

## Brain

### 1) Neurotransmitters

- A) are electrical messages that cross the synaptic gap
- B) are chemical messages that cross the synaptic gap
- C) are electrical messages that travel down the axon
- D) are chemical messages that travel down the dendrite
- E) are charged ions that repel other ions

### 2) Which of the following greatly increases the speed of signals traveling through a neuron?

- A) Dendrites
- B) Myelin sheath
- C) Depolarization
- D) Action Potential
- E) Vesicles

### 3) Which gland is often called the “master gland”?

- A) Thyroid
- B) Adrenal
- C) Pancreas
- D) Ovaries/Testes
- E) Pituitary

### 4) A neuron can receive signals through its

- A) soma
- B) axon
- C) terminal buttons
- D) nucleus
- E) dendrites

### 5) The driver of a car that has pulled up next to you at a red light turns up the volume on her radio. The increase in perceived sound that you experience is primarily due to

- A) neurons firing more intensely
- B) increased secretions by the pituitary gland
- C) changing oscillations of the sound wavelengths
- D) more neurons firing more frequently

- E) increased speed of sensation traveling down the neural pathway

### 6) The relaying of sensory information to the cerebral cortex is primarily the function of the

- A) hypothalamus
- B) cerebellum
- C) reticular formation
- D) thalamus
- E) medulla oblongata

### 7) Which of the following would be an effect of parasympathetic nervous system activity?

- A) Raising blood sugar
- B) Producing perspiration
- C) Inhibiting digestion
- D) Slowing heart rate
- E) Dilating the pupils of the eye

### 8) Which area of the brain has been linked to learning and memory processes?

- A) septum
- B) amygdale
- C) hippocampus
- D) cerebellum
- E) medulla oblongata

### 9) Which of the following brain regions is most associated with vision?

- A) the frontal lobe
- B) the parietal lobe
- C) the occipital lobe
- D) the temporal lobe
- E) the olfactory bulb

### 10) Which medical imaging technique uses radiation to track the use of glucose in the brain?

- A) Positron-emission tomography (PET)
- B) Functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI)
- C) Electroencephalography (EEG)
- D) Computer axial tomography (CAT)
- E) Mammograms (MAM)

### 11) Heart rate and breathing are maintained by the

- A) cerebellum
- B) medulla
- C) cerebral cortex
- D) forebrain

E) amygdala  
12) Which of the following divisions of the human nervous system is directly linked to the activation of the “fight-or-flight” response?

- A) sympathetic nervous system
- B) parasympathetic nervous system
- C) peripheral nervous system
- D) central nervous system
- E) somatic nervous system

13) Which of the following best describes the major function(s) of the spinal cord?

- A) Acts as a messenger to the brain
- B) Filters sensory impulses
- C) Directs simple reflex actions independent of the brain
- D) A and B
- E) A and C

14) In most people, the left hemisphere is dominant for all of the following except

- A) speech production
- B) perception of meaningful sounds
- C) perception of nonsense syllables
- D) application of syntactic rules
- E) perception of melody

15) A patient walks with jerky, uncoordinated motion. A good preliminary diagnosis would be damage to the

- A) hypothalamus
- B) thalamus
- C) amygdala
- D) reticular activating system
- E) cerebellum

16) Areas of the brain that are damaged are referred to as having

- A) brain lesions
- B) hemispheres
- C) brain lobes
- D) cortical adhesions
- E) corpus callosum

17) Timothy was in an accident which left him with damage to his frontal lobes. This will most impair his

- A) breathing
- B) desire to eat
- C) ability to feel fear
- D) hear music
- E) make and carry out plans

18) Basic drives such as hunger, thirst and sex are regulated by the

- A) hypothalamus
- B) thalamus
- C) reticular formation
- D) amygdala
- E) hippocampus

19) This area of the brain has been found to be important in the formation of memory

- A) hypothalamus
- B) thalamus
- C) medulla
- D) amygdala
- E) hippocampus

20) In which area of the brain is there the most difference between humans and other species of primates?

- A) medulla
- B) hindbrain
- C) cerebellum
- D) hypothalamus
- E) cerebral cortex

21) Doctors want to prevent seizures from spreading from the right hemisphere to the left hemisphere in a patient. They will need to sever

- A) the hypothalamus
- B) the reticular formation
- C) the corpus callosum
- D) brain lesions
- E) frontal lobes

22) In which period is the neuron prevented from firing?

