Study Questions for PSY 406 History of Psychology

Chapter 1 – Introduction

1. Discuss the choices that must be made before writing a history of psychology. Include in your answer a distinction between presentism and historicism.
2. What is gained by studying the history of psychology?
3. Summarize the major characteristics of science.
4. Discuss why psychology can be described both as a science and as a nonscience. Include in your answer the characteristics of science that some psychologists are unwilling to accept while studying humans.
5. In what ways did Popper’s view of science differ from the traditional view?
6. According to Popper, what are the two primary reasons that theories such as those of Freud and Adler are unscientific?
7. Summarize Kuhn’s views on how sciences change.
8. Within the realm of science, what is the correspondence theory of truth? Explain why it can be said that Popper accepted this theory and Kuhn did not.
9. Summarize Feyerabend’s view of science.
10. Should psychology aspire to become a single-paradigm discipline? Defend your answer.
11. Distinguish psychical determinism from physical determinism, indeterminism, and nondeterminism. Which viewpoint do you endorse? Why?
12. Distinguish between hard determinism and soft determinism.
13. Is psychology a science? Defend your answer.
14. What does a theory of human nature attempt to accomplish?
15. How do dualists differ from monists in their explanation of the mind-body problem? Identify and describe the two types of monists.
16. Summarize the various proposed answers to the mind-body problem. Include in your answer definitions of the terms emergentism, interactionism, psychophysical parallelism, epiphenomenalism, preestablished harmony, double aspectism, and occasionalism.
17. Discuss the nativist and empiricist explanations of the origin of human attributes.
18. First describe the positions of mechanism and vitalism and then indicate which of the two positions you accept and why.
19. Discuss rationalism and irrationalism as they apply to explanations of human behavior.
20. Describe how each of the following would explain how we gain knowledge: the empiricist, the rationalist, and the nativist.
21. Discuss the problems involved in discovering and explaining discrepancies that may exist between what is physically before us and what we experience subjectively. Define and give an example of reification.
22. For what reasons has a concept of self been employed by psychologists? What problems does this concept solve, and what problems does it create?
23. Summarize the debate between universalism and relativism concerning the nature of truth.
Chapter 2 – The Early Greek Philosophers

1. Describe some of the events that may have concerned primitive humans and discuss how they accounted for and attempted to control those events.
2. Summarize the major differences between Olympian and Dionysiac-Orphic religion.
3. What distinguishes the attempts of the first philosophers to understand nature from the attempts of those who preceded them?
4. What did the cosmologists attempt to do?
5. Why were the first philosophers called physicists? List the physes arrived at by Thales, Anaximander, Heraclitus, Parmenides, Pythagoras, Empedocles, Anaxagoras, and Democritus.
7. Summarize Empedocles’ view of how species of animals, including humans, came into existence.
8. What important epistemological question did Heraclitus’ philosophy raise?
9. Give examples of how logic was used to defend Parmenides’ belief that change and motions were illusions.
10. Differentiate between elementalism and reductionism and give an example of each.
11. What were the major differences between temple medicine and the type of medicine practiced by Alcmaeon and the Hippocrates?
12. How did the Sophists differ from the philosophers who preceded them? What was the Sophists’ attitude toward knowledge? In what way did Socrates agree with the Sophists, and in what way did he disagree?
13. What observations did Xenophanes make about religion?
14. What, for Socrates, was the goal of philosophical inquiry? What method did he use in pursuing that goal?
15. What are the charges brought against Socrates by the Athenians? What were perhaps the real reasons Socrates was convicted and sentenced to death?
16. Describe Plato’s theory of forms or ideas.
17. In Plato’s philosophy, what was the analogy of the divided line?
18. Summarize Plato’s cave allegory. What points was Plato making with this allegory?
19. Discuss Plato’s reminiscence theory of knowledge.
20. Compare Aristotle’s attitude toward sensory experience with that of Plato.
21. Provide evidence that Aristotle’s philosophy had both rational and empirical components.
22. According to Aristotle, what were the four causes of things?
23. Discuss Aristotle’s concept of entelechy.
24. Describe Aristotle’s concept of scala naturae and indicate how that concept justifies a comparative psychology.
25. Discuss Aristotle’s concept of soul.
26. Discuss the relationship of sensory experience, common sense, passive reason, and active reason.
27. Summarize Aristotle’s views on imagination and dreaming.
28. Discuss Aristotle’s views on happiness. What for him provided the greatest happiness? What characterized the life lived in accordance with the golden mean?
29. Discuss Aristotle’s views on emotions.
30. In Aristotle’s philosophy, what was the function of the unmoved mover?
31. Describe the laws of association that Aristotle proposed.
32. Summarize the reasons Greek philosophy was important to the development of Western civilization.

