

Bryant-Taneda: AP Psychology Test Bank – History and Perspectives of Psychology (Introduction)

1. The first psychology laboratory was established in _____ by _____.
 - A) Russia; Ivan Pavlov
 - B) Austria; Sigmund Freud
 - C) Germany; Wilhelm Wundt
 - D) the United States; William James

2. Which of the following disciplines had the greatest influence on the way Wundt, Pavlov, Freud, and Piaget approached the study of psychology?
 - A) biology
 - B) sociology
 - C) political science
 - D) chemistry

3. Wilhelm Wundt used the research method known as:
 - A) neuroscience.
 - B) introspection.
 - C) psychoanalysis.
 - D) massed practice.
 - E) PRTR.

4. In its early years, psychology focused on the study of _____; from the 1920s into the 1960s, American psychologists emphasized the study of _____.
 - A) mental illness; effective psychotherapy
 - B) maladaptive behavior; adaptive behavior
 - C) unconscious motives; conscious thoughts and feelings
 - D) mental processes; observable behavior

5. John Watson is to Wilhelm Wundt as _____ is to _____.
 - A) heredity; environment
 - B) observable behavior; inner sensations
 - C) mental illness; psychotherapy
 - D) cognitive perspective; psychoanalytic perspective

6. Contemporary psychology is best defined as the science of:
 - A) conscious and unconscious mental activity.
 - B) observable responses to the environment.
 - C) behavior and mental processes.
 - D) thoughts, feelings, and perceptions.
 - E) maladaptive and adaptive behaviors.

7. Breathing is to remembering as _____ is to _____.
 - A) evolution; natural selection
 - B) behavior; mental process
 - C) irrationality; rationality
 - D) nurture; nature

8. The suggestion that psychology is less a set of facts than a method of evaluating ideas best highlights

- the _____ nature of psychology.
- A) youthful
 - B) behavioral
 - C) scientific
 - D) introspective
9. Jake acts very differently with his family than he does when he is with his friends. Jake's behavior is most directly relevant to the issue of:
- A) nature versus nurture.
 - B) rationality versus irrationality.
 - C) behavior versus mental processes.
 - D) stability versus change.
10. Whether homo sapiens is an appropriate description of the human species is a question most directly relevant to the issue of:
- A) stability versus change.
 - B) nature versus nurture.
 - C) behavior versus mental processes.
 - D) rationality versus irrationality.
11. Molly wonders whether personality differences between her African-American and white friends result from biological or cultural differences. In this instance, Molly is primarily concerned with the issue of:
- A) rationality versus irrationality.
 - B) nature versus nurture.
 - C) behavior versus mental processes.
 - D) stability versus change.
 - E) observation versus introspection.
12. Professor Morin wants to discover whether the intelligence of adopted children is more similar to their adoptive parents or to their biological parents. The professor seems to be most directly interested in the issue of:
- A) observation versus introspection.
 - B) rationality versus irrationality.
 - C) nature versus nurture.
 - D) behavior versus mental processes.
13. Innate ability is to learned skill as _____ is to _____.
- A) Aristotle; Plato
 - B) nature; nurture
 - C) psychohistory; psycholinguistics
 - D) Pavlov; Wundt
14. Which philosopher most clearly emphasized that human knowledge is heavily dependent upon sensory experience?
- A) Plato
 - B) Aristotle
 - C) Rene Descartes
 - D) Immanuel Kant

