7B THINKING & LANGUAGE
Practice Questions
/40
AP Psychology 12

1. Which term refers to all the mental activities associated with thinking, knowing, remembering, and communicating?
   A) schema
   B) heuristic
   C) cognition
   D) syntax
   E) language

2. When we use the word "automobile" to refer to a category of transport vehicles, we are using this word as a(n)
   A) mental set.
   B) heuristic.
   C) concept.
   D) algorithm.
   E) phoneme.

3. When we use the term *Hispanic* to refer to a category of people, we are using this word as a(n)
   A) concept.
   B) heuristic.
   C) algorithm.
   D) prototype.
   E) mental set.

4. By dividing broad concepts into increasingly smaller and detailed subgroupings, we create
   A) algorithms.
   B) category hierarchies.
   C) functional fixedness.
   D) overconfidence.
   E) prototypes.

5. A prototype is a
   A) mental grouping of similar objects, events, or people.
   B) step-by-step procedure for solving problems.
   C) best example of a particular category.
   D) simple thinking strategy for solving problems efficiently.
   E) new, novel item fitting an existing mental category.

6. With which of the following statements will people typically agree most quickly?
   A) A penguin is a bird.
   B) A goose is a bird.
   C) A robin is a bird.
   D) An ostrich is a bird.
   E) A flamingo is a bird.

7. An algorithm is a
   A) simple thinking strategy for making decisions quickly and efficiently.
   B) method of hypothesis testing involving trial and error.
   C) best example of a particular category.
   D) methodical step-by-step procedure for solving problems.
   E) specific kind of prototype.

8. Heuristics are
   A) methodical step-by-step procedures for solving problems.
   B) mental groupings of similar objects, events, or people.
   C) problem-solving strategies involving the use of trial and error.
   D) simple thinking strategies for solving problems quickly and efficiently.
   E) thinking strategies that often hasten insights.

9. A chess-playing computer program that routinely calculates all possible outcomes of all possible game moves best illustrates problem solving by means of
   A) the availability heuristic.
   B) belief perseverance.
   C) an algorithm.
   D) the representativeness heuristic.
   E) functional fixedness.

10. The sudden comprehension of the double meaning of a humorous pun best illustrates
    A) the representativeness heuristic.
    B) belief perseverance.
    C) the availability heuristic.
    D) the framing effect.
    E) insight.

11. Unlike the use of algorithms or heuristics, insight does not involve
    A) concepts.
    B) prototypes.
    C) cognition.
    D) strategy-based solutions.
    E) confirmation bias.

12. Intrinsic motivation is thought to be an important component of
    A) insight.
    B) creativity.
    C) the availability heuristic.
    D) functional fixedness.
    E) belief perseverance.

13. People have a tendency to search for information that supports their preconceptions. What do psychologists call this tendency?
    A) algorithm
    B) prototype
    C) confirmation bias
    D) functional fixedness
    E) linguistic determinism

14. Business managers are more likely to track the career achievements of those they once hired than the accomplishments of those they once rejected. This best illustrates
    A) the representativeness heuristic.
    B) functional fixedness.
    C) the framing effect.
    D) confirmation bias.
    E) belief bias.

15. The inability to take a new perspective on a problem is called
    A) confirmation bias.
    B) a fixation.
    C) a heuristic.
    D) the framing effect.
    E) a prototype.

16. A mental set is a
    A) methodical step-by-step procedure for solving problems.
    B) mental grouping of similar objects, events, or people.
    C) tendency to approach a problem in a way that has been successful in the past.
    D) group of conclusions derived from certain assumptions or general principles.
    E) specific way an issue is described that can significantly alter decisions.

17. Marlene forgot to bring a pillow on the camping trip, so she spent a very uncomfortable and restless night. Unfortunately, she never thought of using her down-filled jacket as a pillow. Marlene's oversight best illustrates
    A) confirmation bias.
    B) belief perseverance.
    C) functional fixedness.
    D) the availability heuristic.
    E) overconfidence.

18. The tendency to conclude that a person who likes to read poetry is more likely to be a college professor of classics than a truck driver illustrates the use of
    A) the availability heuristic.
    B) confirmation bias.
    C) the framing effect.
    D) belief perseverance.
    E) the representativeness heuristic.

19. Because Ken is 6'6", people often mistakenly assume that he must be a member of his high school basketball team. This mistaken judgment best illustrates the impact of
    A) confirmation bias.
    B) the belief perseverance phenomenon.
    C) the representativeness heuristic.
    D) the availability heuristic.
    E) framing.

20. Stockbrokers often believe that their own expertise will enable them to select stocks that will outperform the market average. This belief best illustrates
    A) functional fixedness.
    B) the framing effect.
    C) the representativeness heuristic.
    D) overconfidence.
    E) belief perseverance.

21. Research findings suggest that the best advice to give people who want to avoid belief perseverance is
    A) "Try to justify your positions."
    B) "Consider the opposite."
    C) "Don't draw hasty conclusions."
    D) "Be as objective as possible."
    E) "Never show your emotions."

