

MASTERS EXAM DEFENSE QUESTIONS_ENG

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1.	Using the example of the visual pathway, please explain the following terms: neuron receptive field, collateral inhibition mechanism, the primary sensory cortex (including its topography).
2.	Please characterize the Alpha and Beta waves in the EEG. What is the meaning of synchronization and desynchronization of bioelectrical potentials in brain neurons?
3.	Please explain the genetic basis of congenital malformation syndromes, provide examples.
4.	Please discuss the mechanism of inheritance of quantitative behavioral traits.
5.	Please discuss the principle of dual quantification in ethology and provide examples illustrating this principle, including vacuum behaviors.
6.	Please specify the main functions of the spinal cord, present the parts of the brain according to developmental or clinical criteria, and describe the basic functions of these parts.
7.	Please define nosological assessment and indicate what types of nosological assessment are used in research and in clinical practice. List the consequences of using nosological assessment.
8.	Please define interactive assessment and describe its stages.
9.	Please describe models of cooperation between practitioners and theoretical psychologists.
10.	Please describe the evidence-based assessment.

11.	Please indicate which psychological competences are of particular importance in the process of assessment carried out with the use of unstructured methods. Please explain the significance of these competencies.
12.	Please define the concept of projective method. What are its uses and limitations?
13.	Please define an ethical dilemma and describe its structure. Please provide an example of an ethical dilemma a psychologist may encounter in their work.
14.	Please specify what conditions a profession must fulfil to be considered a profession of public trust. How does a public trust profession differ from freelance and regulated professions?
15.	Please list the basic rights of the client (recipient of psychological services) and indicate the psychologist's obligations related to the exercise of these rights.
16.	Please specify the scope of professional secrecy, indicate the conditions under which the psychologist is obliged to maintain it, and the conditions allowing for its breach.
17.	Please specify the types of psychological contracts, their content and related dilemmas.
18.	Please list and describe the ethical problems in psychological research.
19.	Please explain the Weber-Fechner law and its significance in psychology.
20.	Please outline Galton's contribution to psychology.
21.	Please describe the difference in Wundt's and James' understanding of consciousness.
22.	Please present Köhler's research on insight.

23.	Please describe the case of Anna O. (Berta Pappenheim) in the context of the development of the psychoanalytic method.
24.	Please provide reasons for the significant popularity of behaviorism in the first half of the 20th century in the USA.
25.	Please compare emotions and feelings, provide two similarities and two differences, while referring to theoretical concepts and research data.
26.	Please indicate what functions are performed by emotions, referring to theory and research.
27.	Do you think emotions hinder or help in the process of decision making? Please refer to psychological theories and present research findings that support your position.
28.	Please specify what emotional and motivational processes have in common. Please refer to selected neurobiological and cognitive models.
29.	Please describe a neurobiological model explaining the formation of emotional reactions, and discuss the influence of the model on psychological theory and practice.
30.	Please explain what a motivational conflict is and what types of motivational conflicts can be distinguished. Please illustrate the mechanisms with examples from everyday situations.
31.	Please indicate what disorder characteristic of old age can be mistaken for depression and why, considering their clinical characteristics.
32.	Please list three models which explain the etiology of schizophrenia and characterize the models by giving at least one an example for each.
33.	Please define the concept of body image, explain how it develops in children and what are its disorders.

34.	Please describe the specific features of the clinical diagnosis of children.
35.	Please describe how the clinical picture of ADHD changes from childhood to adulthood.
36.	Please specify what is the likely clinical diagnosis and provide a differential diagnosis (ie. What other diagnoses are possible and why?) for the following: A 28-year-old woman seeks psychotherapeutic help due to: difficulties in establishing and maintaining a romantic relationship, intense mood swings, periodic eating disorders and episodes of emotional emptiness. History of substance abuse (alcohol and so-called soft drugs) and self-injury (cutting the forearms), as well as periods of increased drive and irritability. Also suggest some form/s of therapy with justification for your choice.
37.	Please describe personality defense mechanisms, their functions and types.
38.	Please characterize beliefs about the self and the concept of self according to E. T. Higgins.
39.	Please describe what is the role of others in shaping a person's self-schema.
40.	Please explain the critique of the trait theory in personality psychology.
41.	Please describe Carol Dweck's approach, in the context of striving for good grades and striving to learn something new.
42.	Please list and briefly describe 2 selected mechanisms of constructing the past and explain the purpose of these mechanisms.
43.	Please define the phenomenon of priming, list its types and provide examples of studies which researched it.
44.	Please describe the role of mental models in reasoning and thinking.