15. Who suggested that the mind at birth is but a "tabula rasa" upon which experience writes?
A) Charles Darwin
B) Rene Descartes
C) Plato
D) John Locke
16. Aristotle is to Plato as _____ is to _____.
A) stability; change
B) introspection; observation
C) behavior; mental processes
D) rationality; irrationality
E) nurture; nature
17. Aristotle and John Locke would have been most likely to agree that:
A) personality traits are largely inherited.
B) perception and thought are largely controlled by innate mental structures.
C) self-concepts are heavily influenced by life experiences.
D) personal meditation provides more insight into human nature than does scientific research.
18. The survival of organisms best suited to a particular environment is known as:
A) introspection.
B) natural selection.
C) behavior modification.
D) habituation.
19. Who highlighted the reproductive advantages of environmentally adaptive traits?
A) Plato
B) Aristotle
C) John Locke
D) Charles Darwin
20. Nature is to nurture as _____ is to _____.
A) social-cultural perspective; neuroscience perspective
B) Aristotle; Plato
C) evolutionary perspective; behavioral perspective
D) Locke; Descartes
21. The neuroscience perspective in psychology would be most likely to emphasize that behavior is influenced by:
A) environmental circumstances.
B) brain chemistry.
C) unconscious conflicts.
D) subjective interpretations.
22. Professor Evans believes that severe depression results primarily from an imbalanced diet and abnormal blood chemistry. Professor Evans favors a _____ perspective on depression.
A) neuroscience
B) social-cultural

- C) psychodynamic
- D) behavior genetics
- E) cognitive

23. Which perspective would suggest that the facial expressions we use to express anger and fear are inherited?

- A) cognitive
- B) behavioral
- C) evolutionary
- D) social-cultural

24. Professor Crisman believes that most women prefer tall and physically strong partners because this preference enhanced the reproductive success of our female ancestors. This viewpoint best illustrates the _____ perspective.

- A) social-cultural
- B) behavioral
- C) cognitive
- D) evolutionary
- E) psychodynamic

25. Which perspective is most directly relevant to an understanding of the nature-nurture issue?

- A) evolutionary
- B) cognitive
- C) behavior genetics
- D) social-cultural
- E) psychodynamic

26. Understanding the extent to which homosexuality is an inborn rather than a learned preference would be of most direct relevance to the _____ perspective.

- A) behavior genetics
- B) psychodynamic
- C) social-cultural
- D) behavioral
- E) cognitive

27. Identical twins are more similar in intelligence than are fraternal twins. This fact would be of most direct relevance to the _____ perspective.

- A) behavior genetics
- B) social-cultural
- C) psychodynamic
- D) evolutionary
- E) cognitive

28. The distinctive feature of the psychodynamic perspective is its emphasis on:

- A) natural selection.
- B) brain chemistry.
- C) social norms.
- D) unconscious conflicts.
- E) learned behaviors.

29. Mrs. Alfieri believes that her husband's irritability toward her results from his unconscious feelings of hostility toward his own mother. Mrs. Alfieri is interpreting her husband's behavior from a _____ perspective.
- A) neuroscience
 - B) behavioral
 - C) psychodynamic
 - D) social-cultural
30. Which perspective most clearly emphasizes the impact of learning on behavior?
- A) evolutionary
 - B) neuroscience
 - C) behavioral
 - D) psychodynamic
 - E) behavior genetics
31. Mrs. Thompson believes that her son has learned to play the piano because she consistently rewards his efforts to learn with praise and affection. Her belief best illustrates a _____ perspective.
- A) behavior genetics
 - B) cognitive
 - C) neuroscience
 - D) psychodynamic
 - E) behavioral
32. Heredity is to environment as the evolutionary perspective is to the _____ perspective.
- A) neuroscience
 - B) behavioral
 - C) cognitive
 - D) psychodynamic
33. The evolutionary and behavioral perspectives are most likely to differ with respect to the issue of:
- A) nature versus nurture.
 - B) rationality versus irrationality.
 - C) observation versus introspection.
 - D) conscious versus unconscious motivation.
34. The cognitive perspective in psychology emphasizes how:
- A) feelings are influenced by brain chemistry.
 - B) people try to understand their own unconscious motives.
 - C) behavior is influenced by environmental conditions.
 - D) people encode, process, store, and retrieve information.
35. Which perspective is most concerned with the unique ways in which individuals interpret their own life experiences?
- A) behavioral
 - B) cognitive
 - C) social-cultural
 - D) neuroscience
 - E) behavior genetics

