AP PSYCHOLOGY REVIEW

Items that appear on previous published AP exams

Unit One: INTRO & RESEARCH

behaviorism (learning) (2)

behaviorism (observable behavior)

Biomedical psychology

cognitive psychology (study problem solving) (2)

cognitive psychology-how we store and process info

community psychologists

control group (identify) (2)

cross sectional research design

debriefing required if deception is used in research

dependent variable (identify) (3)

dependent variable—measured by experimenter

difference between cause and correlation

double blind study

ethical guidelines for animal research

ethics guidelines deception allowed if necessary

ethics guidelines in research

evolutionary psychology: human mating preferences based on gender

experimental method—establish cause and effect

experimental research (example)

experimental research (set up)

factor analysis—cluster traits with “extroversion”

Gestalt psychology-concerned with perception

Gestalt: whole is different from sum of parts

humanist psychology—free will

humanistic psychology: self-actualized

independent (variable)

industrial organizational psychologists (3)

informed consent (ethics)

longitudinal research

longitudinal study (disadvantage)

longitudinal study—same group over time

meaning of percentile score

median (compute)

Milgram obedience linked to ethics guidelines

mode (compute)

normal distribution (68% one standard deviation)

normal distribution, 50 % at or below mean

operational definitions required for experiment

organizational psychologists

positive correlation (example)

positively skewed distribution (mean higher than median)

primary prevention-keep disorders from developing

random drawing for sample—each has equal probability of being chosen

reliability (two halves of a test)

representative sample

scattergram—match to data

scatterplot (correlation)

scatterplot showing positive correlation

score distribution positively skewed, low variability—test too hard

significant difference—not due to chance

skinner psychology—objections—doesn’t consider internal thoughts/feelings

social desirability bias (questionnaires give inflated responses)

standard deviation… figure based on set of scores (2)

statistical inference (from sample to general population)

statistical significance (meaning)

variation in frequency distributions

verification of research (repeated study)

Watson-behaviorism

Unit Two: BRAIN AND BIOLOGY

acetylcholine—Alzheimer’s

action potential—shifts in electrical charge of neuron

action potential—sodium and potassium ions move across cell membrane

aggression—gender differences

amygdala—damage, inability to detect facial expression of fear

antagonist drug—blocks action at synapses

autonomic: sympathetic and parasympathetic

bipolar and ganglion cells—relay visual information

Broca’s area—damage: can’t produce speech

cerebral cortex—decision making

child’s gender—determined by father

dopamine—Parkinson’s

endocrine system—glands/hormones (2)

endorphins—pain killers

firing of neurons—all or none

genetics…

hippocampus—memory

hypothalamus—hunger and eating/tumor there would create obesity (2)

left frontal lobe—make and carry out plans

left hemisphere—speech

left temporal lobe—hearing

left visual field—processed in right visual cortex

medulla—controls breathing

MRI—brain image, gives detailed picture of structure

myelin sheath—speed up action potential

natural selection—evolutionary process that preserves traits and advances adaptation of an organism

neuron in resting state—inside is negative compared to outside

occipital lobe—vision (3)

parasympathetic system—establish homeostasis after fight or flight

parasympathetic—decrease heart rate

PET—measures glucose levels

PET—radioactive substance in brain, to examine activity

PET—reads metabolic activity

phenotypic traits—hair, eye color, height

PKU—inability to metabolize certain proteins

pons—function & location

receptors, afferent neurons, interneurons, efferent neurons,

effectors—sequence

reflex behavior—controlled by spinal cord

reticular activating system—arousal levels

reuptake—absorption into terminal buttons of sending neuron

right hemisphere—spatial reasoning

sympathetic nervous system—activated by sudden fear

sympathetic nervous system—increase in respiration

terminal buttons—where neurotransmitters are stored

thalamus—all senses except smell

Wernicke’s area—damage, can’t understand speech

Unit Three: SENSATION AND PERCEPTION

absolute threshold

absolute threshold for hearing

accommodation—allows eye to focus on objects at various distances

afterimage—red to green

binocular cue—retinal disparity

bipolar cells (vision)

