

Advanced Placement Psychology Semester 1 Final Exam Study Guide

Chapter 1: Foundations & History

1. Describe the following perspectives of psychology.

Behavioral Perspective

Evolutionary Perspective

Biological Perspective

Humanistic Perspective

Cognitive Perspective

Psychodynamic Perspective

Chapter 2: Research Methods

1. Explain the concept of *standard deviation*.
2. What are *descriptive statistics*?
3. What are *inferential statistics*?
4. Explain and give explicit examples of how a research psychologist would use *naturalistic observation*, *surveys* and *case studies* as research tools.

5. Explain what a *double blind study* is and how double blind studies are useful in psychological research.
6. What is a *correlation study*?
7. What are the *correlational coefficients* associated with positive correlation, negative correlation and no correlation?
8. Why are *ethical standards* important, especially in psychological research?
9. What is *statistical significance*? How can a researcher make finding statistical significance more likely?

Chapter 3: Biological Bases of Behavior

1. What is the difference between the *sympathetic* nervous system and the *parasympathetic* nervous system?

Sympathetic Nervous System

Parasympathetic Nervous System

2. Explain the function of the following parts of a neuron:

- a. Axon

- b. Dendrite

- c. Synapse

3. Explain the *refractory period* in the process of an action potential.
4. Describe the function of the *thalamus*. Which of the human senses does not pass through the thalamus?
5. What is the primary function of the *endocrine system*?

6. What is the difference between the *somatic nervous system* and the *central nervous system*?

Somatic Nervous System

Central Nervous System

7. What is the *corpus callosum* and what is its function?

8. Describe the common responses of *split brain patients* when taking visual tests.

9. As a brain imaging technique, what is the function of an MRI?

10. As a brain imaging technique, what is the function of a PET scan?

11. Explain the functions of the two *hemispheres* of the brain and how they control the rest of the body.

12. What is the function of the *cerebellum*?

13. What is the function of the *hippocampus*?

14. What are the functions of the *sensory and motor cortices*?

Chapter 4: Sensation

1. What ear structure is responsible for *transduction*?

2. Explain the concept of *sensory adaptation*. Give one example.

3. Describe the route of sensory information in both hearing and vision. Begin with the reception of sound waves/light waves until the information is received at the cerebral cortex.

4. Explain the *Gate Control Theory*.

Chapter 5: Perception

1. How is *perception* different than *sensation*?

Perception

Sensation

2. Describe the concept of *absolute threshold*. Include the in your description the difference between *supraliminal stimuli* and *subliminal stimuli*.

3. Explain *response criterion*.

4. Define the *difference threshold*.

5. Identify the difference between *top-down* and *bottom-up processing*.

Top Down Processing

Bottom Up Processing

6. Define *inattentional blindness* and *change blindness*.

Inattentional Blindness

Change Blindness

Chapter 6: Learning

1. Define *learning*.

2. What is the difference between *spontaneous recovery* and *reconditioning*?

Spontaneous Recovery

Reconditioning

3. Explain the process of *classical conditioning* and the components (UCR, UCS, NS, CS, CR) associated with the process.

4. Explain and give an example of *learned helplessness*.

5. Explain and give an example of *observational learning*.

6. What is an *operant*?

7. Explain and give examples for the *four schedules of reinforcement*.

Fixed Interval

Variable Interval

Example:

Example:

Fixed Ratio

Variable Ratio

Example:

Example:

8. Explain and give an example of a *primary reinforcer* and a *secondary reinforcer*.

Primary Reinforcer

Secondary Reinforcer

9. Explain the concept of a *punishment* in operant conditioning. Be able to identify the difference between punishment and reinforcement. Give an example of each.

10. Define *latent learning* and *cognitive map*.

Latent Learning

Secondary Reinforcer

Chapter 7: Memory

1. Explain the 3-steps in forming new memory.

2. Describe 3 types of memory and provide examples of each.

Episodic

Procedural

Semantic

3. Which type of encoding is used in Short Term Memory (STM)?

4. What is the *magic number* of STM? Why is this number significant?

5. Explain the difference between *maintenance rehearsal* and *elaborative rehearsal*.

Maintenance Rehearsal

Elaborative Rehearsal

6. What is the difference between *implicit memory* and *explicit memory*? Give an example of each.

Implicit Memory

Explicit Memory

7. How do *retrieval cues* aid in the memory process? Give an example.
8. Explain the *serial positioning effect*, including *recency* and *primacy*.
9. What is *distributed memory*?
10. Explain the role of *selective attention* in the memory process.
11. Explain the difference between *retrograde amnesia* and *anterograde amnesia*.

Retrograde Amnesia

Anterograde Amnesia

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12. Explain *state-dependent* memory and *context-dependent* memory.

State-Dependent Memory

Context Dependent Memory

Chapter 8: Cognition & Language

1. What is *cognition*?
2. What is the *availability heuristic*, *representative heuristic*, and the *anchoring heuristic*?
3. Describe and give an example of a *mental set*.
4. Explain and give an example of *confirmation bias*.
5. What are the two basic elements of language?
6. When a child speaks in the past tense incorrectly (“goed” or “falled”), what does this show regarding language acquisition?

Chapter 9: Consciousness

1. What is *consciousness*?
2. Explain *priming*.
3. Define *circadian rhythm*.
4. Explain *altered states of consciousness*.
5. What do EEG *alpha waves* suggest?
6. At what stage of the sleep cycle does *dreaming* occur?
7. When does *REM rebound* occur?
8. What are the symptoms of a *night terror*?
9. What are the theories of *hypnosis* and why is it controversial?

Chapter 10: Intelligence

1. Describe the *information-processing*, *psychometric*, *multiple intelligences* and *triarchic* approaches to intelligence.
2. Regarding intelligence, what has the nature vs. nurture debate found in twin studies?
3. Define *cognitive ability*.
4. Define *fluid* and *crystallized* intelligence.
5. Define *content validity* in testing.
6. Define *reliability* in testing.