36. Which psychological perspective is most likely to be concerned with identifying the powers and the limits of human reasoning?
- A) cognitive
 - B) behavioral
 - C) neuroscience
 - D) social-cultural
 - E) behavior genetics
37. Which perspective would emphasize that the differing political and economic systems of the United States and China lead citizens of these two countries to adopt many different customs and attitudes?
- A) evolutionary
 - B) cognitive
 - C) psychodynamic
 - D) social-cultural
 - E) neuroscience
38. Dr. Wilson attributes the violence of criminal gang members to the norms and role expectations associated with gang membership. Her belief best illustrates a(n) _____ perspective.
- A) psychodynamic
 - B) behavior genetics
 - C) social-cultural
 - D) neuroscience
 - E) evolutionary
39. The various theoretical perspectives employed by psychologists:
- A) have little value for applied research.
 - B) typically contradict common sense.
 - C) are generally impossible to test scientifically.
 - D) often complement one another.
40. Dr. Robinson conducts basic research on the relationship between brain chemistry and intellectual functioning. Which psychological specialty does Dr. Robinson's research best represent?
- A) social psychology
 - B) clinical psychology
 - C) biological psychology
 - D) industrial/organizational psychology
41. Dr. Santaniello conducts basic research on how children's moral thinking changes as they grow older. It is most likely that Dr. Santaniello is a(n) _____ psychologist.
- A) social
 - B) clinical
 - C) developmental
 - D) industrial/organizational
42. Dr. Weaver conducts basic research on the relationship between adults' language skills and their capacity to remember visual images. Dr. Weaver is most likely a(n) _____ psychologist.
- A) cognitive
 - B) biological
 - C) clinical

D) social

43. Dr. Roberts engages in basic research involving the construction and validation of tests designed to assess individual differences in traits such as anxiety and self-esteem. Which specialty area does her research best represent?

- A) social psychology
- B) biological psychology
- C) industrial/organizational psychology
- D) personality psychology

44. Dr. Mills engages in basic research on why individuals conform to the behaviors and opinions of others. Which specialty area does his research best represent?

- A) cognitive psychology
- B) social psychology
- C) developmental psychology
- D) clinical psychology

45. Which psychological specialists are most likely to be involved in applied research?

- A) industrial/organizational psychologists
- B) developmental psychologists
- C) personality psychologists
- D) biological psychologists

46. Dr. Lewis is involved in an applied research study of customer satisfaction with a newly developed line of facial cosmetics and other beauty aids. Dr. Lewis is most likely a(n) _____ psychologist.

- A) clinical
- B) developmental
- C) biological
- D) personality
- E) industrial/organizational

47. Clinical psychologists are most likely to be involved in:

- A) assessing the linkages between biology and behavior.
- B) the experimental study of motivation and emotion.
- C) providing therapy to troubled people.
- D) the systematic study of how people are influenced by enduring personality traits.

48. For no apparent reason, Jim has recently begun to feel so tense and anxious that he frequently stays home from work. It would be most beneficial for Jim to contact a(n) _____ psychologist.

- A) industrial/organizational
- B) clinical
- C) personality
- D) biological

49. The specialist most likely to have a medical degree is a(n):

- A) clinical psychologist.
- B) industrial/organizational psychologist.
- C) developmental psychologist.
- D) psychiatrist.

