AP Psych FRQs (2013-2021) Rain with Anthony

***How to FRQ***

The algorithm for the perfect answer: Define and apply using the ***exact words*** from the question (if possible). If the scenario is vague -- doesn’t give a specific person or situation -- make up a person, give them a scenario, and apply the term.

Question:

Jackie has been chosen for the lead role in the school play. She is both nervous and excited about this opportunity.

Explain how each of the following concepts may help her performance in the play.

- context dependent memory

Answer:

Context-dependent memory refers to improved recall of specific episodes or information when contextual cues relating to the environment are the same during encoding and retrieval. If Jackie rehearses her script and movements in the auditorium that she will be giving the play, she will be more ***likely to perform her lead role in the school play***better than if she rehearses elsewhere.

Question ***(no person or scenario given)***:

Explain how each of the following plays a role in eating behavior:

- observational learning

Answer:

Observation learning is when an organism learns through observing and then imitating another. ***If Jim observes his parents consistently eating fruits, vegetables, lean protein, and low fat foods, then Jim is likely to model this behavior.***

2018 AP Psych Free Response

1. 1. Part A
      1. Context Dependent Memory - Context-dependent memory refers to improved recall of specific episodes or information when contextual cues relating to the environment are the same during encoding and retrieval. With easier recall of specific episodes and information when relating contextual cues to the environment this can help ***her in the lead role of the school play*** by making sure she is recalling her lines and performing the appropriate actions.

1. Acetylcholine - Acetylcholine (motor movement) is Lack of this is associated with Alzheimer's disease (unnecessary here). ***Acetylcholine is associated with motor movements.  Acetylcholine can help Jackie execute the correct movements in her lead role for the school play.***

1. Kinesthetic Sense - Kinesthesis also referred to as kinesthesia, is the perception of body movements. It involves being able to detect changes in body position and movements without relying on information from the five senses. Knowing how her body moves and knowing what position she is supposed to be at a certain time is crucial for a successful play, afterall she is acting in front of an audience. Good. Easier answer. Kinesthetic sense refers to our muscles and joints ability to give us feedback about where our limbs are.  If Jackie has a strong kinesthetic sense, she will be able to perform the ***actions of the lead role in the school play well.***

1. Selective attention - selective attention (i.e. cocktail party effect) is the focusing of conscious awareness (word salad here. Better: “...is the ability to filter out irrelevant stimuli”) on a particular stimulus. Focusing on her own parts and her peers is especially important so she does not get distracted from the crowd that might hinder her performance. Good.  Better: If Jackie selectively focuses on her role and those in the play, while disregarding the audience and irrelevant sounds, she will ***perform the lead role in the school play better.***

1. Part B
   1. Proactive interference - proactive interference is the disruptive effect of prior learning on the recall of new information (old affects new). Her plays before that she has acted in might interfere with her new play/play she is supposed to act in. Distracting her from her actual moves and scripts. Bravo.

1. Yerkes-Dodson law of arousal - Yerkes-Dodson Law is the principle that performance increases with arousal (say, “there is an optimal level of arousal; too little or too much decreases performance”) only up to a point, beyond which performance decreases. If arousal is over a certain point from the play, her performance might decrease hence hindering her play performance. Better example: If Jackie doesn’t get enough sleep before the play, or drinks too much coffee or tea, then ***her performance in the lead role of the school play*** will decrease.

1. External locus of control - external locus of control is the perception that chance or outside forces beyond your personal control determine your fate. If she relies on external factors such as weather for her success then her chance of success is lower than internal locus of control, because for internal locus of control she can control everything but external locus of control is everything else decides for her. Better: If Jackie has an external locus of control, she may believe that no matter how much she rehearses her lines and movements, her performance will be determined by things outside of her control.  Since she believes this, she may rehearse less than she should and ***perform worse in her lead role in the school play***.

I’d give you 85% for these answers.

1. 1. Part A
      1. There is a positive correlation between the higher the stress level the more number of absence due to illness.  Good. The grammar here isn’t great, but I get it.

1. Hans Geyle’s general adaptation syndrome states that the body adapts to stress in three stages - alarm, resistance, exhaustion. exhaustion is the parasympathetic nervous system that returns our physiological state to normal. We can be more vulnerable to disease in this stage. If stress level is higher, the chance of returning to a normal state is harder and also we become more vulnerable to disease at this stage. Almost. Better: during the exhaustion phase, our body has used up all of its resources in battling the stressful event.  Since our body is vulnerable during this stage, we are more susceptible to disease.
2. It is not ethical since stress level is both not mentally and physically healthy for human beings. Almost. Better:  It is not ethical to set up an experiment where a researcher will stress participants out until they become physically ill.
3. Part B
   1. Deindividuation is when an individual seems to lose himself or herself in the group's identity; mob mentality. By remaking (I don’t like this word; say, “by becoming an anonymous member of a group...”) his/her identity it may make the individual make questionable choices that he/she would not have done in their normal state of consciousness. Often deindividuation happens so an individual can fit into the social group.   Good.  Could be better with an example:  An individual may take 5 AP courses and the hardest classes in school and try to the be the best at everything because everyone around them is… :) :) :)
   2. Normative social influence (this is another word for conformity -- like solomon asch’s studies with the line) is adjusting behaviour to fit the group. In order to fit into the social group they would need to adjust their actions and choices so they can be a part of the group and fit in. Use an example for a perfect answer: If everyone around them is smoking, then despite knowing that this is bad for them, the individual may take up....
4. Part C
   1. Cognitive restructuring is a group of therapeutic techniques that help people notice and change their negative thinking patterns. This will help the students mental health by thinking of problems in their daily life in a positive way.  Example: If Jimmy believes that he needs to be the best at everything he does, a counsellor can advise him of this dysfunctional way of thinking...

