PRACTICE EXAM
AP Psychology
Unit Exam #1
Modules 1 - 7

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS EXAM!!

Multiple Choice: You will have 70 minutes to complete this exam. Please select the letter of the best answer and write it on your own paper. Answers are on the last sheet.

1. Signal reception is to ________ as signal transmission is to ________.
   A) interneuron; neural network
   B) dendrite; axon
   C) neurotransmitter; hormone
   D) sympathetic nervous system; parasympathetic nervous system

2. Compared with Asian parents, North American parents today place:
   A) more emphasis on obedience and less emphasis on family loyalty.
   B) less emphasis on obedience and more emphasis on family loyalty.
   C) more emphasis on obedience and more emphasis on family loyalty.
   D) less emphasis on obedience and less emphasis on family loyalty.

3. Faustin, a member of his college's golf team, has an opportunity to play against a nationally acclaimed professional golfer. How many holes of golf should Faustin choose to play with the professional in order to maximize his own slim chances of winning?
   A) 9  B) 18  C) 27  D) 36

4. Motor neurons are to the ________ nervous system as interneurons are to the ________ nervous system.
   A) sympathetic; parasympathetic
   B) central; peripheral
   C) parasympathetic; sympathetic
   D) peripheral; central

5. Messages are transmitted from your spinal cord to your digestive system's stomach muscles by the:
   A) endocrine system.
   B) central nervous system.
   C) sympathetic nervous system.
   D) somatic nervous system.

6. In two older brain regions, the brain is most likely to compensate for a loss of neurons by:
   A) generating new brain cells.
   B) increasing the speed of the action potential.
   C) inhibiting the growth of glial cells.
   D) decreasing the production of acetylcholine.
7. The release of epinephrine into the bloodstream is most likely to:
   A) lower blood sugar.         C) stimulate digestion.
   B) lower blood pressure.      D) accelerate heartbeat.

8. Daniel and Donald are identical twins who were separated at birth and raised in different countries. When they were finally reunited for the first time as adults, the men were amazed to discover that they were both plumbers, both avid tennis players, and both addicted to chocolates. The men would be best advised to recognize the danger of:
   A) randomly sampling their life experiences.
   B) attributing these three similarities to chance.
   C) perceiving order in random events.
   D) assuming that most people share their attitudes and interests.

9. The remarkable academic and vocational successes of the children of refugee “boat people” from Vietnam and Cambodia best illustrate the importance of:
   A) individualism.         C) family environment.
   B) loyalty.               D) personal space.

10. The SQ3R method encourages students to:
    A) read each text chapter quickly in order to minimize boredom.
    B) read each text chapter without any preconceptions about what they might learn.
    C) survey a text chapter's organization before actually reading the chapter itself.
    D) read entire text chapters at one sitting in order to maximize comprehension.

11. A specification of a researcher's experimental procedures is known as a(n): 
    A) principle.         C) operational definition.
    B) replication.     D) hypothesis.

12. Animal researchers are more likely to support regulations protecting:
    A) the well-being of birds than the well-being of dogs.
    B) the well-being of cats than the well-being of mice.
    C) the well-being of insects than the well-being of fish.
    D) the well-being of snakes than the well-being of rats.

13. As the size of a sample ________, the size of the standard deviation is most likely to ________.
    A) increases; increase         C) decreases; remain the same
    B) increases; decrease        D) increases or decreases; remain the same

14. Postmodernism is most likely to question the possibility of:
    A) naturalistic observation.        C) critical thinking.
    B) social consensus.       D) scientific objectivity.

15. The depolarization of an axon is most likely to occur when:
    A) positively charged ions rush into the axon.  C) positively charged ions rush out of the axon.
    B) negatively charged ions rush into the axon. D) negatively charged ions rush out of the axon.
16. Seven members of a girls' club reported the following individual earnings from their sale of raffle tickets: $5, $9, $4, $11, $6, $4, and $3. In this distribution of individual earnings, the:
A) median is greater than the mean and greater than the mode.
B) median is less than the mean and less than the mode.
C) median is greater than the mean and less than the mode.
D) median is less than the mean and greater than the mode.