50. The PRTR study method emphasizes the importance of:
- A) massed practice.
 - B) rote memory.
 - C) thinking critically.
 - D) role modeling.
51. In answering multiple-choice test items, smart test-takers are best advised to:
- A) check off as correct the first answer they read that seems to be right.
 - B) choose the "all the above" option if it is available.
 - C) carefully imagine how each of the alternative answers might be correct.
 - D) recall the correct answer to each question before reading the alternative answers.
52. Julie, a physics major, has difficulty believing that psychology is a science, because people cannot observe other people's thoughts and sensations. Explain how Wilhelm Wundt and John Watson would have responded to Julie's skepticism regarding psychology's scientific status.
53. Tom believes that romantic love is simply an evolutionary adaptation that promotes the survival of the human species. Karen insists, however, that romantic love is just a cultural tradition that is particularly encouraged in Western societies. Megina claims that romantic love is simply a subjective state of mind that can make life personally meaningful. Identify the perspectives on romantic love advanced by these three individuals, and explain how you could effectively help each of them to appreciate the others' perspectives.
54. Jack is a second-grade student. He seems to have no interest in learning, often daydreaming in class and frequently disrupting the class by throwing objects at other students. Using the major theoretical perspectives employed by psychologists, give three alternative explanations for Jack's classroom behavior. In light of these explanations, what steps could be taken to reduce Jack's disruptive behavior?
55. Kathy does not want to become a psychologist because she has no interest in analyzing emotionally disturbed people. Use your knowledge of Psychology's subfields and perspectives to expand Kathy's limited understanding of career opportunities for psychologists.
56. Two historical roots of psychology are the disciplines of:
- A) philosophy and chemistry.
 - B) physiology and chemistry.
 - C) philosophy and biology.
 - D) philosophy and physics.
57. Wilhelm Wundt, the founder of the first psychology laboratory, was initially a(n):
- A) physiologist.
 - B) philosopher.
 - C) physiologist and philosopher.
 - D) historian.
58. The first psychology laboratory was established by _____ in the year _____.

- A) Wundt; 1879
- B) James; 1890
- C) Freud; 1900
- D) Watson; 1913

59. Dharma's term paper on the history of American psychology notes that:

- A) psychology began as the science of mental life.
- B) from the 1920s into the 1960s, psychology was defined as the science of observable behavior.
- C) contemporary psychologists study both overt behavior and covert thoughts.
- D) all of the above are true.

60. Who would be most likely to agree with the statement, "Psychology is the science of mental life"?

- A) Wilhelm Wundt
- B) John Watson
- C) Ivan Pavlov
- D) virtually any American psychologist during the 1960s

61. In psychology, "behavior" is best defined as:

- A) anything a person says, does, or feels.
- B) any action we can observe and record.
- C) any action, whether observable or not.
- D) anything we can infer from a person's actions.

62. In defining psychology, the text notes that psychology is most accurately described as a:

- A) way of asking and answering questions.
- B) field engaged in solving applied problems.
- C) set of findings related to behavior and mental processes.
- D) nonscientific approach to the study of mental disorders.

63. The Greek philosopher who believed that intelligence was inherited was:

- A) Aristotle.
- B) Plato.
- C) Descartes.
- D) Simonides.

64. In its earliest days, psychology was defined as the:

- A) study of mental life.
- B) study of conscious and unconscious activity.
- C) science of observable behavior.
- D) science of behavior and mental processes.

65. Who would be most likely to agree with the statement, "Psychology should investigate only behaviors that can be observed"?

- A) Wilhelm Wundt
- B) Sigmund Freud
- C) an American psychologist in the 1950s
- D) William James

66. Today, psychology is defined as the:
- A) study of mental life.
 - B) study of conscious and unconscious activity.
 - C) study of behavior.
 - D) science of behavior and mental processes.
67. Who wrote an important 1890 psychology textbook?
- A) Wilhelm Wundt
 - B) Ivan Pavlov
 - C) Jean Piaget
 - D) William James
 - E) Sigmund Freud
68. Psychology is defined as the "science of behavior and mental processes." Wilhelm Wundt would have omitted which of the following words from this definition?
- A) science
 - B) behavior and
 - C) and mental processes
 - D) Wundt would have agreed with the definition as stated.
69. Javan believes that psychologists should go back to using introspection as a research tool. This technique is based upon:
- A) survey methodology.
 - B) experimentation.
 - C) self-examination of mental processes.
 - D) the study of observable behavior.
70. Sensations, dreams, beliefs, and feelings are:
- A) examples of behavior.
 - B) examples of subjective experiences.
 - C) not considered appropriate subject matter for psychology today.
 - D) b and c.
71. To say that "psychology is a science" means that:
- A) psychologists study only observable behaviors.
 - B) psychologists approach the study of thoughts and actions with careful observation and rigorous analysis.
 - C) psychological research should be free of value judgments.
 - D) all of the above are true.
72. Dr. Ramirez is studying whether emotionally reactive infants tend to become emotionally reactive adults. Dr. Ramirez's research illustrates the _____ issue in psychology.
- A) stability versus change
 - B) rationality versus irrationality
 - C) nature-nurture
 - D) internal-external
73. The philosophical views of John Locke are to those of Rene Descartes as _____ is to _____.
- A) nature; nurture