1. The incentive theory of motivation is a behavioral theory that suggests people are motivated by a drive for incentives and reinforcement. By setting a goal, this reinforces the students to keep on working hard, hence, having a healthy lifestyle both physically and mentally. Good. Use example: money for grades?

I’d give you 85%.

2017 AP Psych Free Response

For these answers, I am not going to provide feedback.  I think you understand what’s required from what I wrote above.

* 1. Part A
     1. drive-reduction theory is the idea that a physiological need creates a drive that motivates an organism to satisfy the need (motivations happen because of biological needs). Regarding the given scenario of eating behavior, if a certain individual is hungry then that creates a drive for them to eat so they do not starve.
     2. External cues are those that come from our environment. Sometimes we are aware of these cues but more often we are not. By how appetizing certain food looks, it can affect if we would like to eat it or not.
     3. Dopamine affects both alertness and movement. By having a high dose of dopamine, it is more likely for individuals to enjoy the food they are eating, which will fulfill their reward center.
     4. observational learning (Albert Bandura) is learning by observing others (babies copy their parents). By looking at others eating the food first, individuals will follow. Likely, if others enjoy the food, chances are others will enjoy it too just by looking at their behaviour.
  2. Part B
     1. Operationally defining concern for healthy eating by meaning that there should be a healthy balance of carbs and protein everyday. On top of this, limiting the amount of calories by no more than 3000 per day. Junk food is also a no no.
     2. All variables are controlled except for the independent variable which we would like to measure. On top of this, all participants are randomly assigned - meaning they have an equal chance of being put into either group.
     3. By reading about that obesity is a result of personal behaviour and decisions, participants are more concerned about healthy eating.

1. 1. Hans Selye's General Adaptation Syndrome (GAS) consists of  Selye's concept of three phases—alarm, resistance, exhaustion for the body to respond to stress. Regarding the resistance phase the body is physiologically ready (high heart rate and maintains the readiness state). This will help tense up Sachio’s body to tell himself both mentally and physically that it is serious and important, just enough pressure for him to perform at his best, but not too much that it hurts his performance.
   2. implicit memory is unintentional memories that we might not even realize we have. This will help Sachio with playing his piece. Often musicians have finger memory when it comes to pressing the notes. Instead, they will focus on the piece musically.
   3. Social facilitation is a high level of arousal that helps us do easy tasks but may not help complete difficult tasks. With this, it will help Sachio perform better overall when judges are watching him because he is doing something he is good at.
   4. The basilar membrane is a stiff structural element within the cochlea of the inner ear which separates two liquid-filled tubes that run along the coil of the cochlea, it forms the base of the organ of Corti, which contains sensory receptors for hearing. This will help Sachio so he will be able to tell if he is playing the correct notes or not.
   5. sensory cortex (somato-sensory cortex)  receives incoming touch sensations from the rest of the body. By pressing the keys on his saxophone he is able to produce music. Knowing the different touch and sensations will help himself know if he is pressing the correct keys or not.
   6. intrinsic motivation is a desire to perform a behaviour effectively for its own sake (inside). Proving himself to himself and not to anyone else from this competition will help him in the long term. Competing not for the prize or award but for himself will motivate him more effectively.
   7. Big Five Personality Traits - extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, emotional stability (neuroticism), openness to experience. All these, Sachio would need to have a balance of in order to have a vivid personality that the judges and interviewers would like. Being personable is very important for success not just in music but in life.

