation. If the presentation was too quiet to hear (or if a *PowerPoint* presentation was not visible to someone in the class), the students would not be able to retain the information because they never had an opportunity to encode it.

Example: “Because it was below the student's absolute threshold, a student in the back of the class couldn't hear a small group's presentation. This student couldn't retain information that he never heard.”

# AP® Psychology

## Free-Response Scoring Guidelines

### Question 2

James was the lead in the school play. It was opening night. Mr. Ramirez, the director, asked James if he was ready to go on and reminded him about a few last-minute changes in the script.

A number of thoughts and feelings came over James as the curtain went up. James became anxious when he saw all the faces of the audience members. Then he saw his mother, who is a professional actress, sitting in the front row. James could not relax.

At that instant, he saw his psychology teacher in the audience. He knew that he needed to use the concepts learned in her class to make sense of these thoughts, feelings, and surroundings.

Describe how each of the following concepts might help James give a strong performance.

- State-dependent memory
- Arousal theory
- Positive reinforcement
- Selective attention
- Imagery
- Social facilitation
- Sensory adaptation

### Scoring Criteria

#### General Considerations

1. Answers must be presented in sentences, and sentences must be cogent enough for the student's meaning to come through. Spelling and grammatical mistakes do not reduce a student's score, but spelling must be close enough so that the reader is convinced of the word.
2. Within a point, a student will not be penalized for misinformation unless it *directly contradicts* correct information that would otherwise have scored a point.
3. A student can only score points if information is presented in the *context* of the question. For example, it must be clear to the reader that the student is discussing state-dependent memory to score Point 1. The best way for a student to establish context is to explicitly state it (e.g., "State-dependent memory might help James's performance in the play because..."). In the absence of such language, the reader may infer context if the paragraph structure or order of the answer makes the context clear. However, if a student uses language like, "James may perform better if he's feeling the same during the performance as he did during rehearsal" without identifying this concept as state-dependent memory, the point cannot be scored because the reader has no way of knowing for sure that the student understands that this is state-dependent memory.
4. While students may define the concept in question, definitions alone are never sufficient to score the point. For all points, students must make clear their understanding of the concept through their analysis of the application of the concept to the school play scenario.

# AP® Psychology

## Free-Response Scoring Guidelines

### Question 2 (continued)

**Point 1: State-dependent memory** occurs when recall improves when individuals are in the same psychological state they were in when they encoded information.

- Here, the student must show how a congruent psychological state (mood, drug state, etc.) during the play would enhance James’s ability to retain information from the play rehearsal.

Example: “James will do better if he imagines himself in the same emotional state he was in during rehearsal.” (This point only scores if context is established—see general consideration number 3 above.)

**Point 2: Arousal theory.** For this point, accept any discussion appropriate to arousal theory. This theory dictates that optimum performance occurs with moderate levels of arousal.

- The student must relate James’s performance to his arousal level. If he is not sufficiently aroused (“psyched up”), he should increase his arousal to perform well. If he is too aroused (“freaking out”), he should decrease his arousal for optimum performance. Since the question indicates that James “became anxious,” “could not relax,” and “needed to calm his mind,” the student’s answer must recognize the importance of *reducing arousal*.

Example: “James sees that he has become too aroused and must get himself calmed down to give his best performance.”

**Point 3: Positive reinforcement** is any desired consequence of a behavior that increases the likelihood of that behavior occurring again in the future.

- The student needs to establish that positive reinforcement for good performance *at some point in the past* increases the chance that James will do well on opening night.
- The student may indicate that positive reinforcement for James’s performance this evening may increase the likelihood that he will participate in a play in the future.

Example: “Mr. Ramirez praises James for a good performance during rehearsal. This positive reinforcement should increase the likelihood that James will perform well on opening night.”

**Point 4: Selective attention** is when one focuses on one stimulus to the exclusion of other stimuli.

- The student must identify that there are distractions on opening night that might cause James to make mistakes, and recognize that he must selectively attend to the cues and his role to perform well.

Example: “James has to block out all of the noise and excitement of opening night and focus on his role. His ability to selectively attend will help him.”

# AP<sup>®</sup> Psychology

## Free-Response Scoring Guidelines

### Question 2 (continued)

**Point 5: Imagery** is the use of mental pictures.

- The student may explain how this technique can be used by James as a method for encoding his lines into memory.
- The student may also explain how imagery can be used as a preparation technique for improving performance.

Example: “James has been picturing what it would be like to take the stage on opening night. He has been using mental images to rehearse in advance how the performance should go.”

**Point 6: Social facilitation** occurs when the presence of others enhances performance.

- The student must recognize that James should do well in a performance situation because the audience would spark social facilitation.

Example: “The presence of the audience on opening night will cause James to perform better than he would without the audience.” (This point only scores if context is established—see general consideration number 3 above.)

**Point 7: Sensory adaptation** is when a response to a stimulus decreases with time.

- The student must argue that James can adapt to some type of sensory stimulation (e.g, stage lights, audience noise) after being exposed to it for some time.

Example: “The stage lights went off at the end of a scene and James could not see in the darkness. After a few moments, he could see well enough to find his next place on the stage.” (This point only scores if context is established—see general consideration number 3 above.)