- B) nurture; nature
- C) rationality; irrationality
- D) irrationality; rationality

74. In concluding her report on the "nature-nurture debate in contemporary psychology," Karen notes that:

- A) most psychologists believe that nature is a more important influence on the development of most human traits.
- B) most psychologists believe that nurture is more influential.
- C) the issue is more heatedly debated than ever before.
- D) nurture works on what nature endows.

75. Which of the following is NOT a major issue in psychology?

- A) stability versus change
- B) rationality versus irrationality
- C) top-down versus bottom-up processing
- D) nature versus nurture

76. Which of the following exemplifies the issue of the relative importance of nature and nurture on our behavior?

- A) the issue of the relative influence of biology and experience on behavior
- B) the issue of the relative influence of rewards and punishments on behavior
- C) the debate as to the relative importance of heredity and instinct in determining behavior
- D) the debate as to whether mental processes are a legitimate area of scientific study

77. The seventeenth-century philosopher who believed that the mind is blank at birth and that most knowledge comes through sensory experience is:

- A) Plato.
- B) Aristotle
- C) Descartes.
- D) Locke.

78. Which seventeenth-century philosopher believed that some ideas are innate?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Plato
- C) Descartes
- D) Locke

79. A psychologist who explores how Asian and North American definitions of attractiveness differ is working within the _____ perspective.

- A) behavioral
- B) evolutionary
- C) cognitive
- D) social-cultural

80. The way the mind processes, stores, and retrieves information is the primary concern of the _____ perspective.

- A) neuroscience
- B) evolutionary

- C) social-cultural
- D) behavioral
- E) cognitive

81. Dr. Ernst explains behavior in terms of different situations. Dr. Ernst is working within the _____ perspective.

- A) behavioral
- B) evolutionary
- C) social-cultural
- D) cognitive

82. Which perspective emphasizes the learning of observable responses?

- A) behavioral
- B) social-cultural
- C) neuroscience
- D) cognitive

83. A psychologist who studies how worker productivity might be increased by changing office layout is engaged in _____ research.

- A) applied
- B) basic
- C) clinical
- D) developmental

84. Dr. Waung investigates how a person's interpretation of a situation affects his or her reaction.

Evidently, Dr. Waung is working within the _____ perspective.

- A) neuroscience
- B) behavioral
- C) cognitive
- D) social-cultural

85. The psychological perspective that places the MOST emphasis on how observable responses are learned is the _____ perspective.

- A) behavioral
- B) cognitive
- C) behavior genetics
- D) evolutionary

86. During a dinner conversation, a friend says that the cognitive and behavioral perspectives are quite similar. You disagree and point out that the cognitive perspective emphasizes _____, whereas the behavioral perspective emphasizes _____.

- A) conscious processes; observable responses
- B) unconscious processes; conscious processes
- C) overt behaviors; covert behaviors
- D) introspection; experimentation

87. Concerning the major psychological perspectives on behavior, the text author suggests that:

- A) researchers should work within the framework of only one of the perspectives.
- B) only those perspectives that emphasize objective measurement of behavior are useful.

- C) the different perspectives often complement one another; together, they provide a fuller understanding of behavior than provided by any single perspective.
- D) psychologists should avoid all of these traditional perspectives.

88. Psychologists who study the degree to which genes influence our personality are working within the _____ perspective.