Chapter 3 – After Aristotle: A Search for the Good Life

1. Briefly state what constituted the good life according to Skepticism, Cynicism, Epicureanism, and Stoicism.
2. What did the Skeptics mean by dogmatism, and why did they oppose it?
3. In what sense were Epicureanism and Stoicism materialistic philosophies?
4. Describe the factors that contributed to the development of early Christian theology.
5. What characterized St. Paul’s version of Christianity?
6. Summarize the philosophy of Neoplatonism.
7. Discuss how Constantine influenced the history of Christianity.
8. Discuss the importance of free will in Augustine’s philosophy.
9. How did Augustine change the locus of control of human behavior from forces outside the person to forces inside the person?
10. Describe the doctrine of predestination.
11. What did Augustine feel humans could be certain of, and how did he arrive at his conclusion? How, according to Augustine, could humans experience God, and what type of emotion resulted from this experience?
12. According to Augustine, what allows humans to have a sense of the past, present, and future?
13. In what way were the Dark Ages dark? Explain.
14. What was the importance of Avicenna’s Acrerroës’ and Maimonides’ philosophies to Western thought?
15. How did the works of St. Anselm and Lombard prepare the Western world for the acceptance of Aristotle’s philosophy?
16. What was St. Anselm’s ontological argument for the existence of God?
17. What was the significance of the work of Abelard and Magnus?
18. Summarize the debate between the realists and the nominalists. What was Abelard’s position in this debate?
19. How, according to Aquinas, can humans know God? What are some of the implications of Aquinas’s position?
20. What was Scholasticism? Give an example of what the Scholastics did.
21. Why does William of Occam represent and important turning point in the history of psychology?
22. Was William of Occam a realist or a nominalist? Explain.
23. What is Occam’s razor?

Chapter 4 – The Beginnings of Modern Science and Philosophy

1. Describe the four themes that characterized Renaissance humanism and give an example of each.
2. Why is the Renaissance referred to as a paradoxical period?
3. In what way did Montaigne’s Skepticism stimulate the philosophical systems developed by Bacon and Descartes?
4. Describe the Ptolemaic astronomical system and explain why that system was embraced by Christian theologians.
5. On what basis did Copernicus argue that his heliocentric theory should replace Ptolemy’s geocentric theory?
6. On what philosophical conception of the universe was the work of Copernicus, Kepler, and Galileo based? Explain.
7. Summarize the theological implications of Copernicus’s heliocentric theory.
8. In what way(s) can the clash between the Ptolemaic and Copernican systems be likened to a Kuhnian scientific revolution?
9. Discuss the implications for psychology of Galileo’s distinction between primary and secondary qualities.
10. What is deism?
11. What was Newton’s conception of science?
12. Summarize Bacon’s view of science.
13. Describe the idols of the cave, marketplace, theater, and tribe.
14. Distinguish between Bacon’s experiments of light and experiments of fruit and describe how the two are related.
15. What was it that Descartes thought he could be certain of? Once this certainty was arrived at, how did Descartes use it in further developing his philosophy?
16. Why did Descartes reach the conclusion that some ideas are innate? Give examples of ideas that he thought were innate.
17. Summarize Descartes’ view of the mind-body relationship.
18. Describe the importance of intuition and deduction in Descartes philosophy.
19. Why is it appropriate to refer to Descartes as a phenomenologist?
20. How did Descartes reach the conclusion that the mind is nonmaterial and has an existence independent of the body?
21. What were Descartes’ contributions to psychology?
22. In general, what attitude toward religion did individuals covered in this chapter have?