- A) Lock-up
- B) Refractory period
- C) Resting period
- D) Reset period
- E) Hyper-polarization period

23) If a patient is diagnosed as having a demyelinating disease in which myelin degenerates from around the bodies of axons, which of the following are likely to occur?

- A) Faster nerve conduction times
- B) Slower nerve conduction times
- C) Retrograde degeneration and eventual cell death
- D) Cortical brain lesions
- E) Rerouting of nerve impulses

24) Sixteen-year-old Reginald has a very active amygdala, while his prefrontal cortex is still underdeveloped. This would most likely lead to:

- A) Uncoordinated, clumsy movements
- B) The ability to make complex plans and stick with them to completion
- C) An inability to form new memories
- D) Emotional outbursts that are hard to control
- E) A loss of appetite and decreased sex drive

25) The reticular formation in the pons structure

- A) regulates heartbeat and breathing
- B) controls hunger
- C) helps control arousal
- D) regulates fear and anger
- E) coordinates voluntary movements

26) Antidepressant drugs such as Prozac are often used to treat mood disorders. Which neurotransmitter systems do these types of drugs try to affect?

- A) adrenaline
- B) serotonin
- C) acetylcholine
- D) endorphins
- E) morphine

27) Spinal nerves belong to which system?

- A) Peripheral nervous system
- B) Central nervous system
- C) Antagonistic nervous system
- D) Residual nervous system
- E) Limbic system

28) The great advantage of MRI over an EEG is that

- A) fMRIs cost less money
- B) EEGs only show the structure of the brain
- C) fMRIs show electrical activity
- D) fMRIs pinpoint the area of brain activity more accurately
- E) fMRI show changes in brain activity, EEGs do not

29) The ability of neurons to form new connections and alter their pathways is called

- A) aphasia
- B) plasticity
- C) lesions
- D) contextualizing
- E) synaptic cleft

30) Split brain patients with severed corpus callosums are unable to

- A) coordinate movements between their major and minor muscle groups
- B) speak about information exclusively in their left visual field
- C) speak about information in exclusively in their right visual field
- D) solve abstract problems involving higher order skills
- E) point with their right hands to objects on the right side of their bodies.

31) A neurological disorder is making it difficult to exercise muscle control. Which neurotransmitter is most likely being affected?

- A) Acetylcholine
- B) Endorphins
- C) Norepinephrine
- D) Serotonin
- E) Glutamate

#### Development

1) Keisha was able to roll over at two months, crawl at five months, and walk at ten months. This sequence of development is most likely due to

- A) Egocentrism
- B) Social context
- C) Maturation
- D) Attachment
- E) Assimilation

2) When a child acquires the ability to understand conservation, she enters which of Piaget's stages of cognitive development?

- A) sensorimotor
- B) preconventional
- C) concrete operational
- D) preoperational
- E) formal operational

3) According to Piaget, the process of interpreting new information in terms of existing schema is referred to as

- A) assimilation
- B) accommodation
- C) object permanence
- D) conservation
- E) egocentrism

4) According to Erikson, which of the following psychosocial crises is normally confronted during adolescence?

- A) autonomy versus shame and doubt
- B) initiative versus guilt
- C) identity versus role confusion
- D) intimacy versus isolation
- E) generativity versus stagnation

5) According to Kohlberg, at the postconventional level of moral development, individuals

- A) follow rules in order to obtain reward
- B) follow rules in order to avoid punishment
- C) self-define principles that may or may not match the dominant morals of the times.
- D) define what is right by what they have learned from others, especially authority figures
- E) justify their moral action based on the need to maintain law and order

6) Children develop symbolic representational systems that allow them verbally to describe people, events and feelings during which of Piaget's stages of cognitive development?

