

## Example Exam Questions

1. A click sound occurs before food is put in a dog's mouth. After several trials, the dog will salivate to the click sound by itself. The food is an example of
  - a. a reinforcer (or reward) for operant conditioning
  - b. a response for operant conditioning
  - c. a conditioned response for Pavlovian conditioning
  - d. a conditioned stimulus for Pavlovian conditioning
  - e. an unconditioned stimulus for Pavlovian conditioning
2. According to the lectures, which of the following is a reason given by researchers who adopt the learning perspective for using non-human animals as subjects?
  - a. animals can learn to perform complex as well as simple tasks
  - b. animals can learn conditioning tasks as quickly as humans
  - c. the laws of learning are the same for all animals, including people
  - d. it is easier to separate the response from the stimulus in animals than in the people
  - e. all of the above
3. According to the lectures, Pavlovian conditioning is most successful when
  - a. the US occurs more than 10 seconds after the CS
  - b. the US occurs more than 10 seconds before the CS
  - c. the US occurs less than 2 seconds before the CS
  - d. the US occurs less than 2 seconds after the CS
  - e. the US and CS occur at exactly the same time
4. A subject studies "NID-42" "GAK-16" and "FES-7". Then he is tested by giving him the nonsense syllables by themselves, and the subject must write down the number. This is a
  - a. free-recall test
  - b. serial-recall test
  - c. cued-recall test
  - d. recognition test
5. A student learning French takes 10 trials to learn a list of French words. A year later, it takes her just 1 trial to learn the same list, but 10 trials to learn a different list. What is the percentage of savings for the original list?
  - a. 100%
  - b. 90%
  - c. 50 %
  - d. 10%
  - e. 0%

6. Which of these independent variables supports the STS-LTS distinction by affecting the nonrecency part of the serial position curve more than the recency part?

- a. fast versus slow presentation rate
- b. the presence versus absence of an intervening task between the end of the list and recall
- c. immediate versus final free recall
- d. a and b
- e. a, b, and c

7. According to your text, the more knowledge one has about an item, the more difficult it can be to retrieve a particular fact about that item. This is because

- a. distributed representations are harder to retrieve than localist representations
- b. some items have a greater number of “isa” links than “hasa” links
- c. retrieval of a particular fact is harder if that fact has been presented several times
- d. retrieval is difficult when an item has a high “degree-of-fan”
- e. none of the above

8. According to the lectures, propositions are stored in

- a. episodic memory
- b. semantic memory
- c. procedural memory
- d. a and b
- e. a, b, and c

9. Which of these experiments supported the idea of cognitive economy (or economic storage of information in semantic memory)?

- a. Sach’s study “A wealthy manufacturer, Matthew Boulton, sought out the young inventor”
- b. Bransford et al. “Turtles” study (“Three turtles rested on a floating log.”)
- c. Conrad’s study measuring RT to sentences such as “A shark has teeth”
- d. Collins & Quillian’s study measuring RT to sentences such as “A canary can fly”
- e. McKoon & Keenan’s study measuring true-false RT to “The match started a fire”

10. The experiment that was performed in class where you had to remember sentences such as “The old car pulling the trailer climbed the hill. The scared cat, running from the dog, jumped on the table,” was used to demonstrate

- a. that inferences are stored in memory
- b. that meaning is represented in terms of propositions
- c. that propositions sharing the same concept are connected together in memory
- d. that we often forget whether a proposition was directly stated or was an inference
- e. that instantiating a schema can lead to more accurate recall, as well as false recall

11. Here's a story: "A boy had a wart and visited a doctor. The doctor prescribed a lotion that was invented by a chemist. The lotion contained iron." For this question, assume that these are all of the directly stated propositions: HAS(BOY1,WART1); VISIT(BOY1,DOCTOR1); PRESCRIBE(DOCTOR1, LOTION1); INVENT(CHEMIST1, LOTION1); CONTAIN(LOTION1,IRON)

If subjects read the story and then are given a yes-no recognition test for words in the text, the response time to say "yes" to IRON would be fastest if the word before it was \_\_\_\_\_ and slowest if the word before it was \_\_\_\_\_. Base your answers on the priming experiments of Ratcliff & McKoon ("The geese crossed the horizon") and McKoon & Ratcliff ("The lawyer gestured to a waiter"). Assume that the only possible answers are BOY, WART, DOCTOR, LOTION, CHEMIST, and IRON.

- a. fastest: lotion: slowest : boy
- b. fastest: lotion: slowest : wart
- c. fastest: chemist: slowest : wart
- d. fastest: chemist: slowest : boy
- e. none of the above

12. Failure to remember events that happened before a memory-damaging event is \_\_\_\_\_ amnesia

- a. retroactive
- b. proactive
- c. anterograde
- d. retrograde

13. "I remember seeing the word 'chair' on the list of words that I had to learn". This is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ memory

- a. implicit
- b. episodic
- c. procedural
- d. semantic

14. Most people erroneously believe that there are more words in the dictionary that begin with "r" than have "r" as the third letter. This example is given in your textbook as an illustration of

- a. end anchoring
- b. an illusory covariation
- c. the availability heuristic
- d. the dilution effect
- e. the representativeness heuristic

15. Folkhard and Monk investigated the effects of time of day on performance on a test involving question answering about a passage that is read. What did they find?

- a. Performance was best in the morning
- b. Performance was best in the afternoon
- c. Performance was best in the evening
- d. Performance was best when the time of study matched the time of the test
- e. Time of the day did not matter.

16. In which of these studies was the main measure the percentage of false alarms in yes-no recognition?

- a. Sheen et al.'s study of the disputed memories of twins
- b. Clancy et al.'s study using the Deese paradigm comparing memories of woman who may or may not have been abused
- c. Eich et al.'s study of interpersonal amnesia in dissociative identity disorder (multiple personalities).
- d. Zajonc's "whore-where" experiment
- e. Baddeley and Warrington's comparison of memory for word lists in amnesic and normal subjects

#### Answers

- 1 e
- 2 c
- 3 d
- 4 c
- 5 b
- 6 a
- 7 d
- 8 d
- 9 d
- 10 c
- 11 b
- 12 d
- 13 b
- 14 c
- 15 a
- 16 b