Chapter 5 – Empiricism, Sensationalism, and Positivism

1. Define empiricism. What was it in other philosophies that the empiricists opposed most?
2. Discuss why Hobbes can accurately be referred to as an empiricist, a mechanist, and a materialist.
3. What functions did Hobbes see government as having?
4. What was Hobbes’s explanation of human motivation?
5. Explain why it is incorrect to say that Locke postulated a passive mind. List a few powers of the mind that Locke postulated.
6. According to Locke, what was the difference between primary and secondary qualities? How did the paradox of the basins demonstrate this difference?
7. How did Locke use the laws of association in his philosophy?
8. Explain Berkeley’s statement “To be is to be perceived.” Did Berkeley deny the existence of external reality? Explain.
10. Discuss the function of the faculty of imagination in Hume’s philosophy.
11. Discuss the associative principles of contiguity, resemblance, and cause and effect as Hume used them.
12. Summarize Hume’s analysis of causation.
13. What, for Hume, were the ultimate determinants of behavior? Explain.
14. Did Hume believe in a physical world beyond subjective reality? If so, what did he say we could know about that world?
15. What was Hartley’s philosophical goal?
16. Summarize Hartley’s explanation of association.
17. How, according to Hartley, was involuntary behavior transformed into voluntary behavior?
18. What part did the emotions play in Hartley’s philosophy?
19. Summarize James Mill’s version of associationism. Why is it believed that Mill’s treatment of associationism exposed its absurdity?
20. Compare the “mental physics” of James Mill with the “mental chemistry” of his son John Stuart Mill.
21. Why did J.S. Mill believe a science of human nature was possible? What would characterize such a science in its early stages of development? In its later stages? Include in your answer a discussion of primary and secondary laws.
22. Discuss J.S. Mill’s proposed science of ethology. Why did efforts to develop such a science fail?
23. What was Bain’s philosophical goal?
24. What contribution did Bain make with regard to the analysis of voluntary behavior? How was his research related to later research on operant conditioning?
25. What were the major features of French sensationalism?
26. In what ways was Gassendi’s philosophy similar to Hobbes’s?
27. Why did La Mettire believe it was inappropriate to separate the mind and body?
28. Why did La Mettrie believe accepting a materialistic philosophy would result in a better, more humane world?
29. How did Condillac use the analogy of a sentient statue to explain the origin of human mental processes? Give examples of how attention, feeling, comparison, and surprise develop.
30. How did Helvetius apply empiricism and sensationalism to education?
31. What did Comte mean by positivism?
32. Describe the stages that Comte believed cultures (and individuals) went through in the way they attempted to explain phenomena.
33. Did Comte believe psychology could be a science? Why or why not?
34. What, according to Comte, are two valid ways of studying humans?
35. Compare Mach’s version of positivism with Comte’s.

Chapter 6 – Rationalism

1. In general, what are the basic differences among empiricism, sensationalism, and rationalism? Include in your answer a distinction between a passive and the active mind.
2. Assume a person robs a bank. Give the general tenor of an explanation of that person’s behavior based on reasons and then on causes. In which type of explanation would holding the person responsible for his or her actions make the most sense? Explain.

3. What was Spinoza’s conception of nature? What was his position on the mind-body relationship?

4. Summarize Spinoza’s position on the issue of free will versus determinism.

5. How did Spinoza distinguish between emotions and passions? Give an example of each.

6. What, for Spinoza, was the master motive for human behavior? Explain how this motive manifests itself.

7. In what way did Spinoza’s philosophy encourage the development of scientific psychology?

8. What was Malebranche’s position of the mind-body relationship?

9. Leibniz disagreed with Locke’s contention that all ideas are derived from experience. How did Leibniz explain the origin of ideas?