85%

2016 AP Psych Free Response

1. 1. Part A
      1. Motor neurons help with movement. Movement is very important for driving a car, since you need to move your body specifically your hands in order to turn the steering wheel or to press the gas or brake pedal.
      2. retinal disparity is a binocular cue for perceiving depth. Without perceiving depth it is impossible to drive any vehicle because you would not know how far and close other cars, signs, or pedestrians are.
      3. Heuristic is a simple thinking strategy that often allows us to make judgments and solve problems efficiently; usually speedier but also more error-prone than algorithms. Taking shortcuts will help her arrive in California faster and often driving a car requires split second decisions, taking too long will result in a more dangerous scenario.
      4. procedural memory are memories of skills and how to perform them (how to throw a curveball). In this case, learning how to drive a car is a procedural memory. Knowing and remembering how to drive a car will maximize her safety.
   2. Part B
      1. circadian rhythm is the biological clock; regular bodily rhythms that occur on a 24-hour cycle. If she drives for a prolonged amount of time, she will feel sleepy, and sleep and car should stay as far away as possible in order to be safe.
      2. conditioned response (CR) is a learned response to a previously neutral stimulus. If she has been in previous accidents with other scenarios, her conditioned response will affect her actions. If her conditioned responses are not safe, then she will likely do it again hence attributing to fatal injuries.
      3. Inattentional blindness is the failure to notice a fully-visible, but unexpected object because attention was engaged on another task, event, or object. ... If she does not see another car or pedestrian then this will cause some serious harm.
2. 1. Part A
      1. Distributed practice (also known as spaced repetition or spaced practice) is a learning strategy, where practice is broken up into a number of short sessions – over a longer period of time. Learning different countries each time will help Danny remember each country better. Learning a few countries every time for many times is better than cramming a lot of countries into one study session.
      2. mnemonic devices are strategies for enhancing memory. Using different mnemonic devices can improve Danny’s memory of countries more efficiently
      3. secondary reinforcers are any reinforcer that becomes reinforcing after being paired with a primary reinforcer, such as praise, tokens, or gold stars. By using other reinforcers it can motivate Danny to study harder, which will increase his chance of remembering each country.
      4. Big Five Personality Traits consists of extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, emotional stability (neuroticism), openness to experience. By having a good personality and having a balance of the traits above, his teacher will like Danny more. And if his teacher likes Danny more his/her test would not be as hard and would help Danny succeed.
   2. Part B
      1. retroactive interference is the disruptive effect of new information on the recall of old information (new affects old). If Danny learns about countries in Asia in the start of the year, by the end of the year when he learns about countries in Europe he will not remember countries in Asia. That is a problem since there is an equal likelihood of Danny’s oral exam being on Asian compared to Europe.
      2. Self-fulfilling prophecy, process through which an originally false expectation leads to its own confirmation. In a self-fulfilling prophecy an individual's expectations about another person or entity eventually result in the other person or entity acting in ways that confirm the expectations. (if you believe you will win, you behave like a winner). In this case, If Danny does not believe he is smart and capable of doing well on the test, then he will not do well on the test.
      3. a sympathetic nervous system is the division of the autonomic nervous system that arouses the body, mobilizing its energy in stressful situations (conserving energy from digestion to heart beat when digestion is not needed). By having too much stress during the exam it will hurt Danny both mentally and physically, hence he will not do as well on the exam. In addition, prolonged state of staying in the sympathetic nervous system will hurt his immune system.

85%

2015 AP Psych Free Response

1. 1. Part A
      1. confirmation bias is a tendency to search for information that supports our preconceptions and to ignore or distort contradictory evidence. In the naturalistic study, experimenters will be more likely to look for children leaving their seats because that is what they are measuring. If Bob is measuring the times of children leaving their seats. He will likely pay more close attention to the group given more candy, while pay less attention to the group given less candy.
      2. availability heuristic is judging a situation based on examples of similar situations that come to mind initially. In the study, experimenters would most likely have encountered that more candy equals more times kids leaving their seats, hence, they will judge this experiment based on their previous schemata. For example, Bob might judge his neighbourhood as safer, simply because he has not lived in other neighborhoods
      3. Misunderstanding of Correlational studies is misunderstanding correlational research with experimental research, Correlational study is a type of nonexperimental research in which the researcher measures two variables and assesses the statistical relationship.The study can only conclude that there is a relationship between two variable but not a direct cause and effect. In this study, experimenters can only conclude that there is a relationship between the intake of candy and sugar with hyperactivity and kids getting out of their chair.
   2. Part B
      1. If the intake level of sugar is increased, then kids will get out of their chairs more
      2. We operationally define the amount of sugar intake by the number of lollipops given to each child
      3. Random assignment is assigning participants to experimental and control conditions by chance. For this experiment, to achieve random assignment each kid has the same chance of being put into either the high sugar intake group or the low sugar intake group.
   3. Part C
      1. Flat line parallel to the x axis
2. 1. Part A
      1. Prefrontal Cortex is the region of the brain that makes up the frontal area of the frontal lobe. The prefrontal cortex is thought to be involved in higher cognition, long term planning, personality, and proper social behavior. For Chandler and Alex, using their prefrontal cortex they can plan and choose the best house for them both in the short term and long term. Balancing the price range with the quality of the house, it can help them make a decision on the house they buy.
      2. An algorithm is a defined set of step-by-step procedures that provides the correct answer to a particular problem. By following the instructions correctly, you are guaranteed to arrive at the right answer. By looking over every single house in the neighbourhood, alex and chandler are ought to find the best house for themselves.
   2. Part B
      1. In social psychology, social loafing is the phenomenon of a person exerting less effort and their fair share to achieve a goal when they work in a group than when working alone. With Chandler and Alex inviting friends to help them pack, they will do less work - less of their share.
      2. alarm reaction, the first stage of the GAS, during which the body mobilizes its resources to cope with a stressor in which heart rate increases and activation of the sympathetic system. Being in the alarm stage, both alex and chandler will be more efficient because their body is in fight mode, forgetting about stress.
   3. Part C
      1. proactive interference is the disruptive effect of prior learning on the recall of new information - old affects new. In this scenario, while alex and chandler are trying to live their new life, with their new home, neighbourhood, and new neighbours their old memories from their old life is interfering with their new life.
      2. Habituation is a decrease in response to a stimulus after repeated presentations. In this scenario, at first their new life will be very new for both alex and chandler. But over a period of time, they will get used to the road names, their neighbours, and neighbourhoods.
      3. Normative social influence is adjusting behaviour to fit the group. In order to fit in, both Alex and Chandler will need to adjust their behaviour so they can be part of the group.