17. Those who inappropriately attribute children's troubling personality traits to inadequate parental nurture should be reminded of the importance of:
A) gender patterns. B) temperament. C) tend and befriend. D) chromosomes.

18. Psychologists study animals because:
A) they want to understand how different species think and behave.
B) animal physiology is often simpler and easier to understand than human physiology.
C) it is ethically more acceptable to conduct certain types of research with animals than with humans.
D) all of the above are true.

19. Natassia believes that boys learn to be more aggressive than girls primarily because boys are more frequently exposed to external pressures to fight. Natassia's belief most directly exemplifies the ________ perspective.
A) behavioral B) cognitive C) psychodynamic D) neuroscience

20. Neurotransmitter receptor sites are primarily located on the:

21. In order to learn about the political attitudes of all students enrolled at Arizona State University, Professor Marlow randomly selected 800 of these students to complete a questionnaire. In this instance, all the students enrolled at Arizona State University are considered to be a(n):
A) independent variable. B) representative sample. C) control condition. D) population.

22. The part of the left temporal lobe that is involved in understanding language is known as:
A) Broca's area. B) the amygdala. C) Wernicke's area. D) the hippocampus.

23. What will most likely happen as a neurosurgeon sedates the entire right cerebral hemisphere of a right-handed patient who is asked to count aloud with both arms extended upward?
A) The patient's left arm will fall limp and he will become speechless.
B) The patient's right arm will fall limp and he will become speechless.
C) The patient's left arm will fall limp but he will continue counting aloud.
D) The patient's right arm will fall limp but he will continue counting aloud.

24. One would not observe unusually high rates of divorce in cultures that promote:
A) collectivism. B) ethnic diversity. C) personal privacy. D) individual human rights.
25. Assessing the relative effects of nature and nurture on individual differences in personality would be of most direct interest to:
   A) evolutionary psychologists.  
   B) gender schema theorists.  
   C) behavior geneticists.  
   D) Freudian psychologists.

26. If psychologists were to find that we are especially attracted to people whose traits are different from our own, this discovery would likely seem obvious and unsurprising to college students because:
   A) most students have had many personal experiences in which they were attracted to people quite different from themselves.  
   B) this finding is consistent with common sense.  
   C) college students are themselves very eager to interact with those who are different from themselves.  
   D) students, like everyone else, have a tendency to exaggerate their ability to have foreseen the outcome of past discoveries.

27. In order to calculate the numerical value of the standard deviation, it would be most reasonable to first compute the value of the:
   A) mean.  
   B) mode.  
   C) correlation coefficient.  
   D) median.

28. Which of the following psychologists most clearly rejected the value of introspection?
   A) Wundt  
   B) Titchener  
   C) Watson  
   D) James

29. Christine, who is opposed to capital punishment, was extremely surprised to learn that the results of a survey indicated that the majority of the population approved of capital punishment. Christine's surprise best illustrates the power of:
   A) the false consensus effect.  
   B) the placebo effect.  
   C) the double-blind procedure.  
   D) random sampling.

30. Parents in Westernized cultures are more likely than parents in Asian cultures to encourage children to value:
   A) nonconformity.  
   B) gender roles.  
   C) cultural traditions.  
   D) enduring friendships.

31. Scientists who defend the use of animals in experimental research typically claim that:
   A) the well-being of humans should be placed above the well-being of animals.  
   B) competent scientists have no justifiable reason to inflict pain on animals.  
   C) animals should be used only in research that directly benefits the animals involved.  
   D) allegations that pain is sometimes inflicted on animals are simply untrue.

32. Behavior is to mental processes as ________ is to ________.
   A) nature; nurture  
   B) sensation; memory  
   C) talking; understanding  
   D) structuralism; functionalism
33. The dependent variable in an experiment is the factor:
   A) that is directly manipulated by the investigator.
   B) that may be influenced by the experimental treatment.
   C) whose effect is being studied.
   D) that causes the behavior being studied.