10. Summarize Leibniz’s monadology.

11. Discuss Leibniz’s proposed solution to the mind-body problem.

12. Discuss Leibniz’s law of continuity.

13. Describe the relationship among petites perceptions, limen, and apperception.

14. Summarize Reid’s philosophy of common sense. Include in your answer a definition of direct realism.

15. What is faculty psychology? What major misconceptions of faculty psychology have been perpetuated through the years?

16. What did Kant mean by an a priori category of thought? According to Kant, how do such categories influence what we experience consciously?

17. Briefly summarize Kant’s explanation of the experiences of causality, time and space.

18. Discuss the importance of the categorical imperative in Kant’s philosophy.

19. Did Kant believe that psychology could become a science? Why or why not?

20. How did Herbart’s concept of idea differ from those of the empiricists?

21. How did Herbart apply his theory to educational practices?

22. Discuss Hegel’s notion of The Absolute. Describe the dialectic process by which Hegel felt The Absolute was approximated.

23. Give an example of how rationalistic philosophy has influenced modern psychology.

Chapter 7 – Romanticism and Existentialism

1. What was romanticism a reaction against? Discuss the major features of the romantic movement.

2. What assumptions did Rousseau make about human nature? What did he mean by his statement “Man is born free yet we see him everywhere in chains”?

3. What did Rousseau and Hobbes have in common? In what ways did they disagree?

4. Discuss Rousseau’s distinction between the individual will and the general will.

5. Summarize Rousseau’s view on education.

6. How did Goethe view life? What was his attitude toward science? What were his contributions to psychology?

7. For Schopenhauer, what is the primary motive for human behavior? Discuss the implications of this motive for human existence.
8. Why is Schopenhauer’s philosophy generally referred to as pessimistic?
9. What did Schopenhauer suggest we could do to minimize the influence of the powerful, irrational forces within us?
10. What is existentialism? How does existentialism differ from romanticism?
11. What type of religion did Kierkegaard oppose? Which type did he promote?
12. What did Kierkegaard mean by his statement “Truth is subjectivity”?
13. Describe the type of relationship Kierkegaard believed individuals should have with God.
14. Describe what Kierkegaard referred to as the three stages toward full personal freedom.
15. What were the important aspects of Freudian psychoanalysis anticipated by Nietzsche?
16. Discuss the importance of innate Dionysian and Apollonian tendencies for Nietzsche’s psychology.
17. Discuss Nietzsche’s views on personal freedom.
18. What, according to Nietzsche, were the implications of the death of God (and his “shadows”) for human existence?
19. Discuss Nietzsche’s perspectivism in relation to Enlightenment philosophy.
20. According to Nietzsche, what are supermen? Give an example of how Nietzsche’s conception of the supermen has been misunderstood.
21. Of what, according to Nietzsche, would a rich, meaningful life consist?
22. What did the philosophies of romanticism and existentialism have in common?

Chapter 8 – Early Developments in Physiology and the Rise of Experimental Psychology