- A) Sensorimotor
- B) Preoperational
- C) Symbolic
- D) Concrete operational
- E) Formal operational

7) Harry Harlow's experiments with wire and cloth surrogate mothers demonstrated the importance of

- A) insight learning
- B) contact comfort
- C) kin selection
- D) object permanence
- E) instinctual drift

8) According to Mary Ainsworth, children who are confident enough to leave their mother's side to explore a strange room demonstrate:

- A) temperament
- B) the preconvention stage
- C) imprinting
- D) secure attachment
- E) egocentrism

9) When Joshua was 20 he volunteered for a survey on political attitudes. At the first session, the researchers said they wanted follow up with him and interview him again when he was 30, 40 and then 50. Joshua is participating in

- A) a cross-sectional study
- B) a longitudinal study
- C) an experiment
- D) naturalistic observation

E) cross-correlational study

10) Young children have difficulty understanding that others see the world differently than they do. In this respect children show

- A) conservation
- B) object permanence
- C) egocentrism
- D) maturation
- E) gender identity

11) Humans use their prior experience to form categories and build mental images. Cognitive psychologists call these mental frameworks:

- A) egocentrism
- B) conservation
- C) object permanence
- D) schemas
- E) fluid intelligence

12) When her favorite toy is hidden under a blanket, Ally doesn't look for it or think about it. According to Piaget, Ally must be in what stage?

- A) Sensorimotor
- B) Preoperational
- C) Symbolic
- D) Concrete operational
- E) Formal operational

13) According to Piaget, anyone taking this test should be in which of the following stages of cognitive development?

- A) Sensorimotor
- B) Preoperational
- C) Conventional
- D) Concrete Operational
- E) Formal Operational

14) Conditions such as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome occur when harmful agents pass from the mothers' bloodstream to the fetus in the womb. These harmful agents are known as

- A) Zygotes
- B) Embryos
- C) Teratogens
- D) FAS
- E) Neurotransmitters

15) In industrialized Western societies what has been the average population-wide trends in adolescence over the past 200 years?

- A) Women having children earlier and earlier in life.
- B) Men reach emotional maturity earlier in life and consequently get married earlier in life.
- C) Women are starting puberty earlier, but are delaying marriage and childbirth until later.
- D) Women are starting puberty earlier and consequently having children at a younger age.
- E) Women are starting puberty later and consequently having children later.

16) Leon feels he shouldn't have to justify his discipline decisions to his teenage daughter. "Because I said so," is his common explanation. Leon exhibits which parenting style?

- A) Authoritarian
- B) Operational
- C) Permissive
- D) Autonomy
- E) Authoritative

17) Which of the following best describes the typical pattern of an aging adult?

- A) Crystallized intelligence and fluid intelligence increase with age.
- B) Crystallized intelligence and fluid intelligence decrease with age.
- C) Crystallized intelligence decreases with age while fluid intelligence increases.
- D) Crystallized intelligence increases with age while fluid intelligence decreases.
- E) Crystallized intelligence and fluid intelligence remain unchanged.

18) A political consultant wants to determine which age groups are most likely to vote for his candidate in an upcoming election. His survey should use what kind of design?

- A) Cross-sectional
- B) Longitudinal
- C) Experimental
- D) Naturalistic Observation
- E) Case Study

19) Which of the following is a central criticism of Jean Piaget's stage theory of cognitive development?

- A) Piaget failed to include clear age delineations for each of his stages
- B) Piaget gave too much attention to the cognitive differences between children and adults
- C) Piaget chose a test sample that was too large to examine appropriately
- D) Piaget often overestimated the cognitive abilities of children
- E) Piaget often underestimated the cognitive abilities of young children.

20) Piaget's experiments demonstrated that young children will judge a tall glass as having more liquid than a short glass with the same amount. Piaget said these children lack

- A) conservation
- B) object permanence
- C) egotism
- D) maturation
- E) gender identity

21) "We always try to teach Drew to slow down and think about what he's doing, but he just keeps jumping into things and going full speed. We don't understand why he's like this."

Drew's parents are failing to consider the importance of

- A) Nurture
- B) Imprinting
- C) Habituation
- D) Temperament
- E) Maturation

22) Silvano, who is seventeen years old, asks his parents for permission to visit a friend over winter break. His parents respond, "Well, it's not that we don't trust you, but we worry about you driving in snowy weather. Maybe this spring you can go, but for now we have to say no. We hope you understand why." Which type of parents does Silvano have?

- A) Permissive
- B) Authoritative
- C) Authoritarian
- D) Preconventional
- E) Conventional

23) Jorge gets out some clay and make two balls that are the same size. He keeps one for himself and hands one to Tim. Tim takes his clay and rolls it between his hands until it is long and stringy. Tim then says to Jorge, "Look! I have a lot more clay than you!" According to Piaget, Tim is in what stage of development?

