

Unit 4: Sensation & Perception
PARANORMAL PSYCHOLOGY REVIEW

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Sensation is to _____ as perception is to _____.
 - A) encoding; detection
 - B) detection; interpretation
 - C) interpretation; organization
 - D) organization; accommodation
 - E) threshold; transduction

2. The effect of prior experience and current expectations on perception best illustrates the importance of
 - A) accommodation.
 - B) transduction.
 - C) sensory thresholds.
 - D) top-down processing.
 - E) sensation.

3. Bottom-up processing involves analysis that begins with the
 - A) optic nerve.
 - B) sensory receptors.
 - C) cerebral cortex.
 - D) feature detectors.
 - E) occipital lobe.

4. As the brain receives information about the lines, angles, and edges of objects in the environment, higher-level cells process and interpret the information to consciously recognize objects. This process best illustrates
 - A) sensation.
 - B) bottom-up processing.
 - C) perception.
 - D) selective attention.
 - E) psychophysics.

5. Parapsychology refers to the
- A) study of phenomena such as ESP and psychokinesis.
 - B) study of perceptual illusions.
 - C) study of the phi phenomenon.
 - D) direct transmission of thoughts from one mind to another.
 - E) direct transduction of energy into neural impulses.
6. The study of phenomena such as clairvoyance and telepathy is called
- A) parapsychology.
 - B) Gestalt psychology.
 - C) human factors psychology.
 - D) ESP.
 - E) perceptual adaptation.
7. ESP refers to
- A) perception that occurs apart from sensory input.
 - B) the ability to move objects without touching them.
 - C) a readiness to perceive an object in a distorted fashion.
 - D) the ability of our brain to use feature detectors.
 - E) how we perceive patterns through neural images.
8. Telepathy refers to the
- A) extrasensory transmission of thoughts from one mind to another.
 - B) extrasensory perception of events that occur at places remote to the perceiver.
 - C) perception of future events, such as a person's fate.
 - D) ability to understand and share the emotions of another person.
 - E) ability to move objects through the power of thinking.
9. Jamal claims that his special psychic powers enable him to perceive exactly where the body of a recent murder victim is secretly buried. Jamal is claiming to possess the power of
- A) psychokinesis.
 - B) precognition.
 - C) telepathy.
 - D) clairvoyance.
 - E) transduction.

10. Margo insists that her dreams frequently enable her to perceive and predict future events. Margo is claiming to possess the power of
- A) telepathy.
 - B) clairvoyance.
 - C) precognition.
 - D) psychokinesis.
 - E) transduction.
11. Andre claims that he can make a broken watch begin to run again simply by entering a state of intense mental concentration. Andre is claiming to possess the power of
- A) precognition.
 - B) telepathy.
 - C) clairvoyance.
 - D) psychokinesis.
 - E) transduction.
12. Shauna claims that she knows at any given moment exactly what important political figures are thinking. Shauna is claiming to possess the power of
- A) telepathy.
 - B) precognition.
 - C) psychokinesis.
 - D) clairvoyance.
 - E) transduction.
13. Clairvoyance refers to the
- A) extrasensory transmission of thoughts from one mind to another.
 - B) extrasensory perception of events that occur at places remote to the perceiver.
 - C) perception of future events, such as a person's fate.
 - D) ability to understand and share the emotions of another person.
 - E) ability to interpret neural patterns as perceptions.
14. Rudy claims that his special psychic powers enable him to correctly anticipate whether the outcome of a coin toss will be heads or tails. Rudy is claiming to possess the power of
- A) psychokinesis.
 - B) clairvoyance.
 - C) telepathy.
 - D) precognition.
 - E) transduction.

15. Farouk insists that by intense mental concentration he can actually influence the mechanically generated outcomes of slot machines. Farouk is most specifically claiming to possess the power of
- A) telepathy.
 - B) clairvoyance.
 - C) psychokinesis.
 - D) precognition.
 - E) transduction.
16. Which of the following is true of psychics who have worked with police departments in an effort to solve difficult crimes?
- A) They have demonstrated the value of clairvoyance.
 - B) They have used telepathy to read the mind of the criminal.
 - C) They have used precognition to forewarn the police of criminal acts.
 - D) They have provided useful predictions using all their powers in 90 percent of the cases.
 - E) They have reported visions that are no more accurate than guesses.
17. Psychologists are skeptical about the existence of ESP because
- A) ESP researchers frequently accept evidence that they know is fraudulent.
 - B) there is no way to scientifically test claims of ESP.
 - C) many apparent demonstrations of ESP have been shown to be staged illusions.
 - D) ESP experiments show the impact of ESP, but correlational studies do not.
 - E) researchers have difficulty finding participants for ESP studies.
18. The greatest difficulty facing contemporary parapsychology is the
- A) inability to subject claims of ESP to scientific testing.
 - B) lack of a reproducible ESP phenomenon.
 - C) willingness of many experts to accept fraudulent evidence.
 - D) difficulty of persuading many ordinary people that there really is such a thing as ESP.
 - E) challenges to the ethics of most ESP experiments using human subjects.
19. Psychologists are skeptical about ESP claims because
- A) studies claiming to demonstrate such abilities fail at replication.
 - B) parapsychologists accept fraudulent evidence.
 - C) such abilities cannot be tested scientifically.
 - D) researchers have difficulty finding participants for such research.
 - E) ethical concerns make testing such abilities relatively impossible.

16) Last night one of your mother's best friends was involved in a car accident. Your mother feels guilty because three days ago she dreamed of such an accident but failed to warn her friend. How would you explain your mother's experience? What advice would you give her? Explain what is wrong with your friend's belief.

17) What are the THREE claims of ESP? Define and explain each.

18) Explain what psychokinesis is.

19) Who is James Randi and what was he offering to do in the field of parapsychology & ESP? Explain.

20) What do YOU think about claims of ESP and the paranormal? What 'evidence' might confirm or deny your views? Explain. :)

21) Do you or do you not believe in the paranormal? :)

Answer Key



1. B
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. A
7. A
8. A
9. D
10. C
11. D
12. A
13. B
14. D
15. C
16. E
17. C
18. B
19. A
20. Students should explain that studies do not support the claim that predictive dreams (or any other “extra sensory perception” phenomena) occur. When tested, dreams do not appear to predict the future any better than random chance would predict. The dream may seem vivid and predictive to the friend's mother because of the coincidence of the car accident, but she should be reminded of all her dreams that did not come true.