34. Adopted children grow up to be ________ self-giving and altruistic than average, and they typically score ________ than their biological parents on the intelligence tests.
   A) more; lower   B) less; higher   C) more; higher   D) less; lower

35. Professor Reed attempts to assess the relative contributions of heredity and home environment on children's susceptibility to depression. Her research best illustrates the concerns of the ________ perspective.
   A) psychodynamic   B) behavior genetics   C) cognitive   D) behavioral

36. Psychologists report that there are gender differences in our risk of:
   A) alcoholism.   B) depression.   C) eating disorders.   D) all the above.

37. People can simultaneously process many aspects of sensory information such as color, shape, and size. This best illustrates the functioning of multiple:

38. During a mixed-sex group conversation, men are more likely than women to:
   A) stare at members of the opposite sex.   C) interrupt other speakers.
   B) determine what topics to discuss.   D) do all the above.

39. In reporting the effect of alcohol consumption on self-consciousness, psychological researchers would specify exactly how they measured self-consciousness. They are thereby providing a(n):
   A) experimental hypothesis.   C) double-blind procedure.
   B) case study.   D) operational definition.

40. Returning personal favors to those who have shown you kindness is especially likely to be emphasized in cultures characterized by:
   A) gender schemas.   C) an achievement orientation.
   B) collectivism.   D) individualism.

41. Genes form templates for the production of:

42. In order to study the development of relationships, Dr. Rajiv carefully observed and recorded patterns of verbal and nonverbal behaviors among men and women in singles bars. Which research method did Dr. Rajiv employ?
   A) naturalistic observation   C) the case study
   B) the survey   D) experimentation

43. Hypotheses are best described as:
44. Dr. Winkle conducts basic research on the systematic changes in intelligence associated with aging. It is most likely that Dr. Winkle is a(n) ________ psychologist.
   A) biological  C) developmental
   B) social  D) industrial/organizational

45. Animal research has revealed a general reward system that triggers the release of the neurotransmitter:
   A) ACh.  B) GABA.  C) dopamine.  D) epinephrine.

46. Functionalism is to structuralism as ________ is to ________.
   A) Plato; Aristotle  C) William James; Edward Titchener
   B) John Locke; René Descartes  D) John Watson; Sigmund Freud

47. Professor Woo noticed that the distribution of students' scores on her last biology test had an extremely small standard deviation. This indicates that the:
   A) test was given to a very small class of students.
   B) test was a poor measure of the students' knowledge.
   C) students generally performed very well on the test.
   D) students' scores tended to be very similar to one another.

48. Evolutionary psychologists emphasize that environmentally adaptive behaviors are those that have promoted:
   A) reproductive success.  C) cultural diversity.
   B) personal happiness.  D) individuality.

49. The venom of the black widow spider causes violent muscle contractions by accelerating the release of:
   A) acetylcholine.  B) serotonin.  C) endorphins.  D) epinephrine.

50. In order for you to be able to run, ________ must relay messages from your central nervous system to your leg muscles.
   A) interneurons  C) sensory neurons
   B) motor neurons  D) the autonomic nervous system

51. In a class lecture, Professor Hampton emphasized the extent to which abnormal blood chemistry can contribute to psychological disorders. The professor's lecture highlighted a ________ perspective on psychological disorders.
   A) psychodynamic  B) neuroscience  C) social-cultural  D) cognitive

52. Individualism is to collectivism as ________ is to ________.
   A) responsibility; freedom  C) selfless; selfish
   B) industrialization; democracy  D) self-flattery; personal modesty

53. In which brain structure are nerves from the left side of the brain routed to the right side of the body?
   A) thalamus  B) cerebellum  C) amygdala  D) brainstem

54. Male self-identity is to ________ as female self-identity is to ________.
   A) norms; roles  C) temperament; heritability
   B) X chromosome; Y chromosome  D) independence; interdependence
55. If half the students at Quincy College have blue eyes, which of the following events is most probable?  
A) In a Quincy College class consisting of 15 students, 80% or more have blue eyes.  
B) In a Quincy College class consisting of 30 students, 80% or more have blue eyes.  
C) In a Quincy College class consisting of 45 students, 80% or more have blue eyes.  
D) All the above are equally probable.

