



**PSYC2061**  
**Practice Examination**  
**2021**

**1. Which definition is incorrect?**

- A. Genotypes are the unobservable inherited genetic material from parents
- B. Phenotypes are observable inherited traits and behaviours from parents
- C. Zygotes are the hundreds of cells that form after a sperm interacts with a mother's egg
- D. Alleles are determined by both parents, inheriting one allele from each parent

**2. What is characteristic of Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome?**

- A. Individual is XX genetically, but develops male features
- B. Individual is XX genetically, but is exposed to excessive levels of male hormones prenatally
- C. Individual is XY genetically, but develops female features
- D. Individual is XY genetically, but body does not detect male hormones

**3. At what age is sex differentiation complete?**

- A. 3 weeks
- B. 12 weeks
- C. 6 months
- D. 9 months

**4. What is the correct order of prenatal periods?**

- A. Germinal period → Embryonic period → Foetal period
- B. Embryonic period → Foetal period → Germinal period
- C. Foetal period → Germinal period → Embryonic period
- D. Embryonic period → Germinal period → Foetal period

**5. Which factor would increase chances of a preterm infant surviving?**

- A. They are lighter than heavier
- B. They are male
- C. They are born with a twin

- D. Their mother is given steroids

**6. What can increase the risk of preterm birth?**

- A. Mother conceiving child through IVF
- B. Mothers being aged in their 30s
- C. Mother giving birth for a second time
- D. Mother comes from a higher socioeconomic status

**7. Which of the following statements is false?**

- A. Babies prefer patterns over plain visual stimuli
- B. Babies prefer red over other colours
- C. Babies can better identify different shapes than adults
- D. Babies can better distinguish different faces of all races than adults

**8. At what age did infants start failing to distinguish between two different monkey faces?**

- A. 1 month
- B. 3 months
- C. 6 months
- D. 9 months

**9. Which description of infants' behaviour is correct?**

- A. Babies open their mouth when rubbed gently across their cheek for feeding
- B. Babies can hear their mothers' voices in the womb, but cannot learn about what they hear
- C. The smell of different mothers' milk is the same to each infant
- D. Babies have poor visual acuity at birth but it slowly develops over time

**10. The findings of the mobile conjugate reinforcement task, with a reminder and delay condition suggests that:**

- A. Infants' can only hold information for a maximum of three weeks
- B. Infant's information was unavailable in their memory stores
- C. Infants improve at an encoded task after a delay and reminder
- D. Infants need retrieval cues to recall information

**11. In the operant conditioning experiment, where babies were rewarded with their mother's voice when sucking rapidly on a pacifier, what type of conditioning was used?**

- A. Positive reinforcement
- B. Negative reinforcement
- C. Positive punishment
- D. Negative punishment

**12. Dweck and Mueller found that children who were praised by ability were more likely to**

- A. Be motivated by performance scores and learning strategies
- B. Embrace problem solving challenges and show greater persistence
- C. Attribute failure to lack of ability and misrepresent performance scores on low performance
- D. Persist after success and show greater conscientiousness

**13. Winston looks at himself in the mirror and describes himself as intelligent and humorous, albeit indecisive. This can be described as**

- A. High self-esteem
- B. Self-recognition
- C. Joint attention
- D. Self-representation

**14. Assuming all things are equal, who is most likely to have the highest self-esteem?**

- A. James, who is 5 years old attending preschool
- B. Emily, who is 16 and has just entered a new relationship
- C. John, who is 16 and has strict, authoritative parents
- D. Emma, who is 72 and living in a retirement village

**15. Which of the following is incorrect?**

- A. Children who experience process praise as toddlers are more likely to report that traits like IQ are malleable, they prefer challenges and attribute failure to lack of effort
- B. Directing praise at behaviour is beneficial for developing motivational constructs and ability to cope with failure later in life
- C. Process praise encourages individuals to attribute their performance to their IQ and talent
- D. Growth mindset interventions have not shown consistent replicability

**16. Which of the following best describes the findings of Baillargeon et al., (1985) moving screen task regarding object permanence?**

- A. Evolutionary theory
- B. Common sense
- C. Social comparison theory
- D. Social exchange theory

**17. Peter is at McDonalds and sees that there is a queue waiting in line to order. Despite feeling extremely hungry, he joins the queue and patiently waits in line, instead of barging in. Which theory of social psychology does this example best reflect?**

- A. Evolutionary theory
- B. Common sense
- C. Social comparison theory

D. Social exchange theory

**18. Which of the following statements about the Parental Investment Theory is false?**

- A. Females maximise reproductive sex by seeking more sexual partners with high reproductive potential
- B. Males are more interested in uncommitted sex and look for attractiveness and youth in partners
- C. Female reproduction involves substantial investment of time, energy and risk
- D. Male reproduction involves minimal investment of time, energy and risk