45.	Please describe the basic processes of cognitive control and provide an example of a method for testing selected executive functions.
46.	Please indicate how language differs from other communication systems.
47.	When does attention fail? Please discuss sample studies.
48.	What are the heuristics of representativeness and availability and how do they manifest themselves?
49.	Please indicate the main assumptions of multi-storage models of memory, and describe the main directions of critique.
50.	Please characterize memory after brain damage.
51.	Please describe non-declarative memory, list its types and give examples of its manifestations in humans.
52.	Please describe declarative memory (semantic and episodic).
53.	Please describe the aging of memory.
54.	Please list and describe the theories of forgetting.
55.	Please discuss one of the domains of parental socialization in the concept of Grusec and Davidov and the resulting developmental outcomes in children.
56.	In a study of 6-month-old infants, the researcher shows faces on a screen expressing different emotions (anger, joy, fear) and records the baby's facial reactions with a camera. Meanwhile, the parent in the next room fills out questionnaires. Please discuss the ethical aspects of such research.

57.	Please characterize the period of late adulthood in terms of cognitive functioning (perception, cognitive abilities, thinking).
58.	Please indicate what are the most important developmental tasks faced by young people during adolescence?
59.	Please indicate the strengths and weaknesses of Jean Piaget's theory of development.
60.	Please indicate the strengths and weaknesses of Lev Vygotsky's theory of development.
61.	Please briefly describe the categories used to describe individual differences.
62.	Please characterize the sources of individual differences.
63.	Please compare the main theorems of the concept of temperament according to Hans J. Eysenck and Jeffrey A. Gray
64.	Please characterize the origins and basic assumptions of Jan Strelau's Regulatory Theory of Temperament.
65.	Please characterize Thomas & Chess' and Kagan's concepts of temperament, indicating the most significant differences between them.
66.	Please briefly introduce the concept of factorial structure of intelligence.
67.	Can watching violence cause aggression? Please justify your answer with reference to basic theories in the psychology of aggression and the results of empirical research.
68.	Please specify in what situations a minority may exert an effective influence on a majority and characterize the minority influence.

69.	How do facial features affect the assessment of a person? Please answer by providing examples of research studies in the field of social psychology.
70.	Please list and characterize 3 selected group phenomena. Please specify which of them serve to decrease and which serve to increase the effectiveness of the group's functioning.
71.	Please indicate the two basic dimensions of perceiving people and groups. Explain which of the dimensions determines self-esteem and which determines the assessment of other people. Finally, discuss how these dimensions affect stereotypes.
72.	Please list three selected methods of studying attitudes and discuss their strengths and weaknesses.
73.	Please discuss the cognitive-transactional paradigm of R. Lazarus and S. Folkman.
74.	Please discuss the main mechanisms underlying the association between social support and health.
75.	Please define the concept of health promotion and provide its main objectives.
76.	Please define what is a traumatic event and explain what may be the consequences of experiencing trauma.
77.	Please indicate which forms of drinking alcohol are associated with health risks and describe their psychological and social consequences.
78.	Please discuss the specifics of the early development of a child with a visual impairment based on the importance of the visual organ in motor, cognitive and emotional development.
79.	Please provide the definition of a psychological test and the basic requirements formulated for psychological tests.

80.	Please define the concept of the standard error of measurement (SEM) of the results obtained, and then explain its usage.
81.	Please define the concept of test validity and list the main types of measurement validity.
82.	Please define the concepts of malingering and dissimulation in self-report studies.
83.	Please define the concepts of standardization and norms, and list the types of norms used in test studies.
84.	Please provide ways to document the fidelity of the translation of test items in a cultural translation of a test.
85.	Please describe the differences between the different measurement scales and indicate the consequences of using each one, considering calculating descriptive statistics and the use of statistical tests.
86.	Please describe various methods of testing the differences between two samples and indicate the conditions which must be met in order to apply a given test.
87.	Please discuss the concepts of moderator and mediator.
88.	Please define and explain the meaning of falsifiability of a scientific theory.
89.	Please describe different methods of analyzing the relationship between variables in quantitative research, and methods analyzing the predictive properties of one variable based on a known value of another variable, along with an indication of what conditions must be met in order to apply a given test.
90.	Please describe the essential features of an experimental study.