1. What significance did the observation that astronomers differed in their reaction times have for the history of psychology?
2. What is the Bell-Magendie law? What was the significance of this law in the history of psychology?
3. Summarize Müller’s doctrine of specific nerve energies.
4. Define vitalism. Was Müller a vitalist? Was Helmholtz?
5. How did Helmholtz apply the principle of conservation of energy to living organisms?
6. Describe the procedure Helmholtz used to measure the rate of nerve conduction.
8. Summarize the Young-Helmholtz theory of color vision.
9. Summarize the resonance place theory of auditory perception.
10. Discuss the importance of Helmholtz’s work for the development of psychology as a science.
11. Explain in what way Helmholtz was a rationalist.
12. How did Hering explain space perception?
13. Summarize Hering’s theory of color vision.
14. Discuss the theory of color vision proposed by Ladd-Franklin.
15. Discuss the basic tenets of phrenology. Also discuss the reasons for phrenology’s popularity and its influence on psychology.
16. Describe Flourens’s approach to brain research. Did his conclusions support or refute phrenology? Explain.
17. Describe Broca’s approach to brain research. What conclusions did he reach concerning the functioning of the brain? Concerning intelligence?
18. Describe the functions associated with Broca’s and Wernicke’s cortical areas.
19. What approach to brain research did Fritsch and Hitzig take? Did their results support Gall or Flourens? Explain.
20. What significance did Weber’s work have for the development of experimental psychology? In your answer, describe Weber’s research techniques and his findings.
21. Why did Fechner feel it necessary to invent Dr. Mises?
22. What was Fechner’s proposed solution to the mind-body problem? What evidence did he offer in support of his solution?
23. What did Fechner mean by a negative sensation?
24. Distinguish between the absolute threshold and the differential threshold.
25. Summarize Fechner’s psychophysical methods.
26. What were Fechner’s contributions to the development of psychology as a science?

Chapter 9 – Voluntarism, Structuralism, and Other Early Approaches to Psychology

1. What is meant by a school of psychology?
2. Why was the school of psychology created by Wundt called voluntarism?
3. Why did Wundt believe that experimentation in psychology was of limited uselessness?
4. How did Wundt differentiate between mediate and immediate experience?
5. Discuss Wundt’s use of introspection.
6. For Wundt, what were the elements of thought, and what were their attributes? Include in your answer a discussion of Wundt’s tridimensional theory of feeling.
7. How did Wundt distinguish between psychology and physical causation?
8. What did Wundt mean when he said the volitional acts are creative but not free?
9. Define the terms sensation, perception, apperception, and creative synthesis as they were used in Wundt’s theory.
10. Summarize how Wundt used reaction time in an effort to determine how long it took to perform various mental operations. Why did Wundt abandon his reaction-time research?
11. Why did Wundt think it necessary to write his Völkerpsychologie? What approach to the study of humans did it exemplify?
12. Summarize Wundt’s explanation of language.
13. For Titchener, what were the goals of the psychology?
14. What did Titchener believe would be the ultimate “why” of psychology?
15. How did Titchener’s explanation of how mental elements combine differ from Wundt’s?
16. What was Titchener’s context theory of meaning?
17. Compare and contrast Wundt’s view of psychology with Titchener’s.
18. List the reasons for the decline of structuralism. Include in your answer the various criticisms of introspection.
19. Summarize Brentano’s act psychology.
20. What did Brentano mean by intentionality?
21. What did Husserl mean by pure phenomenology? Why did he believe that an understanding of the essence of subjective experience must precede scientific psychology?
22. What did Külpe mean by imageless thought? Mental set?
23. What did Vaihinger mean by his contention that without fictions, societal life would be impossible? Describe the difference between pragmatism and fictionalism.
24. Why is it incorrect to refer to the material that Ebbinghaus used for his research as “nonsense syllables”?
25. Discuss the significance of Ebbinghaus’s work to the history of psychology.