**19. Which of the following is not a challenge to social psychology?**

- A. Common sense often overrides the scientific method
- B. The rising movement of postmodernism which states that facts do not exist - only opinions
- C. Common sense is untestable, coincidental, lacks correlation and causation
- D. As humans are profoundly social creatures, isolation can have detrimental consequences on the individual, including psychotic symptoms

**20. The group-conflict model of intersectionality:**

- A. Is problematic because it creates exclusion
- B. Is a successful model of mobilising oppressed and privileged groups to create social justice
- C. Specifically aims to rectify cultural differences and establish unity between cultures
- D. Intersects extremist views to reach a middle ground

**21. Alan is at a cupcake festival, and is tasked with distributing 300 red velvet and 700 lemon-orange amongst the crowd. He has been told that the red-velvet cupcakes are premium cupcakes whilst the lemon-orange cupcakes are bitter and**

**leave a bad after-taste. Everyone at the festival has a name tag, labelled either Team A or Team B. Alan is in Team A. You would expect that:**

- A. Alan distributes more red velvet cupcakes to Team A
- B. Alan distributes more cupcakes overall to Team A
- C. Based on the universal principle of groupishness of humans, the distribution of cupcakes is equally distributed
- D. Alan deliberately ensures that all red velvet cupcakes are distributed to Team B only.

**22. Lauren recently hears news about a shark attack at Bondi Beach. Her friends ask her to hang out at the beach over the weekend, however, she refuses because beaches are prone to shark attacks. This best reflects:**

- A. Representativeness
- B. Availability bias
- C. Anchoring effect
- D. Heuristics

**23. Iris is a waitress at a cafe, and hands a warm glass of hot chocolate to a customer. You would expect that:**

- A. Iris judges the customer as more warm.
- B. Iris judges the customer as less warm than herself.
- C. Iris has an increased preference for hot food.
- D. None of the above

**24. In the Implicit Associations Test (IAT), why is it faster for English speakers to say English names paired with positive words compared to Arab names paired with positive words?**

- A. There are more negative implicit associations for majority than minority groups
- B. English names are more commonly heard than Arab names
- C. Arab names are more difficult to comprehend than English names, so they are linked to negative words
- D. There are more positive implicit associations for majority than minority groups

**25. What is NOT a characteristic of stereotypes?**

- A. Easily formed, often in adulthood
- B. Enduring and slow to change
- C. Can be both positive and negative
- D. Aids cognitive economy

**26. How do schemas' influence social cognition?**

- A. Provides framework for organising new information
- B. Persists despite disconfirming information
- C. None of the above
- D. A and B

**27. Dylan knows that he hasn't prepared sufficiently for his final exam tomorrow. He decides to go out clubbing as he believes he is going to do poorly anyways. This is an example of:**

- A. Self-sabotage
- B. Self-handicapping
- C. Motivational self-attribution
- D. Self-serving bias

**28. Which of the following statements is incorrect?**

- A. Misattribution of emotions are caused by biased heuristics

- B. Attributions are made based on inferences on our observed behaviour
- C. We have limited control over our cognitive processes
- D. Misattribution of arousal can be caused by heart rate

**29. If something is stable and externally produced, we attribute this to:**

- A. Effort
- B. Skill
- C. Luck
- D. Difficulty

**30. Internal attributions are:**

- A. High in distinctiveness and high in consistency
- B. High in consistency and high in consensus
- C. Low in distinctiveness and high in consistency
- D. Low in consensus and high in distinctiveness

**31. Language is indexical, meaning**

- A. Utterances are dependent on existing shared knowledge
- B. It is subject to change across time
- C. There are conversational rules that should be abided by to allow effective communication
- D. It serves to construct our reality

**32. Which of the following is not a unique feature of humans' construction of language?**

- A. Productivity
- B. Initial feedback
- C. Displacement
- D. Cultural transmission

**33. The difference between verbal and non-verbal communication is that:**

- A. Verbal communication is faster and more symbolic
- B. Non-verbal communication is poor at conveying emotions and attitudes
- C. Non verbal communication is poor at managing the situation and has limited channel control
- D. Verbal communication assumes high conscious control and is slower

**34. Chomsky's Nativist's theory states that language acquisition occurs because**

- A. Babies are born with a language device that allows them to learn language very quickly at a young age
- B. Babies' vocalisation of words and sentences is continually reinforced
- C. Babies are continuously interacting with the word and that once their verbal skills are ready, they replace previous non verbal forms of communication
- D. Babies quickly acquaint to spoken cultural and historical constructs