56. Parents should not take too much blame for the failures and shortcomings of their children because:  
A) their child-rearing mistakes simply reflect that they were not properly raised by their own parents.  
B) children typically fail on purpose in order to establish a healthy independence from parents.  
C) child-rearing practices have little effect on children's beliefs and values.  
D) parental behavior is only one of many factors that influence children's behavior.

57. The heritability of a specific trait will be lowest among:  
A) genetically similar individuals who have been raised in similar environments.  
B) genetically similar individuals who have been raised in dissimilar environments.  
C) genetically dissimilar individuals who have been raised in similar environments.  
D) genetically dissimilar individuals who have been raised in dissimilar environments.

58. An all-or-none response pattern is characteristic of the:  
A) activation of either the sympathetic or the parasympathetic system.  
B) release of endorphins into the central nervous system.  
C) release of hormones into the bloodstream.  
D) initiation of neural impulses.

59. Adoptive parents are most likely to influence the _______ of their adopted children.  
A) political attitudes  B) gender identity  C) extraversion  D) temperament

60. Compared to children raised in Westernized cultures, children in many Asian cultures grow up with a strong sense of:  
A) self-consciousness.  C) self-esteem.  
B) gender identity.  D) social connectedness.

61. The evolutionary perspective is to _______ as the behavioral perspective is to _______.  
A) observation; introspection  C) structuralism; functionalism  
B) nature; nurture  D) unconscious mind; conscious mind

62. The parietal lobes are to _______ as the occipital lobes are to _______.  
A) hearing; speaking  C) tasting; smelling  
B) sensing touch; seeing  D) speaking; seeing

63. When provided with the unscrambled solution to anagrams, people underestimate the difficulty of solving the anagrams by themselves. This best illustrates:  
A) the I-knew-it-all-along phenomenon.  C) the placebo effect.  
B) critical thinking.  D) overconfidence.
64. An evolutionary psychologist would be likely to suggest that human preferences for sweet-tasting foods:
   A) have hindered human reproduction.  
   B) are genetically predisposed.  
   C) vary widely across cultures.  
   D) are influenced by gender.

65. Carlos was born with cataracts in both eyes. Even though they were removed when he was 5, his lack of visual experiences during early childhood makes it likely that he has experienced:
   A) degeneration of neural connections in visual reception areas of the brain.  
   B) an inability to develop heritable traits.  
   C) difficulty incorporating new experiences into existing schemas.  
   D) a massive loss of sensory neurons.

66. Our selective exposure to those life experiences that are best suited to our unique temperaments best illustrates the interaction of:
   A) genes and chromosomes.  
   B) nature and nurture.  
   C) natural selection and mutation.  
   D) neural connections and maturation.

67. In which of the following countries do people generally prefer to maintain the largest personal space?
   A) France  
   B) England  
   C) Mexico  
   D) Saudi Arabia

68. Direct stimulation of the motor cortex would be most likely to result in:
   A) feelings of anger.  
   B) acceleration of heartbeat.  
   C) a sensation of being touched on the arm.  
   D) movement of the mouth and lips.

69. The inheritance of behavioral characteristics was emphasized by:
   A) John Locke.  
   B) John Watson.  
   C) Charles Darwin.  
   D) B. F. Skinner.