- A) Sensorimotor
- B) Preoperational
- C) Preconventional
- D) Concrete Operational
- E) Formal Operational

24) An infant monkey named Freddie is brought to the zoo and put in a special cage. On one side of the cage is a food dispenser inside a wire frame that resembles a female monkey. On the other side of the cage is a soft stuffed animal that resembles a female monkey. If Freddie reacts in the same way as the monkeys in Harlow's research on attachment, what will he do?

- A. He will reject both "mothers" and eventually die unless a living monkey is found to care for him.
- B. He will spend most of his time with the "wire mother" because that is where the food is.
- C. He will spend most of his time with the "soft mother" because he has a need for contact comfort.
- D. He will spend an equal amount of time with both "mothers" because he has equal needs for food and contact comfort.
- E. He will imprint to whichever one he sees first.

25) Dina works the late shift at a local convenience store. She has many opportunities to steal money from the cash register, but she never does. If Dina operates at Kohlberg's preconventional stage of moral reasoning, which of the following will she most likely say when asked why she never steals?

- A. "I'd go to jail and lose my job if I was caught!"
- B. "Stealing is against the law!"
- C. "My friends and family would think I was a horrible person!"
- D. "Stealing violates my self-chosen moral principles."
- E. "The Bible says, 'Thou shall not steal.'"

26) Baillargeon's research examined what babies gazed at to determine what they might be thinking. According to her research, at which of the following should an infant look the longest?

A. An expected event that obeys the laws of physics.

B. A familiar event that obeys the laws of physics

C. A event that appears to defy the laws of physics

D. An event that occurs in the expected sequence

E. A familiar event presented in a familiar way

27) For scientist who study the influence of nature and nurture on human development, the concept of heritability refers to

A. An explanation of why some ethnic populations outperform other ethnic populations on physical tasks.

B. An explanation of why some ethnic populations outperform other ethnic populations on cognitive tasks.

C. The extent to which an individual's personality is influenced by the culture she was raised in.

D. The extent to which differences between individuals are based on genetics

E. The ability of a baby to understand that mass and volume are physical constants

28) Psychologist use the terms Imaginary Audience and Personal Fable to refer to:

- A) The struggle that elderly people feel when performing complex tasks
  - B) The tendency of adolescents to be obsessed with their own thoughts and feelings and to overestimate how interested others are.
  - C) The belief among young children that others see the world as they do and believe what they believe
  - D) The inability to understand that mass and volume are not always affected by shape and size
  - E) The struggle of middle aged people to advance in their career instead of feeling stagnated
- D) were not obedient because people don't like to be told what to do
  - E) did what they thought was right
- 4) According to the fundamental attribution error, when explaining the failures of others we usually underestimate the significance of
- A) situational factors
  - B) dispositional factors
  - C) motivational factors
  - D) personality traits
  - E) inherited behaviors

### Social Psychology

- 1) Solomon Asch's findings on conformity might best be used to explain why
- A) members of a family all like the taste of bananas
  - B) adolescents follow fads in dress and hairstyle
  - C) people are less likely to accept blame for their failures than for their successes
  - D) bystander intervention is more likely to occur when few rather than many bystanders are present
  - E) performance is enhanced in the presence of others
- 2) Which of the following explains the behavior of normally law-abiding people who act destructively when they are part of a crowd?
- A) Group polarization
  - B) The mere exposure effect
  - C) Deindividuation
  - D) Entrapment
  - E) Fundamental attribution error
- 3) In his famous study on obedience, Milgram argued that people
- A) were obedient because they were mean
  - B) were obedient because of the situation
  - C) were not obedient when the authority asked them to do something wrong
- 5) In Zimbardo's famous Stanford Prison study, what accounted for the difference in the behavior of subjects who were guards and the subjects who were prisoners?
- A) Guards were selected to be forceful.
  - B) The most passive volunteers got stuck playing the prisoners.
  - C) Guards were encouraged to "embarrass" the prisoners, and the prisoners were told to play along with it.
  - D) The role to which the subject was randomly assigned was the most important factor.
  - E) Behavior was determined by the subject's natural desire to obey the instructions of an authority figure, in this case, Phillip Zimbardo
- 6) Which of the following do individuals experience when their behavior is inconsistent with their attitude?
- A) Approach-approach conflict
  - B) Cognitive dissonance
  - C) Intrinsic motivation
  - D) Conformity
  - E) Overjustification
- 7) According to Robert Sternberg, a relationship that has a sense of intimacy and commitment, but may lack romantic excitement is called:



- A) Empty love
- B) Companionate love
- C) Passionate love
- D) Mere exposure effect
- E) Fatuous love

8) Social facilitation theory focuses on situations in which the presence of others causes an individual's performance to

- A) remain unchanged
- B) decline
- C) improve
- D) spontaneously recover
- E) become fixated

9) Research in social psychology suggests that people are most likely to be attracted to those who are

- A) unattainable
- B) dissimilar to them
- C) similar to them
- D) opposite to them
- E) safe and secure choices

10) When Jillian was diagnosed with cancer, she believed that she must have "done something wrong" to deserve such an illness. Her belief is best explained by

- A) the just world phenomenon
- B) suppression
- C) repression
- D) reaction formation
- E) a situational attribution

11) Students watch a video of a study on conformity and laugh at the conforming participants while calling them names and referring to them as "weak" and "stupid." The student's failure to consider the power of the situation in the study is an example of:

- A) social facilitation
- B) fundamental attribution error
- C) cognitive dissonance
- D) group polarization

E) group think

12) The conflicting statements "I love to smoke cigarettes" and "I know cigarette smoking is bad for my health" illustrate a condition of internal tension known as

- A) cognitive dissonance
- B) a contrast effect
- C) convergent thinking
- D) internal locus of control
- E) self handicapping

13) Which of the following best illustrates the fundamental attribution error in attempting to account for why a lone driver would not stop to help you while your car was broken down by the side of the road?

- A) "He must have believed it was too dangerous to stop"
- B) "He's obviously not a considerate person"
- C) "You just can't figure out why people do what they do"
- D) "No one else would have stopped either"
- E) "I must have looked too sloppy and disheveled"

14) A club president discovers that contributions of club members drop when only the total amount of contributions from all members is published rather than the contributions of each individual. This drop can be explained by the phenomenon of

- A) group polarization
- B) obedience to authority
- C) social loafing
- D) social facilitation
- E) socialization

15) The head of a government agency proposes an idea to a group of advisors. The group quickly reaches consensus, feeling confident because no one disagrees. No contradictory or critical opinions were offered despite the fact that there are substantial weaknesses in the boss's proposal. This is an example of

- A) social facilitation
- B) social loafing
- C) group polarization
- D) group think
- E) fundamental attribution error

- A) Reciprocity
- B) Just world phenomenon
- C) The foot-in-the-door technique
- D) The door-in-the-face technique
- E) The self serving bias

16) The central conclusion from Philip Zimbardo's "mock prison" study was that

- A) student volunteers will obey older authority figures
- B) college students are prone to aggression
- C) many individuals exhibit strong tendencies toward bullying behavior and therefore should not be placed in positions of authority
- D) highly suggestible volunteers should not be chosen as research participants
- E) individuals tend to follow role expectations

17) According to research conducted by Solomon Asch, when are individuals least likely to conform to group pressure?

- A) when the group size reaches as high as six or seven individuals
- B) when the behavior by the group is clearly inappropriate or incorrect
- C) when the group is not unanimous
- D) when the conformity experiment is conducted by a female
- E) when the subject was in the same room as the group

18) A fund raiser hopes to get nearby residents to contribute to a charity. First she has the volunteers visit those residents, asking them to display a small sticker in the windows which states support for their cause. One month later the volunteers return to ask for donations to the cause. The fund raiser relied on which of the following techniques?

19) Which of the following is considered an explanation of why bystander intervention is less likely to occur if there are a large number of witnesses to a crime?

- A) Prejudice
- B) Social facilitation
- C) Diffusion of responsibility
- D) Group polarization
- E) Self-Efficacy

20) In which of the following variations of Stanley Milgram's electric shock obedience study was there the lowest rate of obedience to the authority figure?

- A) when the authority figure threatened the volunteers with physical harm if they did not obey
  - B) when the volunteers were paid
  - C) when the volunteers were female
  - D) when the authority figure was in the room with the volunteer
- when the volunteer saw another participant