2014 AP Psych Free Response

1. 1. Part A
      1. There are two levels of the independent variable. Participants are either assigned to a group (high power) where they were asked to recall a time where they had power over others or they were assigned to a group where they were asked to recall a time where others had power over them.
      2. The researchers measured the dependent variable - height of avatar -  by adjusting the height of a graphical image (an avatar) in centimeters.
      3. Higher power group bar would be higher compared to the lower power group
      4. The researchers can conclude that there is a cause and effect relationship between power and self-image because there is both an experimental group and a control group. Furthermore, independent variable (the cause) is manipulated and the dependent variable (the effect) is measured; any extraneous variables are controlled
      5. Statistical significance means the degree to which a research outcome cannot reasonably be attributed to the operation of chance or random factors. In the context of this study, higher power has a positive correlation to a stronger self image

* Statistical significance refers to whether there is a large enough difference between the experimental group and the control group to say that the independent variable is causing the difference between the groups.

1. Debriefing would be necessary in this study because it is unethical according to the APA guidelines if not. Making participants remember a time where others had power over themselves or the other way around is not ethical in real life without telling them the purpose of the study.
2. 1. Part A
      1. Authoritarian parenting is a parenting style characterized by high demons and use of punishment for not meeting those demands. Parents with an authoritarian style have very high expectations of their children, yet provide very little in the way of positive feedback and nurturing. Mistakes tend to be punished harshly. This type of parenting style will result in Abraham having social interaction issues, which will interfere with his success in college. ***Abram may listen to his professors and do well in college in fear of being punished for not completing his work.***
      2. Identity vs role is Erikson's stage during which teenagers and young adults search for and become their true selves. If Abram knows before he goes to college what he wants to do with his life, he may glide through college very easily because he has established his identity.  But if Abram does not know what he wants to do with his life, he may try out many different fields and experience role confusion during college.

1. unconditional positive regard according to Rogers is an attitude of total acceptance toward another person. For example parents let children know that they'll love them no matter what. If Abram’s parents and peers treat him with unconditional positive regard, then they will accept whatever college major, work, and creative pursuits Abram tries.
2. Part B
   1. divergent thinking or creative thinking is expanding the number of possible problem solutions. By thinking divergently, Abram’s second year of college may be better if he is able to problem solve using creative solutions.  For example, if Abram is not finding enough time to study, he may try using an audiobook of his textbook to study on the bus ride to school.

1. elaborative rehearsal is thinking about the meaning of the new information and its relation to knowledge already stored in your memory. levels of processing is information that is thought of more deeply becomes more meaningful and thus better committed to memory. By using elaborative rehearsal, Abram could incorporate his new knowledge of psychology with experiences he has had in his life.  By doing so, he should be able to remember his psychology vocabulary better than maintenance rehearsal, or simply repeating it to himself over and over.

1. intrinsic motivation is a desire to perform a behaviour effectively for its own sake. By performing for himself, not for some external reward, he is much more likely to do better in his academics and which will contribute to his success because he is doing everything for himself. In addition, everything he does is stuff he cares a great deal about. For example, Abram studies biology because he loves it, not because he wants to become a doctor purely for the money.

1. self-efficacy is one's sense of competence and effectiveness. It is how worthy people feel about themselves; confidence. If Abram feels confident in his ability to tackle new challenges, he may take a course he does not have much experience in, like math or physics.

2013 AP Psych Free Response

1. 1. Part A
      1. Correlational research is a type of nonexperimental research in which the researcher measures two variables and assesses the statistical relationship between them with little or no effort to control extraneous variables. In this study, John can only conclude that there is a relationship between incentives and increase in reading scores, but it is not a cause and effect.

1. The overjustification effect occurs when an expected external incentive such as money or prizes decreases a person's intrinsic motivation to perform a task. Overjustification is an explanation for the phenomenon known as motivational "crowding out." Bob might love reading books, but since now that he is offered an extrinsic reward, his level of intrinsic motivation will decrease - hence incentives are doing the opposite of its purpose.
2. Part B
   1. By using fixed ratios it can optimize kids' interest in reading. For example, after every ten books bob reads he gets an award.
3. Part C
   1. Belief perseverance is clinging to one's initial conceptions after the basis on which they were formed has been discredited. If the reader believes that reading is purely motivated by intrinsic factors initially, this experiment would not change his or her perspective.

1. Central route to persuasion occurs when a person is persuaded by the content of the message. If the reader believes that John’s presentation of facts and figures regarding students’ decline in reading are true, then the reader is likely to be convinced of John’s argument.

1. retroactive interference is the disruptive effect of new information on the recall of old information. If the reader has just learned by John’s research that incentive is beneficial for students to read, this might affect their previous schemata of how reading should be motivated by intrinsic factors instead of extrinsic factors
2. Source Amnesia is the inability to recall where, when, or how one has learned knowledge that has been acquired and retained. Not remembering previous knowledge that might contradict the study described, the reader is more likely to be persuaded by John’s correlational study.
3. If John isn’t able to recall the sources of his studies, the reader may not believe him.
4. 1. Part A
      1. We operationally define how fast participants remember definitions for words by timing each correct response with a stopwatch, stopping stopwatch when they correctly give the definition
      2. The ethical flaw of the study can be corrected if the researchers send a paper copy asking each participant if they feel comfortable sharing their answer publicly. Those who sign the contract, can be publicly shared, those who do not feel comfortable should not be shared. In addition, the whole study should be told to each participant once the study is finished.
      3. The research design flaw can be corrected by choosing participants in the same population. For example late 20s or early thirties, not one group in early 20s while the other in their late 60s. For, different age groups have different memory capacity and efficiency.
      4. Statistical significance is the degree to which a research outcome cannot reasonably be attributed to the operation of chance or random factors. Significance generally is a function of sample size—the larger the sample, the less likely it is that one's findings will have occurred by chance. In a well developed study, if the result can be concluded as statistically significant it means the results are likely valid, and not due to chance. In this study, if the result is statistically significant then one study method is more beneficial for the brain over the other study method when it comes to memorization and definitions.
   2. Part B
      1. fluid intelligence is the ability to see abstract relationships and draw logical inferences. Each individual has different fluid intelligence. Fluid intelligence is different for the age groups, hence, group A and Group B is not a valid comparison; therefore the results of the study are compromised.