70. The study of inner thoughts and feelings is to the study of observable behavior as _______ is to _______.
   A) Titchener; Watson  
   B) Aristotle; Plato  
   C) Watson; Freud  
   D) Freud; Titchener

71. Neurotransmitters bind to receptor sites and influence the flow of _______ into receiving neurons.
   A) ions  
   B) reflexes  
   C) vesicles  
   D) hormones

72. In order to assess the effectiveness of flu vaccine for county residents, Mr. Carlson thinks it would be more reasonable to administer vaccine injections to all county residents than to give half of them a placebo injection. Mr. Carlson is most clearly underestimating the importance of:
   A) testing a large sample  
   B) operationally defining his procedures  
   C) replicating observations of other researchers  
   D) creating a control condition

73. Seizures are likely to be associated with an:
   A) undersupply GABA and an oversupply of glutamate.  
   B) oversupply GABA and an undersupply of glutamate.  
   C) undersupply GABA and an undersupply of glutamate.  
   D) oversupply GABA and an oversupply of glutamate.
74. A picture of a cat is briefly flashed in the left visual field and a picture of a mouse is briefly flashed in the right visual field of a split-brain patient. The individual will be able to use her:
   A) right hand to indicate she saw a cat. C) right hand to indicate she saw a mouse.
   B) left hand to indicate she saw a mouse. D) left or right hand to indicate she saw a cat.

75. Identical twins separated at birth and raised in completely different cultures would be most likely to have similar:
   A) political attitudes. B) religious beliefs. C) temperaments. D) norms.

76. According to Professor Bolden, his experimental research demonstrates that eating an apple every day improves children's reading skills. How might he best offer further support for the dependability of this finding?
   A) replication B) naturalistic observation C) critical thinking studies D) interview participants

77. Paralysis triggered by botulin poisoning is most likely to be relieved by a(n):
   A) ACh agonist. B) serotonin agonist. C) ACh antagonist. D) serotonin antagonist.

78. The sympathetic nervous system:
   A) stimulates digestion and slows heartbeat. B) inhibits digestion and accelerates heartbeat.
   C) stimulates digestion and accelerates heartbeat. D) inhibits digestion and slows heartbeat.

79. The movement of positively charged ions across the membrane of a neuron can produce a(n):

80. Working in a community mental health center, Dr. Thatcher treats adults who suffer from severe depression. Dr. Thatcher is most likely a(n) _______ psychologist.
   A) personality B) industrial/organizational C) clinical D) developmental

81. The process of comparing currently experienced visual input with past visual memories takes place in:
   A) Broca's area. B) the sensory cortex. C) association areas. D) the limbic system.

82. According to gender schema theory, children become gender-typed because they:
   A) identify most strongly with their same-sex parent. B) perceive much of reality in terms of masculinity and femininity.
   C) are unable to assume the perspective of the opposite sex. D) grow up in an individualistic culture.

83. Performing scientific research involves brain activity in the _______ cerebral hemisphere(s); solving geometry problems involves brain activity in the _______ cerebral hemisphere(s).
   A) left; right B) right; left C) left; right and left D) right and left; right and left
84. Research participants who carefully observe and report their immediate reactions and feelings in response to different musical sounds are using the method known as:

85. Left hemisphere damage to Wernicke's area is most likely to contribute to:

86. Prozac is an antidepressant drug that increases the level of the neurotransmitter:
A) GABA. B) ACh. C) serotonin. D) dopamine.

87. On extended visits to foreign countries, you would be most likely to observe:
A) more men than women in leadership positions. B) women earning the same amount of money as men. C) men and women equally involved in child care. D) men and women equally involved in violent crime.

88. James Olds discovered that rats would willingly cross an electrified floor in order to electrically stimulate areas within their:

89. Stimulated digestion is to inhibited digestion as the ________ nervous system is to the ________ nervous system.
A) somatic; autonomic. B) autonomic; somatic. C) sympathetic; parasympathetic. D) parasympathetic; sympathetic.

90. Which of the following correlations between annual income and education level would best enable you to predict annual income on the basis of level of education?
A) +0.05. B) –0.01. C) +0.10. D) +0.50.

