Memory, Cognition and Language Review

These are all the questions from the past three topics covered in class that have appeared on previous AP exams. Please think critically while you are answering the questions and be prepared to grade your papers in class and support your answer selection.

Memory

1. The brain scans of people with amnesia are most likely to show damage to the
   a. Hippocampus
   b. Hypothalamus
   c. Medulla
   d. Reticular formation
   e. Cerebellum

2. In a memory study, the experimenter reads the same list of words to two groups. She asks group A to count the letters in each word, and she asks group B to focus on the meaning of each word for a later memory quiz. During a recall test, participants in group B later recall significantly more words than participants in group A. Memory researchers attribute this effect to differences in
   a. Priming
   b. Levels of encoding/processing
   c. Proactive interference
   d. Procedural/implicit memory
   e. Episodic memory

3. A person assembling a tool one week after reading the instructions can remember the first and last steps of the procedure but not the middle ones. This best illustrates which of the following?
   a. Encoding failure
   b. Social facilitation
   c. Retrograde amnesia
   d. Repression
   e. The serial position effect

4. Memory for automatic activities, such as bike riding and handwriting, is known as
   a. Declarative
   b. Semantic
   c. Sensory
   d. Procedural/implicit
   e. Repressed

5. A sudden inability to remember how to tie a certain kind of knot indicated a deficit in which kind of memory?
   a. Declarative
   b. Semantic
   c. Iconic
   d. Episodic
   e. Implicit

6. People who have difficulty remembering recently learned materials because of similar information learned earlier in life are demonstrating the phenomenon of
   a. Cue-dependent forgetting
   b. Repression
   c. Reconstruction
   d. Retroactive interference
   e. Proactive interference

7. The feeling that you know someone’s name, but cannot quite recall it, is an example of
   a. The tip-of-the-tongue phenomenon
   b. The serial position effect
   c. State-dependent memory
   d. Retrograde amnesia
   e. Anterograde amnesia

8. Which of the following increases the chance that an individual will remember a phone number that has been called several times within a short period?
   a. Spacing
   b. Retrieval
   c. Rehearsal
   d. Free recall
   e. Spontaneous recovery
9. In memory experiments on free recall, the recency effect refers specifically to the
   a. Enhanced recall of items at the beginning of a list of words
   b. Enhanced recall of items at the end of a list of words
   c. Enhanced recall of items in the middle of a list of words
   d. Diminished recall of items at the end of a list of words
   e. Diminished recall of items at the beginning of a list of words

10. Which of the following Freudian constructs is believed to protect the organism from anxiety by making memories inaccessible?
   a. Ego ideal
   b. Pleasure principle
   c. Primary-process thinking
   d. Repression
   e. Superego

11. The psychoanalytic concept of repression suggests difficulty in the functioning of which aspect of memory?
   a. Encoding
   b. Short-term memory
   c. Procedural/implicit memory
   d. Explicit memory
   e. Retrieval

12. Chuck recalls the day last summer when he fell off his bicycle and scraped his knee. This is an example of
   a. Iconic memory
   b. Procedural/implicit memory
   c. Semantic memory
   d. Episodic memory
   e. Short-term memory

13. The basic assumption underlying short-term memory is that it is
   a. Limited in capacity
   b. Unlimited in capacity
   c. Long-lasting
   d. Not under conscious control
   e. Resistant to decay

14. Which process must occur in order to transfer information from sensory to short-term memory?
   a. Attention
   b. Cognition
   c. Differentiation
   d. Perception
   e. Sensation

15. If Juan tried to learn a long list of words, he would be most likely to forget words that
   a. Appeared early in the list
   b. Appeared near the end of the list
   c. Appeared in the middle of the list
   d. Were very unlike the rest of the words
   e. Were randomly dispersed throughout the list

16. According to the information processing view of memory, the first state in memory processing involves
   a. Retrieval
   b. Storage
   c. Rehearsal
   d. Encoding
   e. Transfer