1. circadian rhythm is the biological clock; regular bodily rhythms that occur on a 24-hour cycle. Group B cramps at night for two hours, if they are sleepy it will affect the results of the experiment. Group A however only studies for 30 minutes so they are less likely to be sleepy. Sleep deprivation will affect the result of the study.

2012 AP Psych Free Response

1. 1. Part A
      1. availability heuristic is judging a situation based on examples of similar situations that come to mind initially. If for example annabelle’s friends that went to a certain university have come back and given positive feedback about the school, annabelle is more likely to go to that school instead of another school she has not heard anything about.
      2. Compliance is a response—specifically, a submission—made in reaction to a request. The request may be explicit or implicit. In this case, if a certain university reaches out to Annabelle with an external award -- norms of reciprocity -- she is more likely to comply and go to that university.
      3. Prefrontal Cortex is a region of the brain that makes up the frontal area of the frontal lobe. The prefrontal cortex is thought to be involved in higher cognition, long term planning, personality, and proper social behavior. Using her prefrontal cortex, Annabelle can determine the best fit for her. She can look at the long term benefits and which school matches her personality, potential career, and her liking looking into the future.

1. Prospective memory is a form of memory that involves remembering to perform a planned action or recall a planned intention at some future point in time. If Annabelle is a recruited athlete, she is more likely to go to the certain school because she remembered verbally committing to the school with the coach.
2. Part b
   1. agoraphobia is the fear of public spaces. If Annabelle has agoraphobia, she may stay home and study more often and study, thus increasing her chances of doing well in college.
   2. crystallized intelligence is our accumulated knowledge and verbal skills; tends to increase with age. This type of intelligence increases with experience, wisdom, and age. As she moves on with her college career, she will have more crystallized intelligence and therefore do better in advanced college classes.
   3. Ethnocentrism is the practice of regarding one's own ethnic, racial, or social group as the center of all things. If Annabelle suffers from ethnocentrism, then she may not be able to adapt to the diverse cultures and peoples’ different customs at college.
3. 1. Part A
      1. In an individual’s peripheral vision, only rods occur. Rods help us see  black and white, hence, we cannot tell color in our peripheral vision
      2. Lists of unrelated words are hard to remember. If one is recalling a list of words, one is more likely to remember the first couple words (primacy effect) and the last couple words (recency effect) more than the words in the middle of the list.  This is known as the serial position effect.
      3. Serotonin is associated with a positive mood. If someone has a high level of serotonin in their brain, then they often feel happier than someone who lacks serotonin.  A constant low level of serotonin is associated with depression.
      4. Retinal disparity is a binocular cue of perceiving depth. By using both eyes, our brain can perceive depth.
      5. Motor cortex controls every movement of our body. Without it we would not be able to move our limbs.
      6. Presence of others can either help our performance or harm our performance. If the task is easy, and then we perform it better with an audience, if the task is hard, we perform worse with audiences.
      7. Our brain uses a variety of ways to perceive images of things. One of which is proximity, if things are closely put together, gestalt theory explains our brain would determine them as in the same group because of their closely relatedness.

2019 Set 1 AP Psych Free Response

1. 1. Part A
      1. We operationally define the dependent variable - children taking an additional amount of candy - by the number of additional lollipops each kid takes.
      2. The data supports the psychologist’s hypothesis, because masked on kids has a higher percentage of taking additional amounts of candy. This is also true for kids in groups compared to being solo.
      3. The psychologist cannot generalize this to all children because there is no random sampling or random selection. Hence, this sample of kids cannot be generalized into the population of all kids.
      4. A naturalistic study is observing and recording behavior in naturally occurring situations without trying to manipulate and control the situation. However, in this experiment, the psychologist does manipulate variables such as asking kids to take off their masks. Hence, it cannot be a naturalistic study.
      5. Modeling is the process where an organism observes and then imitates another.  If one kid sees another kid taking additional candy, he/she will also be more likely to imitate this behavior and take candy themselves.
      6. Deindividuation is when an individual seems to lose himself or herself in the group's identity; mob mentality. When a kid is immersed into his social group, he is more likely to make decisions he would not make when he is alone. For example, if Bob’s friends group all takes more candy, Bob will likely follow because of peer pressure.
      7. Preconventional is the stage where children make choices to avoid punishments. Kids in this stage will most likely not steal any additional candy because it is “wrong” and they might get punished for it.
2. 1. Part A
      1. crystallized intelligence refers to our accumulated knowledge and verbal skills. This type of intelligence also increases with age. Judy’s increase in crystallized intelligence makes shelving books much easier than when she was younger and had less.
      2. Altruism is behavior that is motivated by a desire to benefit someone other than oneself for that person's sake. Judy wants to help the less fortunate kids by shelving books for them.
      3. Broca's area is speech production. It is usually located in our left hemisphere. Broca’s area will help Judy perform speech and talk to different individuals while helping in the language. One simple scenario of this is Judy can help someone find a book and by communicating she is using her Broca’s area.
      4. If Ludy scores high on the big fives’ extraversion trait, then Ludy is someone who enjoys being in social situations.  So, working in a library is a good place for Ludy to volunteer because he will get to interact with other people frequently.
      5. self-efficacy is one's sense of competence and effectiveness. If Judy feels confident in his ability to help others at the library, and an essential part of the library, then he will be likely to take on this new volunteer opportunity.
      6. episodic memory is the collection of past personal experiences that occurred at a particular time and place. While working in the library, Ludy might recall episodic memories from his high school experience; he might remember helping an old classmate find a particular novel one sunny afternoon.
      7. self-actualization is trying to reach one's highest potential. Through her wisdom over the years, Judy has reached her true and highest potential of wanting to give back her community and help all the unfortunate kids out with reading books.