91. A correlation between self-esteem and annual income of –0.75 would indicate that:
A) lower levels of self-esteem are associated with lower levels of annual income. B) higher levels of annual income are associated with lower levels of self-esteem. C) it is impossible to predict annual income levels from knowledge of self-esteem levels. D) self-esteem has no causal influence on annual income.

92. Who would have been most likely to ignore mental processes and to define psychology as “the scientific study of observable behavior”?

93. The reticular formation extends from the spinal cord up to the:
A) thalamus. B) sensory cortex. C) angular gyrus. D) association areas.

94. Chromosomes are located within human:
95. Which procedure helps to ensure that the participants in a survey are representative of a larger population?
   A) random assignment        C) naturalistic observation
   B) double-blind procedure    D) random sampling

96. The right hemisphere is superior to the left at:
   A) solving arithmetic problems.  C) understanding simple verbal requests.
   B) recognizing people's faces.    D) processing information in an orderly sequence.

97. Compared with women, men are more likely to:
   A) report low levels of marital satisfaction.
   B) smile at members of the opposite sex.
   C) perceive simple friendliness as a sexual come-on.
   D) attribute their first sexual behaviors to feelings of affection.

98. Dr. Donelian wants to reduce his students' perception that psychological experiments merely document the obvious. His best strategy would be to ask the students to:
   A) describe how experimental hypotheses were derived from basic psychological principles.
   B) predict the outcomes of experiments before they are told the actual results.
   C) explain the outcomes of experiments after they are told the actual results.
   D) personally engage in naturalistic observation.

99. Critics of evolutionary psychology would be most likely to suggest that it has difficulty accounting for:
   A) differences in the behavior patterns of males and females.
   B) similarities in the behavior patterns of males and females.
   C) differences in the behavior patterns of Asians and Americans.
   D) similarities in the behavior patterns of Asians and Americans.

100. Men rape women much more frequently than women rape men. Evolutionary psychologists would be most likely explain this in terms of sex differences in:
   A) individuality.  C) sexuality.
   B) reproductive capacity.  D) body size.
1. Answer: B
2. Answer: D
3. Answer: A
4. Answer: D
5. Answer: C
6. Answer: A
7. Answer: D
8. Answer: C
9. Answer: C
10. Answer: C
11. Answer: C
12. Answer: B
13. Answer: B
14. Answer: D
15. Answer: A
16. Answer: D
17. Answer: B
18. Answer: D
19. Answer: A
20. Answer: A
21. Answer: D
22. Answer: C
23. Answer: C
24. Answer: A
25. Answer: C
26. Answer: D
27. Answer: A
28. Answer: C
29. Answer: A
30. Answer: A
31. Answer: A
32. Answer: C
33. Answer: B
34. Answer: C
35. Answer: B
36. Answer: D
37. Answer: C
38. Answer: D
39. Answer: D
40. Answer: B
41. Answer: B
42. Answer: A
43. Answer: D
44. Answer: C
45. Answer: C
46. Answer: C
47. Answer: D
48. Answer: A
49. Answer: A
50. Answer: B
51. Answer: B
52. Answer: D
53. Answer: D
54. Answer: C
55. Answer: A
56. Answer: D
57. Answer: B
58. Answer: D
59. Answer: A
60. Answer: D
61. Answer: B
62. Answer: B
63. Answer: D
64. Answer: B
65. Answer: A
66. Answer: B
67. Answer: B
68. Answer: D
69. Answer: C
70. Answer: A
71. Answer: A
72. Answer: D
73. Answer: A
74. Answer: C
75. Answer: C
76. Answer: A
77. Answer: A
78. Answer: B
79. Answer: B
80. Answer: C
81. Answer: C
82. Answer: B
83. Answer: D
84. Answer: C
85. Answer: A
86. Answer: C
87. Answer: A
88. Answer: C
89. Answer: D
90. Answer: D
91. Answer: B
92. Answer: A
93. Answer: A
94. Answer: A
95. Answer: D
96. Answer: B
97. Answer: C
98. Answer: B
99. Answer: C
100. Answer: B