



2020

AP[®] PSYCHOLOGY

FREE PRACTICE TEST

Updated for the 2020 online exam!



PSYCHOLOGY**Time—50 minutes****Number of questions—2**

Directions: You must answer both of the following questions. It is not enough to answer a question by merely listing facts. You should present a cogent argument based on your critical analysis of the question posed using appropriate psychological terminology.

1. Tamara has a loud home alarm that always startles her when she enters the door to her home. She finds she automatically covers her ears when she arrives home. Eventually, Tamara resets the alarm so that it no longer automatically beeps when the door opens. Though the alarm sound no longer occurs, Tamara continues to bring her hands to her ears when she first comes home. After about two weeks, Tamara stops covering her ears. As time continues, she occasionally reaches her hands to her ears when she returns home, though she never sets the alarm for automatic alert again.

Explain how the following contribute or relate to Tamara’s reaction to the alarm.

- autonomic nervous system
- spontaneous recovery
- amplitude
- basilar membrane
- drive-reduction theory
- representative heuristic
- sensory memory
- Schachter–Singer theory

2. Researchers are conducting an experiment to determine if a particular medication helps individuals with attention deficits attend to complex tasks over time. All participants in the experiment were selected from a pool of individuals determined by rating scales and observation to have difficulty with attention. A computer program selected individuals from the pool, and each participant had an equal chance of being selected by the computer program.

At the beginning of the experiment, the participants from each group are told they will be given an oral tablet. One group is given a tablet intended to increase focus by stimulating the production of a particular neurotransmitter. The other group is given a tablet containing an inactive combination of starch and water. Participants are told they will not know which tablet they have received during the study. During the implementation of the study, participants are periodically given complex tasks to complete over three hour periods. Participants are observed by researchers for exhibition of attention deficits during the tasks. The researchers also measure whether the participants are able to complete the tasks.

At the completion of the experiment the researchers debrief the participants by telling them which tablet they received.

- A. Identify the placebo as it relates to the control group.
- B. Identify the independent variable in the experiment.
- C. Explain the use and benefit of random sampling as described in the study.
- D. Explain the parts of informed consent that are discussed in this scenario.
- E. Explain how each of the following factors may relate to the participants' experiences during this experiment
 - Action potential
 - Frontal cortex

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

CHANGES TO THE 2020 EXAM FORMAT

AP[®] PSYCHOLOGY



ONLINE TESTING

The test will be conducted at home, at the same time around the world, and can be taken on any device: PC, laptop, tablet, or smart phone. You can either type your responses, or handwrite them and photograph them with your phone.

TEST DURATION

The exam is 50 minutes long, and contains two questions. For Question 1, students have 25 minutes to read and respond, followed by 5 minutes to upload their response. For Question 2, students have 15 minutes to read and respond, followed by another 5 minutes to upload their response.

QUESTION TYPES

Question 1 is a Concept Application question, and is modified for a shorter time frame. You will have to explain behavior, apply theories, and use pertinent psychological terminology. Question 2 requires analyzing research studies and interpreting quantitative data. This question is similar to the Research Methods question on the previous exam.

OPEN BOOK FORMAT

Notes, books, and study guides can be used during the exam. Be sure to consolidate and organize your notes before test day.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Although the multiple choice portion of this test is no longer a part of the 2020 exam, you must have a strong understanding of the concepts for the FRQs, which is best tested through multiple choice question practice. This is the quickest way to identify the concepts that you still need to review. For additional information about the exam, visit the College Board website:

<https://apcoronavirusupdates.collegeboard.org/>

DATE	TIME
Tuesday, May 19	8:00AM Hawaii 10:00AM Alaska 11:00AM Pacific 12:00PM Mountain 1:00PM Central 2:00PM Eastern
MAKE-UP EXAM	
<i>Available with permission from your school.</i>	
Friday, June 5	10:00AM Hawaii 12:00AM Alaska 1:00PM Pacific 2:00PM Mountain 3:00PM Central 4:00PM Eastern

LOOKING FOR MORE SUPPORT?

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Free Resources

- Free study guides, practice tests, and live reviews on our [website](#).
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