

Cognition, Cdn. Ed. (Ashcraft/Klein)

Chapter 1 Cognitive Psychology: An Introduction

1) People first began wondering about how the mind worked:

- A) After the cognitive revolution
- B) After Aristotle
- C) After Descartes
- D) Before any of these people or events

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 12

Skill: conceptual

2) In response to a difficult question, the participant is likely to answer more slowly than if an easy question was asked. With a sufficiently powerful experiment, it is likely that a statistical analysis would reveal:

- A) Response times would be lower for difficult questions than for easy questions
- B) Response times would be higher for difficult questions than for easy questions
- C) Response times would not differ for easy and difficult questions
- D) Not enough information has been provided

Answer: B

Type: MC Page Ref: 6-7

Skill: applied

3) Introspection is:

- A) The method in which observers are carefully trained to report on inner sensations and experiences
- B) The building blocks underlying the structure of the brain
- C) The branch of experimental psychology that deals with human subjects as they learn verbal materials, such as items or stimuli composed of letters and/or words
- D) Attempting to understand a complex event by breaking the event down into its components

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 14

Skill: conceptual

4) Ecological validity is:

- A) The amount of experimental control the experimenter has over the important manipulations
- B) The acquiring and retaining information for later retrieval
- C) The attempting to break down complex events by breaking them down into their components
- D) Representative of the real world

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 10

Skill: conceptual

5) If we hear a complaint that our research lacks ecological validity. The person is complaining that:

- A) It is not representative of real-world situations
- B) Our research lacks sufficient precision
- C) Our research lacks an appropriate comparison group
- D) We are attempting to understand complex phenomena by breaking them down into their components

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 10

Skill: applied

6) Which is true of behaviourism?

- A) The scientific study of behaviour
- B) Focus on both observable and unobservable behaviour
- C) They linked the mind with behaviour
- D) They were interested in the structure of the mind

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 17-18

Skill: conceptual

7) Which is true of Ebbinghaus?

- A) Was interested in memory
- B) Was interested in perception
- C) Was interested in reasoning
- D) Was interested in studying introspection

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 15

Skill: applied

8) Ebbinghaus:

- A) Used many first year students as subjects
- B) Used a "saving score" to measure memory
- C) Used meaningful verbal materials
- D) Used a "saving score" to study reaction time

Answer: B

Type: MC Page Ref: 15

Skill: conceptual

9) Which of the following stimuli were used by Ebbinghaus in his memory experiment?

- A) Meaningful words
- B) Three-letter nonsense words
- C) Words of different lengths presented on a sheet of paper
- D) Different coloured words presented on a computer screen

Answer: B

Type: MC Page Ref: 15

Skill: conceptual

10) Donald Hebb is associated with:

- A) The Misbehavior of Organisms

- B) A History of Experimental Psychology
- C) The Behavior of Organisms
- D) The Organization of Behavior: A Neuropsychological Theory

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 22

Skill: factual

11) Which of the following was a challenge to the behaviourist approach?

- A) Conditioning
- B) Skinner
- C) Instinctive behaviour
- D) Stimulus-Response learning

Answer: C

Type: MC Page Ref: 16-18

Skill: conceptual

12) An empirical approach to human cognition is one that:

- A) Relies on observation, experimentation, or measurement
- B) Characterizes an entire set of research data
- C) Observes phenomenon in a field setting outside the laboratory
- D) Compares subjects of different ages at a given moment in time

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 2

Skill: conceptual

13) Mental processes:

- A) Can occur automatically and rapidly
- B) Can occur automatically but are usually slow
- C) Never occur automatically
- D) Always occur with full conscious awareness

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 8

Skill: conceptual

14) The cognitive revolution:

- A) Occurred when Wundt opened the first psychology laboratory
- B) Was a reaction to the information-processing approach
- C) Was a gradual process that occurred over a few decades.
- D) Occurred rapidly as a reaction to behaviourism

Answer: C

Type: MC Page Ref: 19

Skill: conceptual

15) Which of the following methods was used in structuralism?

- A) Introspection
- B) Measuring reaction time
- C) Conditioning
- D) Stimulus-response learning

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 14

Skill: conceptual

16) The field of _____ studies the mind using research carried out by researchers in many different disciplines.