blind spot—brain fills in missing info, so you aren’t aware

blind spot—where optic nerve exits the retina

closure (perceptual process)

cochlea

conduction deafness—hammer, anvil, stirrup

cones—color vision

cortical cells-respond to specific visual information

depth perception—takes two eyes

difference threshold

ear—bones in middle ear transfer sound info from tympanic membrane to oval window

figure-ground illusion—example

fovea—visual acuity

gate-control theory of pain

gestalt principles—perceptual organization

habituation (you get used to something that used to bother you)

inner ear—balance

linear perspective—example

locating sounds

opponent-process theory (afterimaging)

phi phenomenon

pitch—frequency

priming

red-green—common color blindness

retinal disparity—needs two eyes to see depth

rods in retina more sensitive in dark, not in the fovea

selection attention (2)

semicircular canals (ears)—balance

sensory neurons—most in the lips

size constancy (2)

synesthesia

taste aversion—animals develop aversion for taste associated with sickness

taste qualities—bitter, sweet, salty, sour

top-down processing

vision—transduction, retina

visual cliff—depth perception (2)

Unit Four: CONSCIOUSNESS AND DRUGS

alcohol tolerance

alcohol-depressant (2)

barbituates—decrease behavior and mental activity

circadian rhythm (2)

hypnosis—dissociation

hypnosis—heightened suggestibility

hypnosis—treat pain / diverts attention from the pain

narcolepsy—treated with amphetamines

neurotransmitters—dopamine, norepinephrine, acetylcholine

opiate—pain reliever

REM—lowered muscle tone

sleep apnea

withdrawal

Unit Five: LEARNING

classical cond—biological predisposition

classical cond—contemporary interpretation, include cognitive processes like expectancy

classical cond—identify CS

classical conditioning—examples (2)

classical conditioning—how it works

classical—identitfy CS & US

continuous reinforcement—responses extinguish quickly

extinction (3)

Kohler—insight in chimps

latent learning (2)

law of effect--Thorndike

negative reinforcement (2)

operant cond—response, reinforcement

operant—reward

overjustification effect

Pavlov—salivation / CR and UR

punishment—soon after behavior most effective

reinforcement—should not be delayed

Rescorla’s model of classical conditioning—one event reliably predicts another

shaping behavior—example (3)

social learning—modeling, imitation, observation (2)

variable ratio—most resistant to extinction

Unit Six: MEMORY, COGNITION, AND LANGUAGE

algorithm (2)

anterograde amnesia

attention—transfer info from sensory to short term

availability heuristic

babbling—prelinquistic

belief perseverance

Chomsky—inherent language acquisition device

deep structure—sentence structure (Chomsky)

divergent thought (2)

encoding

episodic memory (3)

extrinsic motivation

framing (effect on recall)

functional fixedness (2)

heuristics (2)

levels of processing—encoding meaning

metacognition (2)

morpheme (2)

phonemes

primacy effect

procedural memory (2)

prototype

rehearsal—transfer to long term

retrieval

self-serving bias

serial position effect—forget middle of list (3)

short term memory—limited capacity

Whorf’s linguistic relativity hypothesis—lang. effects the way we think (2)

Unit Seven: MOTIVATION, EMOTION, STRESS

approach-approach conflict

approach-avoidance conflict

catharsis (aggression)

critical period—imprinting

display rules—when appropriate to show emotion

drive reduction theory (2)

drive theory

Ekman—research in facial expression & lying

facial expressions—universal (3)

general adaptation syndrome—def

general adaptation syndrome—stages (ARE)

homeostasis (4)

incentive theory

instinct—def (2)

intrinsic vs extrinsic motivation

James Lange theory of emotions

learned helplessness (2)

locus of control—internal & external

Maslow’s hierarchy of needs (2)

performance—effect of difficulty and arousal

polygraph—unreliable, why?