2019 Set 2 AP Psych Free Response

1. 1. Part A
      1. [Obsessive-compulsive disorder](https://www.britannica.com/science/obsessive-compulsive-disorder) is characterized by the presence of [obsessions](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/obsessions), compulsions, or both. Obsessions are persistent unwanted thoughts that produce distress. Compulsions are repetitive rule-bound behaviours that the individual feels must be performed in order to ward off distressing situations. Obsessions and compulsions are often linked; for example, obsessions about contamination may be accompanied by compulsive washing.

***Perfect.***

1. Part B
   1. Random assignment reduces the likelihood of some confounding variables, and this better establishes cause and effect. It achieves this by assigning participants to experimental and control conditions by chance meaning participants have the same likelihood of being put into either the experimental group or the control group. Random assignment increases the ***validity*** of an experiment.

***Good.  Better to say: Random assignment reduces the likelihood of some confounding variables, and this better establishes cause-and-effect.***

1. placebo condition is when the participants psychologically think they have benefited when in reality it's a neutral drug. ***Placebo effects can often determine the validity of an experiment since it limits all biases.***

***There is a difference between a place and a placebo effect.  Using a placebo helps determine the validity of the experiment, not the placebo effect. The placebo effect is what the participants sometimes feel; “I’ve taken this pill and now I feel better.” But that is different than the placebo itself.  We can talk about it if you’re still unsure about it.***

1. Part C
   1. Groupthink is when a group of individuals reaches a consensus without critical reasoning or evaluation of the consequences or alternatives. Groupthink is based on a common desire not to upset the balance of a group of people. Groupthink will affect individuals' discussion. For example, if the majority of people agree on Professor Menedez’s research, and few people in the group disagree, there is a high chance that those few people who disagree would not speak out against the majority of people who agree because they do not want to upset the balance of their group. Furthermore, the majority of people who agree with the Professor’s research are his close friends and they came to the consensus not by the facts or presentation Menedez gave, but because of their relationship with him.

***Perfect.***

1. Display rules are a social group or culture's informal norms that distinguish how one should express themselves. For example, if professor Menedez has done something nice for you in the past, you are more likely to help him and agree with him with his research - norms of reciprocity.

***I think you’ve mixed up two answers here***.

1. belief perseverance is clinging to one's initial conceptions after the basis on which they were formed has been discredited. If an individual's belief begins with the Professor's research, then he/she is much likely to stick with it even if the Professor's research shows the opposite of what the individual believes is right. In this case, the individual is likely to argue what he believes to begin with.

**Perfect.**

1. A cocktail party effect is when people tune in one message even while they filter out others nearby. If there is one specific fact or thing Professor Menedez mentions that really interests an individual he might focus on that fact while tuning out on all the other information he was given. This might affect the individual's discussion by only talking and focusing on one small aspect of the presentation.

***Perfect.***

1. 1. Part A
      1. state-dependent memory is the theory that information learned in a particular state of mind is more easily recalled when in that same state of mind. If Carl was really excited and happy when learning physics in his science class. And he is in the same state of mind - excited and happy - when he takes his final exam, he is more likely to recall and remember all the information he has learned.

***Perfect.***

1. Distributed practice is a learning strategy, where practice is broken up into a number of short sessions over a longer period of time. If Carl has an english final exam on a novel. He can study one chapter every day for 17 days. Instead of studying all 17 chapters on the night before his exam. Utilizing the studying method of breaking up into many short sessions instead of one large session is proven to be easier for the brain to recall information

***Perfect.***

1. long-term potentiation is an increase in a synapse's firing potential after brief, rapid stimulation. Believed to be a neural basis for learning and memory. After learning new methods for solving quadratic equations, Carl will get used to the different methods. Through practice, he will get more used to it which will increase the speed of the synapse’s firing potential.

***Perfect.***

1. self-efficacy is one's sense of competence and effectiveness. In other words how worthy people feel about themselves. If Carl believes he is very prepared for his history final, he will likely do better on the test because of his confidence.

***Better: Self-efficacy is one’s belief in their ability to bring about a result.  If Karl believes he is capable of taking on the history exam and getting a good grade, he will be more likely to study and do practice tests, thus increases his chances of actually doing well on the exam.***

1. Part B
   1. convergent thinking is narrowing the available problem solutions to determine the single best solution. Doing a group project, it is important to be open-minded because there are other individuals. Each individual might have their unique perspective, hence, each group member including Carl need to stay open minded. There is no one single best solution, often there are many best solutions, but the group needs to come to a consensus; ***thus, their thinking needs to converge on a single solution.***

***Add that last part for a perfect.***

1. Informational social influence describes a situation in which individuals make decisions based on information or data someone else has provided. The individuals accept that the information provided is trustworthy and thus change their thinking, belief or behavior accordingly. This might hinder Karl’s success in his group project because of the possibility of not accurate information provided by his peers. Agreeing to someone's information blindly is often not a good idea.