- A) Information processing
- B) Philosophical psychology
- C) Cognitive psychology
- D) Cognitive science

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 2

Skill: factual

17) Although pigs can be trained to pick up wooden coins and deposit them in a piggy bank in return for a food reward, they will often start "rutting" or "rooting" by pushing the wooden token with their nose. This was a problem for

- A) Behaviourism
- B) Functionalism
- C) Cognitive psychology
- D) Gestalt psychology

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 20

Skill: applied

18) Chomsky's review of Skinner's book:

- A) Illustrated the shortcomings of the behaviourist account of language
- B) Praised Skinner for including mental processes in his account of language
- C) Agreed that behaviourism provided a likely explanation for language acquisition
- D) Stated that behaviourism explained most human behaviour, but not language

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 26-27

Skill: factual

19) Edward Titchner believed:

- A) That nothing worthwhile would come of studying mental processes
- B) That mental illness, educational applications, and social psychology were "impure" because they could not be studied with introspective methods
- C) That the appropriate goal for psychology was the objective assessment of association formation
- D) That the functions of consciousness, rather than its structure, were of interest

Answer: B

Type: MC Page Ref: 14

Skill: conceptual

20) William James believed:

- A) That nothing worthwhile would come of studying mental processes
- B) That mental illness, educational applications, and social psychology were "impure" because they could not be studied with introspective methods
- C) That the appropriate goal for psychology was the objective assessment of association formation
- D) That the functions of consciousness, rather than its structure, were of interest

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 16

Skill: conceptual

21) Neisser's criticism of cognitive psychology includes:

- A) That it is too focused on vision and hearing rather than the other modalities
- B) That the experimental techniques are not sterile enough
- C) That it is too focused on ecological validity
- D) That it does not include introspection

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 9-10

Skill: factual

22) Which of the following is NOT a fundamental assumption of cognitive psychology?

- A) People are active information processors
- B) Introspective methods allow useful cognitive insights
- C) Mental processes can be studied scientifically
- D) Mental processes exist

Answer: B

Type: MC Page Ref: 30

Skill: conceptual

23) Which is NOT a fundamental assumption of cognitive psychology?

- A) Humans are active information processors
- B) Mental processes can be studied scientifically
- C) Mental processes exist
- D) Tabula rasa

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 32

Skill: conceptual

24) Which of the following is true?

- A) Titchner established the first psychological laboratory
- B) Wundt's student Titchner advocated the approach known as Structuralism
- C) Wundt believed strongly that the proper topic for psychology was observable behaviour in real world experiences
- D) Wundt advocated the approach known as Functionalism

Answer: B

Type: MC Page Ref: 14

Skill: conceptual

25) Which of the following is true?

- A) Behaviourism did not explain some of the soldier's problems observed during the Second World War
- B) Cognitive psychology rejected behaviourism's controlled experimental approach
- C) The primary modalities studied within cognitive psychology are touch and smell
- D) The debate about "imageless thought" helped to bring about the cognitive revolution

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 21

Skill: conceptual

26) Historical reports suggest that _____ read _____'s book and set out to figure out how to scientifically study the mind using objective methods.

- A) Ebbinghaus, Wundt
- B) Wundt, Titchner
- C) James, Wundt
- D) Titchner, Watson

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 15

Skill: factual

27) _____ refer(s) to the belief that all knowledge is gained through experience, beginning at birth when our minds are a blank slate.

- A) Implicit factors
- B) Tabula rasa
- C) Innate factors
- D) Analytic approach

Answer: B

Type: MC Page Ref: 13

Skill: conceptual

28) Judge Jane Smith will not allow circumstantial evidence to be presented in her court. Instead, Judge Smith allows only evidence that she can see, or observe, to be used in a prosecution. Judge Smith could be referred to as a(n):

- A) Empiricist
- B) Rationalist
- C) Philosopher
- D) Reductionist

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 12

Skill: applied

29) Michael, an aeronautical engineer, believes that aeronautical research should emphasize how the various parts function, and how they can adapt to new circumstances. If Michael had chosen psychology as a career, he might have been in favour of:

- A) Structuralism
- B) Behaviourism
- C) Functionalism
- D) Gestaltism

Answer: C

Type: MC Page Ref: 16

Skill: applied

30) Neobehaviorism differs from behaviorism in:

- A) Allowing the scientific study of observable behavior
- B) Allowing introspective methodologies
- C) Incorporating psychophysiological measures
- D) Allowing unobserved mediating variables

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 17

Skill: conceptual

- 31) Which was NOT a reason for the rise to dominance of behaviourism?
- A) Seemingly endless debates within structuralism regarding "appropriate" interpretation
 - B) Physics envy
 - C) Success in modeling learning
 - D) The tabula rasa position provided a superior account for species-specific behaviours

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 16-18

Skill: conceptual

- 32) According to behaviourists and neobehaviourists the ultimate purpose of research on learning was to understand:

- A) The building blocks of conscious experience
- B) The acquisition of behaviour by conditioning
- C) Performance rather than learning
- D) Memory rather than cognition

Answer: B

Type: MC Page Ref: 19

Skill: conceptual

- 33) The best description of Informativore is:

- A) Beings that actively obtain and process information
- B) Fundamental unit of the structuralist account
- C) An instrumental contribution to the cognitive revolution
- D) Fundamental unit of S-R behaviorism

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 30

Skill: factual

- 34) This notion deals with what factors contribute to and influence who we are. To what extent is it inborn factors or environmental experiences:

- A) Nature vs. nurture
- B) Structure vs. processes
- C) Rationalism vs. empiricism
- D) Structuralism vs. behaviourism

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 13

Skill: conceptual

- 35) Which of the following were, in general, most involved in theory building rather than pure atheoretic data collection?

- A) B.F. Skinner
- B) Verbal learning theorists
- C) Hull
- D) Ebbinghaus

Answer: C

Type: MC Page Ref: 20

Skill: factual

- 36) "Cognitive Maps in Mice and Men" is associated with _____.

- A) Hull
- B) Watson
- C) Skinner
- D) Tolman

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 18

Skill: factual

37) The area of verbal learning gave cognitive psychology:

- A) Little that was positive
- B) Evidence for the importance of "tabula rasa"
- C) An objective and reliable method to study mental processes
- D) Problems explaining the existence of mental processes

Answer: C

Type: MC Page Ref: 24-25

Skill: conceptual

38) Which of the following had the "narrowest" view of topics acceptable to the field of psychology?

- A) Wundt
- B) James
- C) Titchner
- D) Warren

Answer: C

Type: MC Page Ref: 14

Skill: conceptual

39) The essence of Chomsky's review of Skinner's "verbal behavior" book was that Skinner:

- A) Failed to supply an adequate computer model of verbal learning
- B) Relied too heavily on animal models
- C) Failed to consider the role of attention
- D) Was a mere terminological revision, in which terms borrowed from the laboratory were used in the full vagueness of their ordinary usage

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 27

Skill: conceptual

40) "The Organization of Behaviour" is associated with:

- A) Skinner
- B) Hebb
- C) Watson
- D) James

Answer: B

Type: MC Page Ref: 22

Skill: factual

41) Donald Hebb explained human and animal behaviour and thought in terms of:

- A) The brain
- B) Stimulus and response learning

- C) Nature vs. nurture
- D) The structure of the mind

Answer: A

Type: MC Page Ref: 23

Skill: conceptual

42) Donald Hebb criticized reigning theories of learning and perception as:

- A) Placing too much emphasis on animal behaviour
- B) Placing too much emphasis on neural processes
- C) Being too concerned with vision and audition
- D) Being unable to handle thought adequately

Answer: D

Type: MC Page Ref: 23

Skill: conceptual

43) Wundt established the first psychological laboratory.

Answer: TRUE

Type: TF Page Ref: 14

Skill: factual

44) Animals trained to deposit coins in a piggy bank are unlikely to revert to their instinctive behaviour as long as the training involved stimulus-response methods.

Answer: FALSE

Type: TF Page Ref: 20

Skill: conceptual

45) The goal of structuralism was to understand how the mind worked and how it adapted to new circumstances.

Answer: FALSE

Type: TF Page Ref: 14

Skill: conceptual

46) William James had a personal distaste of experimentation.