rooting behavior

Schachter Singer—cognitive labeling theory (3)

self actualization

self efficacy (2)

self esteem—set realistic goals

stress—effect on immune system

temperament—infants’ emotions

type A personality—cardiovascular disease (2)]

ventromedial nucleus of hypothalamus—if damaged, eat more

Unit Eight: DEVELOPMENTAL AND GENDER

accommodation

Ainsworth Strange Situation—attachment

androgeny

Cognitive development milestones

conservation

continuity vs discontinuity

egocentrism—Preoperational

Erickson’s stages of development (2)

Gilligan—criticism of Kohlberg (gender) (3)

Harlow experiment (3)

homosexuality—twin studies support genetic predisposition

Kohlberg’s stages of moral development (2)

Kubler-Ross—stages of death & dying

object permanence (2)

parenting styles—permission, authoritarian, authoritative

Piaget’s stages of cognitive development (2)

primary sex characteristics

secure attachment—predicts social competence

stimulus generalization—learning categories?

Unit Nine: PERSONALITY

criticism of Freud—empirically unverifiable

denial

ego—role (2)

id (2)

locus of control—cognitive perspective

MMPI—info about clinical disorders

personality inventory—t-f test

projection (3)

projective tests

projective--inkblots

reaction formation

Rorschach—inkblots

sublimation

superego

trait theory—criticism (underestimate situational variations)

trait theory—focus on lasting nature of characteristics

Unit Ten: INTELLIGENCE AND TESTING

Achievement vs aptitude tests (2)

aptitude test—potential to learn

Binet—predict children success in school

construct validity

creativity—ideas are original and valuable

factor analysis

fluid intelligence (2)

IQ correlation for identical twins

IQ formula (2)

meaning of 100 IQ score

percentile rank

PKU—deficient liver enzyme, mental retardation

predictive validity (3)

psychologist can share scores only with written permission

self-report inventories—personality tests

Spearman’s concept of *g*

standardization of tests—purpose

test-retest validity

validity

Unit Eleven: ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

abnormal behavior—criteria

antisocial person. disorder (2)

anxiety disorders—types (2)

autism—impaired interpersonal communication

compulsion

conversion disorder

dependent person. disorder

depression

dopamine—excess=schizophrenia

hallucinations (2)

hallucinations—symptom of psychosis

hypochondriasis

narcissistic person. disorder (2)

obsessions—def

OCD (2)

panic disorder

paranoia—distrust of others

personality disorders—function ok in society

schizophrenia—symptoms, disorganized thinking, delusions

social phobia

somatoform disorders (3)

Unit Twelve TREATMENT AND THERAPY

anxiety hierarchy & relaxation—specific phobia

aversive conditioning

behavioral—reinforced responses (2)

behavioral—reward good behavior

biofeedback

client centered—role of therapist

cognitive –change way patient interprets events (2)

cognitive—change irrational beliefs

cognitive—example

cognitive—formation of schemas

deinstitutionalization—new policy and drug therapies (2)

diathesis-stress approach

drug for schizophrenia—block neurotransmitter sites

ECT—major depression (2)

Freud—dream analysis to get to unconscious

group therapy—advantages

light exposure therapy—seasonal affective disorder (2)

lithium carbonate—bipolar

neuroleptics—linked to Tardive dyskinesia

operant conditioning—token economy

placebo effect

psychoanalytic—unconscious conflicts

psychodynamic—free association, dreams, transference

Rational Emotive Therapy—change irrational thoughts that underlie anxiety (4)

self help & support groups—based on humanist

systematic desensitization (2)

systematic desensitization—anxiety disorder

systematic desensitization—behavioral

transference—psychoanalysis

Unit Thirteen: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

actor-observer bias

Asch conformity study

Asch conformity—effect of dissenter (2)

attraction—proximity and similarity (3)

attribution theory (2)

cognitive dissonance (4)

deindividuation

diffusion of responsibility (3)

foot-in-the-door phenomenon

fundamental attribution error (3)

group norm

group polarization (2)

instrumental aggression

interdependent self system

just-world hypothesis

mere-exposure effect

Milgram obedience--% who obeyed

Milgram obedience—perceived authority

Milgram obedience—role model who doesn’t obey

physical attraction=good personality

self-fulfilling prophecy (3)

social facilitation (2)

social loafing

stereotype