## ANSWERS/EXPLANATIONS

1. **C)** A zygote is a single cell that is formed when a sperm interacts with a mother's egg.
2. **D)** Rationale: Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome is characterised by an individual having XY sex chromosomes, but their body does not detect male hormones. On the other hand, Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia is characterised by an individual having XX sex chromosomes, but they are exposed to excessive levels of male hormones prenatally.
3. **B)** For the first 5-6 weeks, all prenatal babies only have X chromosomes, with Y chromosomes coming later at 7 weeks (if the baby is to become male). It is at 12 weeks that sex differentiation is fully complete.
4. **A)** Germinal period is where the zygote travels to the uterus, dividing and forming the blastocyst → Embryonic period follows, where the blastocyst implants in the uterine wall, where layers of cells differentiate to become different parts of the body → Foetal period is the last 7 months of rapid growth.
5. **D)** The three other options are all factors that decrease chances of the infant surviving.
6. **A)** The three other options are all factors that would not increase (or in the case of giving birth a second time or coming from a higher socioeconomic status, decrease) the risk of preterm birth.
7. **C)** Whilst babies can competently differentiate different or novel stimuli from each other, they have not been educated as to what each shape is (which adults have been educated in).
8. **D)** This is an example of perceptual narrowing; as infants become more familiar with human faces (and monkey faces), they find more difficulty in distinguishing between different faces. They are only able to competently distinguish between faces of their own race.
9. **A)** The other three statements are false; babies can hear their mothers' voices in the womb and learn about what they hear (like recognising mother's voice). Babies also distinguish between their own mother's milk from other mothers' breast milk. Babies have low visual acuity at birth, but it improves rapidly.
10. **D)** The experiment showed that babies did not forget information fully, but rather needed a retrieval cue (trigger) to help them recall the information - they would kick/play with the mobile only in the same condition in which they had formerly learned how to play with the mobile (i.e. with the same objects).
11. **A)** Positive reinforcement requires a pleasurable/rewarding stimulus to be introduced to consequently encourage an individual to continue showing a specific behaviour. In this scenario, the rewarding stimulus was the mother's voice, which encouraged/increased the frequency of babies sucking on a pacifier.
12. **C)** From lecture, self-explanatory.
13. **D)** Self-representation is being able to describe themselves and their feelings e.g. intelligent and humorous. It is a step above self-recognition, which is the ability to recognise that they are a separate entity to others.
14. **A)** Graph from lecture 3 shows that out of all the people mentioned above, children (James) have the highest self-esteem.
15. **C)** Process praise is a praise of effort rather than ability; this would have individuals attribute performance to their effort/work-ethic, rather than innate skills.
16. **A)** When the train appears to continue its trajectory behind the curtain (which is physically impossible because of the blockade), infants fixate their attention on the train for longer. The fact that babies are shocked by the phenomenon indicates that they somewhat understand that the event is impossible, showing an understanding of object permanence.

17. **C)** Social comparison theory states that we evaluate our behaviour based on the presence of others. In this case, the presence of other people and their behaviours informs Peter's decision to join the queue, agreeing with the consensus and not violating social norms to satisfy his hunger by barging in front.
18. **A)** is false. Females maximise reproductive sex by seeking partners willing to invest material resources in their offspring.
19. **D)** is simply a consequence of social isolation - not necessarily a conceptual challenge to the findings of social psychology posed by 'common sense wisdom' and postmodernism.
20. **A)** Intersectionality attempts to leverage oppressed people against privileged groups, often by directly excluding privileged groups. This is problematic because it generates conflict.
21. **A)** Minimal experiments show that even meaningless, arbitrary groups elicit spontaneous discrimination. Based on the meaningless group Alan is allocated to, you'd still expect him to show favouritism and distribute more of the 'better' cupcakes to Team A.
22. **B)** Availability bias is the tendency to overrepresent things that come easily to mind. Hearing the recent news story causes Lauren to disproportionately overestimate the danger of being attacked by a shark at the beach.
23. **A)** Embodiment occurs when bodily states have direct influence on social judgements, that is, holding something warm causes Iris to directly judge the customer as more warm.
24. **D)** These implicit (subconscious) associations are linked to our stereotypical ideas of different races, as majority groups are portrayed in a more positive light there are more positive associations for majority than minority groups.
25. **A)** Stereotypes are easily formed, often in childhood rather than adulthood.
26. **D)** Schemas influence social cognition by: providing framework for organising new information, saving us considerable mental effort, persists despite disconfirming information (perseverance effect) and promotes self-confirming effects (self-fulfilling prophecy).
27. **B)** This is self-handicapping because Dylan is using clubbing as a handy excuse for later failure.
28. **A)** Misattributions of emotions are caused by mixing physical arousal with incorrect cognitive labels - heuristics are mental short-cuts.
29. **D)** From lecture, straightforward.
30. **C)** Fundamental attribution theory occurs when people overestimate internal qualities and ignore the situation. Contestants in the game ignore the situation they are in - that is, they have the much more difficult task of answering questions, in contrast to the quizmaster who has an easy job of asking questions. In turn, they misattribute greater knowledge or intelligence to the quiz master.
31. **A)** Language is indexical, meaning it is dependent on shared knowledge and the specific context. For example, what one person says in one situation may have a completely different meaning if it was said in another situation.
32. **B)**
33. **D)**
34. **A)** Chomsky's Nativist theory states that babies are naturally born with a hard-wired language acquisition device (LAD).