Answer: TRUE

Type: TF Page Ref: 16

Skill: factual

47) Signal detection theory developed from the work of World War II psychologists.

Answer: TRUE

Type: TF Page Ref: 21

Skill: factual

48) Early philosophers did not consider the nature of thought and memory.

Answer: FALSE

Type: TF Page Ref: 12

Skill: factual

49) Before studying language, Chomsky was an influential behaviourist.

Answer: FALSE

Type: TF Page Ref: 26-27

Skill: factual

50) Donald Hebb was influential in advancing the area of cognitive neuroscience.

Answer: TRUE

Type: TF Page Ref: 24

Skill: factual

51) _____ is the mental processes of acquiring and retaining information for later retrieval and the mental storage system that enables these processes (encoding, storage, and retrieval).

Answer: MEMORY

Type: SA Page Ref: 9

52) _____ is the scientific study of human memory and mental processes, including such activities as perceiving, remembering, using language, reasoning, and problem solving.

Answer: COGNITION

Type: SA Page Ref: 9

53) Articles referred to as the *behaviourist manifesto* and the *cognitive manifesto* were written by _____ and _____ respectively.

Answer: WATSON, CHOMSKY

Type: SA Page Ref: 26

54) _____ is a new term designating the study of cognition from multiple standpoints of psychology, such as linguistics, computer science, and neuroscience.

Answer: COGNITIVE SCIENCE

Type: SA Page Ref: 2

55) Ideas that have a _____ status in cognitive psychology are above and beyond any particular theory, and are so central to the discipline that they are assumed to be true.

Answer: METATHEORETICAL

Type: SA Page Ref: 31

56) The investigation of the learning and retention of language-based material is called _____.

Answer: VERBAL LEARNING

Type: SA Page Ref: 24

57) The attempt to understand complex events by breaking them down into their components is called the _____.

Answer: ANALYTIC APPROACH

Type: SA Page Ref: 10

58) Discuss two of the four interlocking themes used to understand Donald Hebb's contribution to the field of cognitive psychology.

Answer: Should provide the main points of any two of the four themes presented in the textbook

Type: ES Page Ref: 23

59) Briefly summarize structuralism, functionalism, and behaviourism. For each paradigm, identify the founder and describe the main beliefs.

Answer: Structuralism → founders Wundt and Titchner → believed proper topic of study was conscious processes and immediate experience. Used introspection under controlled conditions as main method of investigation

Functionalism → founder James → studied the function of consciousness rather than its structure. Asked how the mind functions and adapts to new circumstances

Behaviourism → founder Watson → observable behaviour was primary topic of interest, and the learning of stimulus-response associations thought to be the most important kind of behaviour to study

Type: ES Page Ref: 13-18

60) Explain how Ebbinghaus' idea of "savings" could be adapted to help you learn course material.

Answer: There are a number of ways in which students could answer this question; however, they should incorporate the method of relearning

Type: ES Page Ref: 15

61) What did Ebbinghaus (1980) mean when he made the comment that "Psychology has a long past but only a short history"?

Answer: That philosophers of every age have considered the nature of thought and the mind, but the discipline of psychology is fairly new, beginning with Wundt's work in the 19th century.

Note that, depending on the length of question required, each of these points could be stated briefly (as here) or explained in more detail.

Type: ES Page Ref: 12

62) It is broadly accepted that behaviourist accounts of language are seriously flawed. Why? (Note: Be sure to evaluate more than just Chomsky's response to Skinner.)

Answer: Along with Chomsky's criticism of Skinner's book, students could discuss Chomsky's emphasis on the novelty of human language and relevant material from the verbal learning section.

Type: ES Page Ref: 24-27

63) What are the four major assumptions of cognitive psychology? Explain why each is considered important.

Answer:

- 1) Mental processes exist → Why? History of antimentalism (via behaviorist perspective)
- 2) Mental processes can be studied scientifically (objective methodology) → Why? History of introspection (via Titchner's structuralism)
- 3) People are active information processors (metatheory) → Why? Not just passive recipients of knowledge and experience
- 4) Mental processes are implemented in and by the brain → Why? it is important to understand the processes underlying behaviour

Type: ES Page Ref: 30-31