Chapter 10 – The Darwin Influence and the Rise of Mental Testing

1. Given the fact that rudimentary theories of evolution go back at least as far as the early Greeks, why did it take until the 19th century for adequate theories of evolution to develop?
2. Summarize Lermarck’s theory of evolution.
3. Describe Spencer’s social Darwinism and explain why it was so popular in the United States.
4. What is the Spencer-Bain principle?
5. What were the ironies concerning Darwin’s voyage aboard the Beagle?
6. Why did Darwin delay publication of his theory for so long? What finally prompted him to publish it?
7. Summarize Darwin’s theory of evolution.
8. Compare Darwin’s concept of fitness with the sociobiologists’ concept of inclusive fitness. What are the implications of the difference between the two concepts for the explanation of human social behavior?
9. How did Galton support his argument the eugenics should be practiced?
10. Explain why Galton’s measures of “intelligence” were mainly sensory in nature.
11. Summarize Galton’s contributions to psychology.
12. Describe Cattell’s approach to intelligence testing and explain why that approach was eventually abandoned.
13. In what ways did Binet’s approach to intelligence testing differ from Galton’s and Cattell’s?
14. Describe the 1905 Binet-Simon scale of intelligence. How was the scale revised in 1908? In 1911?
15. What procedure did Stern suggest for reporting a person’s intelligence? Why did Binet oppose this procedure?
16. What did Binet mean by mental orthopedics? Why did Binet believe that such exercises were valuable?
17. Summarize Spearman’s views of intelligence.
18. What was the Burt “scandal”? In what way did it reflect the age-old controversy concerning nature versus nurture? Were the issues involved scientific or political?
19. What conclusions did Goddard reach when he administered the Binet-Simon scale to school-children in the United States?
20. What procedures did Goddard suggest for stopping the deterioration of intelligence in the United States? In suggesting these procedures, what assumption did he make?
21. Summarize the conclusions Goddard reached when he traced the ancestry of Deborah Kallikak.
22. Did Goddard cause many immigrants to be unjustifiably deported? Justify your answer.
23. In what important way did Terman modify the Binet-Simon scale.
24. What prompted Terman’s longitudinal study of gifted individuals? Summarize the results of that study.
25. Summarize Leta Stetter Hollingworth’s contributions to psychology.
26. How did Yerkes suggest that psychologists help in the war effort? Was the effort that resulted from this suggestion a success or a failure?
27. What arguments were offered in opposition to the contention that intelligence tests were measuring innate intelligence?
28. In what way was the controversy surrounding the publication of *The Bell Curve* the same as that surrounding the Burt “scandal”?
29. Where do most psychologists today stand on the nature-nurture question as it applies to intelligence?

**Chapter 11 – Functionalism**

1. Briefly describe the four stages of U.S. psychology.
2. What are the major themes that characterized functionalistic psychology?
3. What was the personal crisis that James experienced, and how did he resolve it?
4. Why was James’s approach to psychology called radical empiricism?
5. Define pragmatism.
6. For James, what are the major characteristics of consciousness?
7. Make the case that James’s criticisms of elementalism were more applicable to Titchener’s version of psychology than to Wundt’s.
8. How, according to James, did habits develop? What did he mean when he referred to habits as “the enormous fly-wheel of society”? What advice did he give for developing good habits?
9. How did James distinguish between the empirical self and the self as knower? Include in your answer a definition of the material self, the social self, and the spiritual self.
10. What did James mean by self-esteem? What, according to James, could be done to enhance one’s self-esteem?
11. Summarize the James-Lange theory of emotion. How, according to James, could one escape or avoid negative emotions such as depression?
12. What did James mean by voluntary behavior? How did he account for such behavior?
13. What, according to James, are the important differences between tender-minded and tough-minded individuals? How did he suggest pragmatism could be used to resolve the differences between the two types of individuals?
14. Compare James’s analysis of voluntary behavior with that of Münsterberg.
15. Summarize Münsterberg’s work in clinical, forensic, and industrial psychology.
16. What was Münsterberg’s fate?
17. Describe the difficulties that Calkins had in attaining her graduate school education. Summarize her accomplishments in spite of these difficulties.
18. Describe Hall’s recapitulation theory.
19. Why was Hall opposed to coeducation at the secondary and college levels?
20. Why were the views of women held by Titchener, Münsterberg, and Hall considered paradoxical?
21. List Hall’s “firsts” in psychology.
22. Summarize Kenneth B. Clark’s efforts to bring about racial equality in the United States and indicate why his efforts were controversial.
23. What was Dewey’s criticism of the analysis of behavior in terms of reflexes? What did he propose instead? What part did Dewey’s work play in the development of functionalism?

24. In his address “The Province of Functional Psychology,” what important distinctions did Angell make between structuralism and functionalism?

25. What did Carr mean by an adaptive act? How did Carr contribute to the development of functionalism?

26. In what way(s) was Cattell’s approach to psychology different from that of other functionalists?

27. Why was Woodworth’s approach to psychology called dynamic psychology? Why did he prefer an S-O-R explanation of behavior over an S-R explanation?