- A) behavioral
- B) evolutionary
- C) behavior genetics
- D) neuroscience
- E) cognitive

89. Which psychological perspective emphasizes the interaction of the brain and body in behavior?

- A) neuroscience perspective
- B) cognitive perspective
- C) behavioral perspective
- D) behavior genetics perspective
- E) evolutionary perspective

90. Dr. Aswad is studying people's enduring inner traits. Dr. Aswad is most likely a(n):

- A) clinical psychologist.
- B) psychiatrist.
- C) personality psychologist.
- D) industrial/organizational psychologist.

91. Which of the following individuals is also a physician?

- A) clinical psychologist
- B) experimental psychologist
- C) psychiatrist
- D) biological psychologist

92. Dr. Jones's research centers on the relationship between changes in our thinking over the life span and changes in moral reasoning. Dr. Jones is most likely a:

- A) clinical psychologist.
- B) personality psychologist.
- C) psychiatrist.
- D) developmental psychologist.

93. Which subfield is most directly concerned with studying human behavior in the workplace?

- A) clinical psychology
- B) personality psychology
- C) industrial/organizational psychology
- D) psychiatry

94. A psychologist who conducts experiments solely intended to build psychology's knowledge base is engaged in:

- A) basic research.
- B) applied research.
- C) industrial/organizational research.

D) clinical research.

95. Psychologists who study, assess, and treat troubled people are called:

- A) basic researchers.
- B) applied psychologists.
- C) clinical psychologists.
- D) psychiatrists.

96. Today, psychology is a discipline that:

- A) connects with a diversity of other fields.
- B) is largely independent of other disciplines.
- C) is focused primarily on basic research.
- D) is focused primarily on applied research.

97. In order, the sequence of steps in the PRTR method is:

- A) preview, review, think critically, read.
- B) plan, read, take notes, review.
- C) preview, read, think critically, review.
- D) plan, review, take notes, read.

98. A major principle underlying the PRTR study method is that:

- A) people learn and remember material best when they actively process it.
- B) many students overestimate their mastery of text and lecture material.
- C) study time should be spaced over time rather than crammed into one session.
- D) "overlearning" disrupts efficient retention.

99. Your roommate announces that her schedule permits her to devote three hours to studying for an upcoming quiz. You advise her to:

- A) spend most of her time reading and rereading the text material.
- B) focus primarily on her lecture notes.
- C) space study time over several short sessions.
- D) cram for three hours just before the quiz.

100. A fraternity brother rationalizes the fact that he spends very little time studying by saying that he "doesn't want to peak too soon and have the test material become stale." You tell him that:

- A) he is probably overestimating his knowledge of the material.
- B) if he devotes extra time to studying, his retention of the material will be improved.
- C) the more often students review material, the better their exam scores.
- D) all of the above are true.

Answer Key - 01.01.24:AP Psychology 12:Introduction questions.ef

- 1. C
- 2. A
- 3. B
- 4. D
- 5. B
- 6. C
- 7. B

8. C
9. D
10. D
11. B
12. C
13. B
14. B
15. D
16. E
17. C
18. B
19. D
20. C
21. B
22. A
23. C
24. D
25. C
26. A
27. A
28. D
29. C
30. C
31. E
32. B
33. A
34. D
35. B
36. A
37. D
38. C
39. D
40. C
41. C
42. A
43. D
44. B
45. A
46. E
47. C
48. B
49. D
50. C
51. D
- 52.
- 53.
- 54.
- 55.
56. C
57. C
58. A
59. D
60. A
61. B
62. A
63. B

- 64. A
- 65. C
- 66. D
- 67. D
- 68. B
- 69. C
- 70. B
- 71. B
- 72. A
- 73. B
- 74. D
- 75. C
- 76. A
- 77. D
- 78. C
- 79. D
- 80. E
- 81. C
- 82. A
- 83. A
- 84. C
- 85. A
- 86. A
- 87. C
- 88. C
- 89. A
- 90. C
- 91. C
- 92. D
- 93. C
- 94. A
- 95. C
- 96. A
- 97. C
- 98. A
- 99. C
- 100. D