

Advanced Psychology Fundamentals

Psychology · Practice Test · 25 Questions

1. In the context of Jean Piaget's theory of cognitive development, which stage is characterized by the mastery of conservation and reversibility?

- A) Sensorimotor
- B) Preoperational
- C) Concrete operational
- D) Formal operational

2. Which neurotransmitter is primarily implicated in the inhibition of neuronal activity and is the most common inhibitory neurotransmitter in the mammalian central nervous system?

- A) Glutamate
- B) GABA
- C) Dopamine
- D) Serotonin

3. According to the 'Big Five' personality traits model, which factor is defined by a tendency to be compassionate and cooperative rather than suspicious and antagonistic?

- A) Extraversion
- B) Conscientiousness
- C) Agreeableness
- D) Openness to experience

4. In signal detection theory, what does the 'd-prime' (d') statistic represent?

- A) The bias of the observer
- B) The sensory sensitivity of the observer
- C) The background noise level
- D) The reaction time of the observer

5. Which brain structure is primarily responsible for the formation of new declarative memories?

- A) Amygdala
- B) Hippocampus
- C) Hypothalamus
- D) Thalamus

6. What is the primary function of the myelin sheath surrounding an axon?

- A) To produce neurotransmitters
- B) To increase the speed of action potential conduction
- C) To provide structural support to the cell body
- D) To facilitate the uptake of glucose

7. In operant conditioning, what term describes the process of reinforcing successive approximations toward a desired target behavior?

- A) Chaining
- B) Generalization
- C) Shaping
- D) Extinction

8. The 'Wernicke-Geschwind' model of language suggests that damage to Wernicke's area typically results in which type of deficit?

- A) Fluent but meaningless speech
- B) Non-fluent, effortful speech
- C) Inability to repeat words
- D) Inability to recognize visual objects

9. Which phenomenon explains why we perceive a stationary light in a dark room as moving when we stare at it for a prolonged period?

- A) Phi phenomenon
- B) Autokinetic effect
- C) Stroboscopic motion
- D) Motion aftereffect

10. The Yerkes-Dodson law posits a relationship between which two psychological variables?

- A) Intelligence and memory
- B) Arousal and performance
- C) Age and cognitive decline
- D) Motivation and habit strength

11. In human sleep architecture, during which stage of sleep do sleep spindles and K-complexes typically occur?

- A) Stage N1
- B) Stage N2
- C) Stage N3
- D) REM sleep

12. What is the core premise of 'Hebb's Rule' in neuropsychology?

- A) Cells that fire together, wire together
- B) Cognition is independent of neural structure
- C) Memory is stored solely in the frontal lobe
- D) Neural networks function only through inhibition

13. Which psychological theory suggests that emotions are the result of physiological arousal followed by cognitive labeling?

- A) James-Lange theory
- B) Cannon-Bard theory
- C) Schachter-Singer theory
- D) Opponent-process theory

14. What does the 'Ainsworth Strange Situation' procedure measure?

- A) Intelligence in toddlers
- B) Attachment styles in infants
- C) Social anxiety in adolescents
- D) Cognitive dissonance in adults

15. Which visual pathway is known as the 'where' or 'how' pathway, originating in the primary visual cortex and terminating in the posterior parietal cortex?

- A) Ventral stream
- B) Dorsal stream
- C) Geniculostriate pathway
- D) Tectopulvinar pathway

16. In classical conditioning, what is the term for the reappearance of a conditioned response after a rest period following extinction?

- A) Spontaneous recovery
- B) Stimulus discrimination
- C) Higher-order conditioning
- D) Acquisition

17. Which hormone, released by the posterior pituitary, is strongly associated with social bonding and trust?

- A) Cortisol
- B) Oxytocin
- C) Thyroxine
- D) Adrenaline

18. What is the primary mechanism of action for Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs)?

- A) Reducing dopamine production
- B) Increasing the availability of serotonin in the synaptic cleft
- C) Antagonizing serotonin receptors
- D) Blocking the release of norepinephrine

19. According to prospect theory, what concept explains why individuals are more sensitive to potential losses than to equivalent gains?

- A) Framing effect
- B) Loss aversion
- C) Availability heuristic
- D) Representativeness heuristic

20. Which area of the frontal lobe is most strongly associated with executive functions such as planning, decision making, and impulse control?

- A) Primary motor cortex
- B) Prefrontal cortex
- C) Premotor cortex
- D) Broca's area

21. What is the defining feature of 'crystallized intelligence' according to Raymond Cattell?

- A) Ability to solve novel problems
- B) Accumulated knowledge and vocabulary
- C) Speed of processing information
- D) Working memory capacity

22. In the context of visual perception, what is 'binocular disparity' used for?

- A) Color constancy
- B) Depth perception
- C) Motion detection
- D) Feature detection

23. Which psychological effect describes the tendency to recall the first and last items in a list better than the middle items?

- A) Serial position effect
- B) Levels of processing effect
- C) Encoding specificity effect
- D) Flashbulb memory effect

24. What did the 'Milgram Experiment' primarily investigate?

- A) Conformity to group pressure
- B) Obedience to authority
- C) The bystander effect
- D) In-group favoritism

25. Which component of working memory is responsible for temporary storage of visual and spatial information?

- A) Phonological loop
- B) Visuospatial sketchpad
- C) Central executive
- D) Episodic buffer