

2018 AP[®] PSYCHOLOGY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

PSYCHOLOGY

SECTION II

Time—50 minutes

Percent of total score— $33\frac{1}{3}$

Directions: You have 50 minutes to 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 questions posed, using appropriate psychological terminology.

1. Jackie has been chosen for the lead role in the school play. She is both nervous and excited about this opportunity.

Part A

Explain how each of the following concepts may help her performance in the play.

- Context-dependent memory
- Acetylcholine
- Kinesthetic sense
- Selective attention

Part B

Explain how each of the following concepts may hinder her performance in the play.

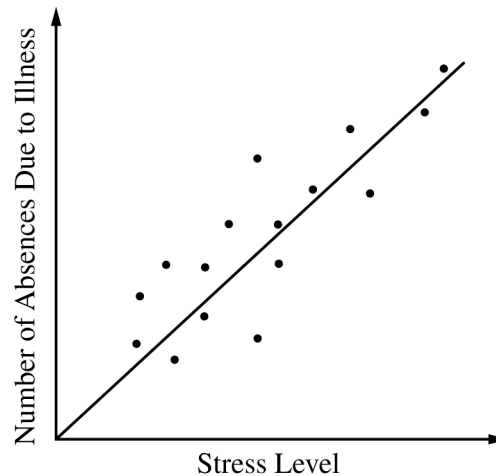
- Proactive interference
- Yerkes-Dodson law of arousal
- External locus of control

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2. A survey was conducted to determine the state of the physical and psychological health of high school students.

Part A

Some of the survey questions related to student stress levels and student absences due to illness. The data on these variables are displayed below.



- What is the most appropriate conclusion that can be drawn based on the figure above?
- Explain how the data depicted in the graph are consistent with the exhaustion stage of the general adaptation syndrome.
- A researcher wants to conduct another study using the same variables, but wants to set it up as an experiment. Explain one reason that an institutional review board (IRB) might not approve this new study.

Part B

Some of the survey questions related to risky behaviors. The results indicated that 90 percent of high school students' risky behaviors were influenced by social factors.

Explain how each of the following may contribute to an increase in risky behaviors.

- Deindividuation
- Normative social influence

Part C

Explain how each of the following may contribute to good physical or psychological health of high school students.

- Cognitive restructuring
- Incentive motivation

STOP

END OF EXAM

AP[®] PSYCHOLOGY

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 1

Jackie has been chosen for the lead role in the school play. She is both nervous and excited about this opportunity.

Part A

Explain how each of the following concepts may help her performance in the play.

- Context-dependent memory
- Acetylcholine
- Kinesthetic sense
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Part B

Explain how each of the following concepts may hinder her performance in the play.

- Proactive interference
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- External locus of control

General Considerations

1. Answers should be presented in sentences cogent enough for the meaning of the response to come through. Spelling and grammatical mistakes do not reduce the score of a response, but spelling must be close enough that the reader is convinced of the word.
2. Do not score any notes made on the question section of the booklet. Score only what has been written in the blanks provided in the booklet.
3. Definitions alone will not score, but they may be used to enhance the application.
4. Within a point, a student will not be penalized for misinformation unless it directly contradicts correct information that otherwise would have scored a point. A correct application with an incorrect definition is not considered a direct contradiction and should score the point.
5. Rubric examples provided for each point are not to be considered exhaustive.
6. Responses that simply parrot or repeat the terms from the question will not score.
7. A response can score a point only if it clearly conveys what part of the question is being answered. It may be possible to infer what part of the question is being answered if it is consistent with the order of the question.