***Perfect.***

1. Regression is the act of returning to an earlier, comforting form of behavior. In this case, Karl returns to what he believes is right, not listening to his peers. In addition, regression will also hinder Karl’s success because Karl might believe one specific way is right even though it is not.

***Not quite.***

***Better: Regression is the act of returning to an earlier, comforting form of behavior.  If Karl is put down or insulted by someone in his group for a contribution he made to the group, he may begin to suck his thumb or cry.***

2011 AP Psych Free Response

1. 1. Part A
      1. The independent variable of the study is the different groups - one being group that gets feedback about the accuracy of their response **(*feedback is the independent variabl*e or the independent variable is feedback - make sure to say that outright)** and another having no feedback. The dependent variable of the study is the mean number of figures correctly identified by each group.

Good.

1. Part B
   1. Foveal vision is using the fovea a part of the eye, located in the center of the macula region of the retina ***(whenever you are staring at something, your fovea is pointed in that direction - you need to say something like, wherever the participant is starring on the screen, that’s the direction their fovea is pointed and since the fovea has the highest concentration of photoreceptor, their visual acuity will be the highest (I’ve written a somewhat sloppy answer here)***.

***This part below is unnecessary blends fovea and feature detectors - try not to blend answers.***

When visual information changes, the feature detector neurons will quiet down, to be replaced with other more responsive neurons. This will help each individual to recognize each image projected onto the screen if their neurons are aroused.

**A simpler better answer:  When the geometric images are presented, feature detectors will help the individual identify the line and shapes of the geometric figures.**

1. Feature detectors are individual neurons—or groups of neurons—in the brain which code for perceptually significant stimuli. This helps the individual to recognize the difference in each image or the uniqueness of each image.

**Ok good here.**

1. The principle of closure states that when we look at a complex arrangement of visual elements, we tend to look for a single, recognizable pattern. In other words, when you see an image that has missing parts, your brain will fill in the blanks and make a complete image so you can still recognize the pattern. Using this our brain can connect the missing spaces in the images and shapes presented

**Good.**

1. Part C
   1. Random assignment is assigning participants to experimental and control conditions by chance. Results concluded from the experiment if the samples are random assignments are more reliable. Since each individual has the same chance of being in both the experimental or the control group.

**Good.**

Good

1. Statistical significance is the degree to which a research outcome cannot reasonably be attributed to the operation of chance or random factors. If the results concluded are statistically significant then it means the information is likely not due by chance, making the information much more accurate.

***Good.  One thing you could add, not necessary, is that statistical significance also means that the independent variable given to the experimental group is what’s causing the change in the dependent variable.***

1. 1. Part A
      1. Broca's area is responsible for speech production and is located in the left hemisphere. Speaking is very important in all languages including japanese. The ability to speak is essential for success and learning in languages.

**Good. Could you mention Savannah in your answers?**

1. Phonemes are the smallest unit of sound. Any language is made up from phonemes including Japanese. Getting familiar with the unique phonemes used in Japanese will help the overall learning process. Pronouncing the words right will also contribute to her success.

**Great.**

1. Modeling is the process where an organism observes and then imitates another.  If she sees others pronounce a certain japanese word a certain way, she is likely to imitate others and learn from them. Language is learned from observational learning, by following the certain sounds a japanese should sound like from her teacher, she can learn and imitate it.

**Perfect.**

1. Chunking is organizing items into familiar, manageable units. Studying a new language is very complicated especially with the vast amount of vocabulary. By chunking different words and use of words into different categories. She can study little by little which is much more manageable then studying everything at once before her final exam. In addition, chunking is an effective method for recalling words later on.

**Perfect.**

1. Part B
   1. Encoding failure is not being able to recall certain information **(due to not paying attention to the stimuli when they were first being presented\*\*\*\*)**. If this happens to her on a test she will not be able to recall certain information. For example she might have forgotten the word for window in Japanese.

**Good.**

1. Language acquisition is the process of learning a language. This skill occurs around 4 months old toddlers. At this age the baby learns new languages really quickly. However, if the toddler does not learn Japanese but learns Chinese instead, the toddler will get really familiar with english ***(you mean Chinese?)*** but not Japanese. Later on in his/her life it might hinder their success because it is easy to get mixed up between the two languages.

**Good.**

1. Part C
   1. self-efficacy is one's sense of competence and effectiveness. If she feels she did really well on the test, she has a high self-efficacy. Scoring high on self efficacy means she has a lot of confidence which she clearly does explained in the above scenario.

**Better:**

**Self-efficacy is one’s belief in their ability to do something.  If Savannah scores high in self-efficacy, she believes she has the ability to take on the Japanese test; and will therefore practice and develop time to learning the language, leading her to score higher on the test.**

1. confirmation bias is a tendency to search for information that supports our preconceptions and to ignore or distort contradictory evidence. Confirmation bias is innate for all individuals. She might think she did very well because she only remembers the parts where she felt like she did well while ignoring the part she didn’t do as well. She might not feel confident doing the reading section but she was confident in the speaking section, hence, she only remembers how well she did in the speaking section.

