

Cognitive Psychology in the Natural World

Cognitive Psychology · Practice Test · 24 Questions

1. Which animal famously navigates using the Earth's magnetic field, demonstrating a form of spatial cognition?

- A) Housefly
- B) Dolphin
- C) Homing Pigeon
- D) Earthworm

2. The ability of some birds to remember the locations of many hidden food caches over long periods demonstrates a strong capacity for which cognitive function?

- A) Attention
- B) Decision Making
- C) Episodic Memory
- D) Problem Solving

3. When a bee performs a 'waggle dance' to communicate the location of nectar, it is an example of what type of cognitive process?

- A) Mimicry
- B) Symbolic Communication
- C) Instinctual Behavior
- D) Sensory Adaptation

4. The phenomenon where a dog learns to associate the sound of a food bag opening with receiving food is a classic example of:

- A) Observational Learning
- B) Classical Conditioning
- C) Operant Conditioning
- D) Cognitive Dissonance

5. Many animals, like sea turtles, return to the same beaches where they were born to lay their eggs. This suggests a powerful form of:

- A) Imprinting
- B) Spatial Memory
- C) Learned Helplessness
- D) Foraging Strategy

6. The visual processing of a bee, which can see ultraviolet light, allows it to perceive flowers differently than humans. This relates to:

- A) Perceptual Set
- B) Sensory Modality
- C) Cognitive Biases
- D) Attention Span

7. When a predator learns to avoid a particular prey after a bad experience (e.g., tasting something poisonous), this is an example of:

- A) Habituation
- B) Sensitization
- C) Aversion Learning
- D) Social Learning

8. Chimpanzees using tools, such as sticks to extract termites, demonstrates a sophisticated level of:

- A) Reflexes
- B) Simple Association
- C) Problem Solving
- D) Automatic Processing

9. The mimicry of poisonous species by harmless ones (e.g., hoverflies mimicking wasps) relies on the predator's ability to form a cognitive association between a visual pattern and a negative outcome. This is a form of:

- A) Deception
- B) Generalization
- C) Discrimination
- D) Priming

10. A squirrel burying nuts for the winter is relying on its ability to recall where it has hidden them, showcasing:

- A) Working Memory
- B) Long-Term Potentiation
- C) Spatial Memory
- D) Priming

11. Many species, like wolves, hunt in packs. This cooperation requires coordinated actions and understanding of group roles, indicating complex:

- A) Individual Learning
- B) Social Cognition
- C) Sensory Integration
- D) Motor Control

12. The ability of a dog to differentiate between the smell of its owner and that of a stranger is an example of:

- A) Sensory Overload
- B) Olfactory Discrimination
- C) Proprioception
- D) Auditory Acuity

13. When a domestic cat learns that opening a cupboard door leads to food, it is learning through:

- A) Classical Conditioning
- B) Observational Learning
- C) Operant Conditioning
- D) Habituation

14. The development of specific calls by vervet monkeys to warn of different predators (e.g., leopard, eagle, snake) is an example of:

- A) Vocal Mimicry
- B) Semantic Meaning
- C) Echolocation
- D) Auditory Illusions

15. The rapid decline of bee populations due to pesticide exposure is partly understood through how these chemicals can affect a bee's ability to navigate and learn floral sources, impacting their:

- A) Metabolism
- B) Cognitive Functions
- C) Physical Strength
- D) Reproductive Rate

16. A spider building a complex web in a specific location, often in a place with good air currents for catching prey, demonstrates:

- A) Random Motor Actions
- B) Instinctual Blueprint
- C) Learned Architectural Design
- D) Social Instruction

17. The process by which young animals become familiar with and attached to their parents or other caregivers, often occurring during a critical period, is known as:

- A) Classical Conditioning
- B) Operant Conditioning
- C) Imprinting
- D) Observational Learning

18. The cognitive ability of an octopus to solve puzzles and escape from tanks showcases its remarkable:

- A) Simple Reflexes
- B) Limited Intelligence
- C) Problem-Solving Skills
- D) Instinctual Behavior

19. The concept of 'object permanence' - understanding that an object continues to exist even when out of sight - has been demonstrated in studies with:

- A) Adult Humans Only
- B) Human Infants and Some Animals (e.g., Apes, Dogs)
- C) Microorganisms
- D) Inanimate Objects

20. When a parrot learns to associate certain sounds or words with specific objects or actions, it is engaging in a form of:

- A) Mimicry Without Understanding
- B) Associative Learning
- C) Pure Instinct
- D) Sensory Deprivation

21. The migration patterns of salmon, which return to their birthplace to spawn, are thought to involve a sophisticated use of:

- A) Random Wandering
- B) Olfactory Cues and Magnetic Fields
- C) Learned Maps
- D) Social Guidance

22. The phenomenon of 'habituation' in animals occurs when they:

- A) Become more reactive to a stimulus
- B) Stop responding to a repeated, harmless stimulus
- C) Learn to associate two stimuli
- D) Develop an aversion to a stimulus

23. The remarkable ability of some birds to navigate vast distances, often across continents and oceans, suggests a highly developed sense of:

- A) Kinesthetic Awareness
- B) Spatial Navigation and Memory
- C) Auditory Localization
- D) Olfactory Tracking

24. When a wolf pack cooperates to hunt larger prey, it requires communication and coordination, demonstrating:

- A) Individualistic Strategy
- B) Social Learning and Cooperation
- C) Random Aggression
- D) Sensory Overstimulation