28. What was Morgan’s canon, and why did he propose it?

29. What was Washburn’s primary goal in studying animal behavior? In what way was her approach an improvement over those of Romanes and Morgan?

30. Why did Thorndike’s research represent a major shift in emphasis among comparative psychologists?

31. What major conclusions did Thorndike reach concerning the nature of the learning process?

32. Why was Thorndike’s theory referred to as connectionism?

33. Describe Thorndike’s laws of exercise and effect before and after 1929.

34. How did Thorndike’s theory of the transfer of training differ from the earlier theory based on faculty psychology?

35. Explain why Thorndike is viewed as a transitional figure between the schools of functionalism and behaviorism.

36. What was functionalism’s fate?

Chapter 12 – Behaviorism

1. Make the case that prior to Watson’s formulations, behaviorism was very much “in the air” in the United States.

2. Summarize Sechenov’s argument that thoughts cannot cause behavior.

3. What was the significance of the concept of inhibition in Sechenov’s explanation of behavior?

4. How, according to Sechenov, should psychological phenomena be studied?

5. What were the circumstances under which Pavlov discovered the conditioned reflex, and why did he initially resist studying it?

6. What observations led Pavlov to conclude that extinction is caused by inhibition?

7. How did Pavlov create experimental neurosis in his research animals, and how did he explain differential susceptibility to experimental neurosis?

8. Distinguish between the first- and second-signal systems, and then explain how those systems facilitate adaptation to the environment.

9. How did Pavlov view the relationship between his work and philosophical associationism?

10. Summarize Bechterev’s reflexology. Why did Bechterev believe that he was the first behaviorist?

11. How did Bechterev’s method of studying conditioned reflexes differ from Pavlov’s? According to Bechterev, what advantages did his method have over Pavlov’s?
12. Describe the major experiences that steered Watson toward behaviorism.
13. According to Watson, what was the goal of psychology? How did this differ from psychology’s traditional goal?
15. What was Watson’s final position on the role of instinct in human behavior?
16. Employing the notion of structure, explain why Watson believed that inheritance could influence personality.
17. Summarize Watson’s views on emotion. What emotions did Watson think were innate? How do emotions become associated with various stimuli or events? What research did Watson perform to validate his views?
18. Describe the procedure that Watson and Mary Cover Jones used to extinguish Peter’s fear of rabbits.
19. Summarize the advice that Watson and Watson gave on child rearing.
20. How did Watson explain learning?
21. What was Watson’s final position on the mind-body problem?
22. Distinguish between radical and methodological behaviorism.
23. Summarize McDougall’s hormic psychology. Why can his approach to psychology be called behaviorism? What type of behavior did he study, and what did he assume to be the cause of that behavior?
24. For McDougall, what were the characteristics of purposive behavior?
25. For McDougall, what were the three components of an instinct?
26. What, according to McDougall, is a sentiment?
27. In their famous debate, what were the important points of disagreement between Watson and McDougall? If the debate were held today, for whom would you vote? Why?