**Perfect!**

2021 Set 1 Ap Psych Free Response

Self-efficacy is the belief an individual has about their ability to achieve a result. If Malia scores high on self-efficacy, then Malia will believe that she can do well on his research paper and therefore spend time researching, asking for help, going the library, and completing a draft and final copy.

A low score on the Big Five Trait of Neuroticism means that the person is emotional stable or neutral. If Malia scores low on this trait, then she will remain calm while completing the research paper. An external locus of control means that someone beliefs that the outcome may be due to factors outside of their control. If Malia has an external locus of control, that means that she may think that however hard she works, her grade on the research paper will be determined by things outside her control (e.g., the teacher’s mood, the type of paper the paper is printed on, etc.).

Divergent thinking is creative thinking, where one brainstorms novel solutions to problems. If Malia uses divergent thinking, then she may, instead of consulting only academic books in the library for the research paper, she uses anecdotal evidence from her own experience and family, as well as TV shows, and news articles to add a subjective component to her research paper. Efferent neurons are those which send signals to our muscles. Malia’s efferent neurons will be active as she types out her research paper.

Incentive theory is when a reward is given to motivate behavior. If Mr. Barry has a lot of papers to mark, then incentive theory could be used to motivate him to complete all the marking. If Mr. Barry enjoys surfing, then his supervisor could offer a all-inclusive surfing getaway if Mr. Barry completes all his marking in a timely fashion.

Crystallized intelligence is the knowledge you have accumulated with experience. Since Mr. Barry is a teacher, his accumulated knowledge from college and outside reading and learning will help him mark the students’ research papers.

The dependent variable in the study is the grade on the quiz.

This could be made into an experiment by Mr. Gomez taking a random and representative sample from a population (students) and randomly assigning each an experimental group and a control group. The experimental group would receive the study tips and the control group would receive a random, unrelated ‘tip’. Currently, Mr. Gomez has a field experiment, which is ‘in the real world’. Random assignment will increase internal validity of the study by eliminating some confounding variables such as participant-relevant and situational-relevant confounding variables.

 Mode in group 1 is 3 while Mode in group 2 is 4

The measure of central tendency that you need to calculate the standard deviation is the mean.

The ethical flaw in the study is group 1 gained an unfair advantage over group 2. In addition, both groups were never informed about the study after it was conducted.

Metacognition is one’s ability to identify strengths and weaknesses in one’s thinking and behavior. For example, if one realizes that they are always late to appointments, they may begin to set extra reminders for themselves. If Mr. Gomez realizes that giving some students tips before their exams results in better results for his students, then he may apply this idea to all his classes, and may even inform other teachers of this finding.

If the teacher conducts this study as an experiment with the results being statistically significant, it means the results are not likely due to chance. The levels of the processing model focuses on the depth of processing involved in memory. Predicting that when a piece of information is processed more deeply, it will have a longer memory trace. By providing the study tips from the teacher, group 1 is able to process the information tested on the test more deeply, hence, increasing the likelihood of them remembering the pieces of information they need, which ultimately increases the likelihood of them doing well on the quiz.

2021 Set 2 Ap Psych Free Response

The motor cortex is a part of the frontal lobe that is associated with motor movements. Damian’s motor cortex will be active while he is executing the movements required for the game he is playing.

An algorithm is a step-by-step process that guarantees a result. Since Damian shares tips with his

friends of successful gaming strategies, he and his friends probably have an assortment of algorithms that guarantee them success at the game, demonstrated by them moving from one level to the next harder level.

Norms of reciprocity is when someone does something nice, the other is also going to do something in return. If he has done something nice for his friends before, his friends will likely help him and give him helpful tips that will make him a better videogamer.

Damian regularly applies the monocular depth cue of interposition when he correctly handles an

obstacle or opponent that is blocking another obstacle or opponent because he realizes that the object blocking the other object is closer than the other object.

If Damian continues to use the same mental set in harder levels, then he will probably stop progressing because he is using old strategies and techniques that worked previously, but that do not work in the current level.

A fixed-ratio schedule is when an organism is reinforced for every 2,3,4,5, etc., responses they give. Damian’s parents can give Damian an hour of playing time on his video game for every two college applicants he has filled out.

Free association is when a psychoanalyst asks the patient to speak about whatever comes to mind, hoping that the patients’ problems are spoken. A psychoanalyst would ask Damian to speak about whatever came to mind during their therapy session, hoping that Damian’s unconscious problems would reveal themselves to the psychoanalyst.

The independent variable in this study is asking participants to form mental images of word pairs.

The control group is Group B or those participants who were not told to form mental images of word pairs.

This type of research design is suitable because an experiment can establish a cause-and-effect

relationship between formation of mental imagery and memory.

The different standard deviations reveal that Group A’s scores were more similar or that the range was smaller among the scores. Group B’s larger standard deviation means that there was greater variance among the scores, which made the standard deviation greater.

The ethical flaw in this study is that Dr. Jones required students, as part of their course work, to be a part of the experimental. This is coercion.

The primacy effect is the phenomenon where by people are more likely to recall items at the start of a list. Participants are more likely to recall word pairs that they were presented first or earlier on in the experiment.

The levels of processing is the concept that images are shallowly processed, sounds also shallowly process, and meaning or stories are deeply processed. If the word pair a participant is given has meaning to them or a story can be made from the word pair, such as friend/cat (like a friendly cay), then they will be more likely to recall that word pair.