22. In contrast to our explicit conscious reasoning, our seemingly effortless and automatic feelings or thoughts are called
    A) mental sets.
    B) phonemes.
    C) algorithms.
    D) intuitions.
    E) heuristics.

23. Framing refers to
    A) a methodical step-by-step procedure for solving problems.
    B) the way in which a problem or issue is phrased or worded.
    C) the grouping of similar objects, events, or people into a category.
    D) a simple thinking strategy for solving problems efficiently.
    E) judging the likelihood of an event based on how well it matches a prototype.

24. Language refers to the
    A) smallest distinctive sound units.
    B) rules for combining words into grammatically sensible sentences.
    C) spoken, written, or signed words and the ways they are combined to communicate meaning.
    D) rules by which we derive meaning from morphemes.
    E) ways we think about solving problems and communicating those solutions, including framing the issues.

25. How many phonemes are in the word "bats"?
    A) 0
    B) 1
    C) 2
    D) 3
    E) 4

26. When Fred pronounced the words "this" and "that," he noticed that they share a common
    A) prototype.
    B) phenotype.
    C) morpheme.
    D) algorithm.
    E) phoneme.

27. The smallest distinctive sound unit of language is a
    A) prototype.
    B) phenotype.
    C) morpheme.
    D) phoneme.
    E) babble.

28. Morphemes are
    A) the smallest speech units that carry meaning.
    B) the best examples of particular categories of objects.
    C) the smallest distinctive sound units of a language.
    D) rules for combining words into grammatically correct sentences.
    E) genetic road maps that lead to insight.

29. Semantics refers to the
    A) logical and methodical procedures for solving problems.
    B) orderly arrangement of words into grammatically correct sentences.
    C) simple thinking strategies that facilitate quick decision making.
    D) rules by which we derive meaning from morphemes, words, and sentences.
    E) typical schemes we use to form concepts.

30. During the earliest stage of speech development, infants
    A) speak in single words that may be barely recognizable.
    B) begin to imitate adult syntax.
    C) make speech sounds only if their hearing is unimpaired.
    D) make some speech sounds that do not occur in their parents' native language.
    E) use words that reflect the syntax of their parents' native language.

31. The spontaneous utterance of a variety of sounds by infants is called
    A) universal grammar.
    B) babbling.
    C) telegraphic speech.
    D) syntax.
    E) morpheme.

32. The system of rules in a language that enables us to understand and communicate with others is called
    A) an algorithm.
    B) telegraphic speech.
    C) grammar.
    D) a heuristic.
    E) morphemes.

33. Telegraphic speech is
    A) evident before babbling occurs.
    B) considered a form of receptive language.
    C) the smallest unit of language that carries meaning.
    D) a system of language rules for combining morphemes.
    E) a grammatically correct two-word utterance.

34. At some point during the babbling stage, infants begin to
    A) imitate adult grammar.
    B) make speech sounds only if their hearing is unimpaired.
    C) speak in simple words that may be barely recognizable.
    D) lose their ability to discriminate sounds they never hear.
    E) use phonemes.

35. B. F. Skinner emphasized the importance of _____ in language acquisition.
    A) heuristics
    B) algorithms
    C) reinforcement
    D) universal grammar
    E) cognition

36. Noam Chomsky has emphasized that the acquisition of language by children is facilitated by
    A) an inborn readiness to learn grammatical rules.
    B) their ability to imitate the words and grammar modeled by parents.
    C) the learned association of word sounds with various objects, events, actions, and qualities.
    D) the positive reinforcement that adults give children for speaking correctly.
    E) operant and classical conditioning techniques.

37. Which linguistic theorist was most impressed by the underlying similarities of all human language systems?
    A) B. F. Skinner
    B) Benjamin Lee Whorf
    C) Noam Chomsky
    D) Amos Tversky
    E) Wolfgang Köhler

38. Which of the following best illustrates overgeneralization in a young child's speech pattern?
    A) "Want juice."
    B) "Fish, Fish! Look at the fish!"
    C) "Da-da, na-na, ta-ta."
    D) "Doggy big."
    E) "Momma holded the baby."

39. Whorf's linguistic determinism hypothesis emphasizes that
    A) infancy is a critical period for language development.
    B) all languages share a similar grammar.
    C) our linguistic proficiencies influence our social status.
    D) words shape the way people think.
    E) morphemes and phonemes build grammar and language.

40. Bilingual children, who inhibit one language while using the other, can better inhibit their attention to irrelevant information. This has been called
    A) linguistic determinism.
    B) the language acquisition device.
    C) the bilingual advantage.
    D) process simulation.
    E) the semantic effect.

Answer Key - 7b Practice /40 Q's

1. C
2. C
3. A
4. B
5. C
6. C
7. D
8. D
9. C
10. E
11. D
12. B
13. C
14. D
15. B
16. C
17. C
18. E
19. C
20. D
21. B
22. D
23. B
24. C
25. D
26. E
27. D
28. A
29. D
30. D
31. B
32. C
33. E
34. D
35. C
36. A
37. C
38. E
39. D
40. C