17. John suffered a head injury in an accident five years ago. He now has clear memories of events that occurred before the accident, but he has great difficulty remembering any of the experiences he has had since the accident. John’s symptoms describe
   a. Anterograde amnesia
   b. Broca’s aphasia
   c. Cue-dependent forgetting
1. Failure to recognize that an object typically not used for a particular purpose can, in fact, serve that purpose illustrates which of the following?
   a. Schema
   b. Functional fixedness
   c. Availability
   d. Insight
   e. Confirmation bias

2. A group of friends watched a recent episode of a crime investigation show and concluded that they would have been able to figure out who was responsible for a crime more proficiently than did the television investigators. The friends’ overestimation of their ability to determine who committed the crime based on the knowledge of the final outcome of the case is most likely due to a reasoning error known as
   a. The availability heuristic
   b. Hindsight bias
   c. Confirmation bias
   d. Cognitive dissonance
   e. Actor-observer bias

3. When confronted with the sequence “___ N ____” at the end of a word in a crossword puzzle, Tony insets the letters “I” and “G” in the two blanks because that procedure has often led to the correct answer in previous puzzles. This example illustrates the use of
   a. Mental rotation
   b. Elaborative rehearsal
   c. A heuristic
   d. A prototype
   e. A syllogism

4. Of the following topics, which would a cognitive psychologist be most likely to study?
   a. Conformity behavior of college students
   b. Genetic determinants of behavior
   c. Problem-solving strategies in chess
   d. Personnel selection problems
   e. Maturational processes in adolescent development

5. An individual uses a paper clip to unlock the door to her house because she has misplaced her key. This individual’s approach to solving the problem avoids
   a. Syllogistic reasoning
   b. Inductive reasoning
   c. Deductive reasoning
   d. Functional fixedness
   e. Means-end analysis

6. When asked which of two countries has a larger population, participants are likely to judge the country that is more familiar to them as being more populous. Which of the following best explains this finding?
   a. A means-end analysis
   b. Representative Bias
   c. Availability Bias
   d. Algorithms
   e. Inductive reasoning

7. When trying to solve a problem, Bret uses a logical, step-by-step formula called
   a. A heuristic
   b. Incubation
   c. Insight
   d. Priming
   e. An algorithm
8. Brad hears a report on the evening news that diets low in carbohydrates are beneficial to one’s health. Considering this advice, he begins such a diet. Later he hears another report condemning this diet as harmful to one’s health. Based upon research on belief perseverance, how would Brad respond to his new information?
   a. Decide to begin a low-calorie diet and increase his physical activity.
   b. Believe the second news story and discontinue his diet
   c. Study low-carbohydrate diets on his own
   d. Continue to believe in the beneficial effects of low-carbohydrate diets
   e. Decide to try a high-carbohydrate diet instead

9. Processing every possible combination of the letters DBRI to arrive at the word BIRD is an example of the use of
   a. An algorithm
   b. An expert system
   c. An inference rule
   d. A hypothesis
   e. A heuristic

Language

1. Which of the following is an example of prelinguistic event that usually begins around the age of 4 months?
   a. Telegraphic speech
   b. Motherese
   c. Babbling
   d. Holophrasing
   e. Paraphrasing

2. All human languages have several basic sounds in common called
   a. Pheromones
   b. Semantic units
   c. Syntactic units
   d. Morphemes
   e. Phonemes

3. Whorf’s linguistic relativity hypothesis suggests which of the following?
   a. People of different cultures use similar words for common objects.
   b. Languages with many words to describe certain phenomena lack deep structure.
   c. The number of phonemes used in spoken language is universal across cultures.
   d. People of cultures with few words to describe phenomena are most precise in their descriptions.
   e. Speakers of different languages think differently due to the differences in their languages.

4. The two sentences “Elena won the race” and “The race was won by Elena” share which of the following structures?
   a. Sentence
   b. Syntactic
   c. Surface
   d. Semantic
   e. Phonemic

5. When the word “walk” is changed to “walked,” the suffix “ed” is an example of a
   a. Morpheme
   b. Phoneme
   c. Lexicon
   d. Syntax
   e. Language acquisition device