Chapter 13 – Neobehaviorism

1. Compare positivism to logical positivism.
2. What is an operational definition? Give an example. What is operationism?
3. What is physicalism?
4. What is neobehaviorism?
5. What convinced Tolman that he could study purposive behavior and still be an objective behaviorist?
6. Explain how Tolman used intervening variables in a way that was consistent with logical behaviorism.
7. How, according to Tolman, do early hypotheses concerning what leads to what in a situation evolve into a cognitive map?
8. What did Tolman mean by vicarious trial and error?
9. In Tolman’s theory, was reinforcement necessary for learning to occur? What term in Tolman’s theory had some similarity to what others called reinforcement?
10. What evidence did Tolman provide for his contention that reinforcement influences performance but not learning? Also, how did he explain extinction?
11. What influence did Tolman’s theory have on contemporary psychology?
12. Why was Hull’s theory called a hypothetico-deductive theory? Why did Hull consider the theory to be self-correcting?
13. What was Guthrie’s one law of learning?
14. Did Guthrie accept or reject the law of frequency? Explain.
15. If learning occurs at full strength in one trial, how did Guthrie explain improvement in performance as a function of practice?
16. According to Guthrie, what is the function of “reinforcement”? What did Guthrie and Horton observe that confirmed their view of “reinforcement”?
17. Summarize Guthrie’s explanation of forgetting.
18. According to Guthrie, under what circumstances is punishment effective? Ineffective?
19. In Guthrie’s theory, what is the function of maintaining stimuli? For example, how were these stimuli used to explain what other theories called drives and intentions?
20. Was Skinner’s proposed functional analysis of the relationship between environmental and behavioral events more in accordance with positivistic or logical positivistic philosophy?
21. Summarize Skinner’s arguments against cognitive psychology.
22. How did Skinner distinguish between respondent and operant behavior.
23. What is meant by the statement that operant behavior is controlled by its consequences?
24. Distinguish between radical and methodological behaviorism.
25. For Skinner, what constitutes a reinforcer?
26. How did Skinner apply Darwinian concepts to his analysis of behavior?
27. Why did Skinner argue that behavior should be controlled by reinforcement contingencies rather than by punishment?
28. Summarize Skinner’s argument against the use of theory in psychology.
29. What is the status of neobehaviorism in contemporary psychology?
30. What current research findings are causing a weakening or a revision of the behaviorist position?

Chapter 14 – Gestalt Psychology

1. Summarize the disagreements that the Gestaltists had with Wundt’s experimental program, the structuralists, and the behaviorists.
2. Differentiate the molecular approach to psychology from the molar approach.
3. Describe similarities and differences that existed between the positions of Kant, Mach, Ehrenfels, James, and the act psychologists, on the one hand, and the Gestaltists, on the other.
4. Explain what is meant by the contention that Gestalt theory used field theory as its model and empirical-associationistic psychology used Newtonian physics as its model.
5. What is the phi phenomenon? What was its importance in the formation of the Gestalt school of psychology?
6. What is meant by the contention that Gestalt analysis proceeds from the top down rather than from the bottom up?
7. Contrast the Gestalt notion of psychophysical isomorphism with the constancy hypothesis.
8. What is the law of Prägnanz? Describe the importance of this law to Gestalt psychology.
9. What is perceptual constancy? Give an example. How did the Gestaltists explain the perceptual constancies?
10. Distinguish between subjective and objective reality. According to the Gestaltists, which is more important in determining behavior? Give an example.
11. How did the Gestaltists explain learning? In your answer, summarize the characteristics of insightful learning.
12. What is transposition? Summarize the Gestalt and the behavioristic explanations of this phenomenon.
13. For Wertheimer, what represents the best type of problem solving? Contrast this type of problem solving with rote memorization and logical problem solving.
14. Summarize the Gestalt explanation of memory. Include in your answer definitions of memory process, memory trace, and trace system. What does it mean to say that memory is governed by the law of Prägnanz?
15. For Lewin, how does psychology based on Aristotle’s view of nature differ from psychology based on Galileo’s view of nature? Give an example of each.
16. For Lewin mean by life space? Include in your answer the definition of psychological fact.
17. Summarize Lewin’s theory of motivation. In your answer, distinguish between needs and quasi needs.
18. What is the Zeigarnik effect? Describe the research used to demonstrate the effect.
19. Describe the three types of conflict studied by Lewin and give an example of each.
20. Summarize Lewin’s work on group dynamics.
21. Summarize the impact that Gestalt psychology has had on contemporary psychology.

Chapter 15 – Early Diagnosis, Explanation, and Treatment of Mental Illness

1. What is mental illness? In your answer, include the criteria that have been used throughout history to define mental illness.
2. Summarize the medical, psychological, and supernational models of mental illness and give an example of each.
3. What, if anything, do all versions of psychotherapy have in common?
4. Describe what therapy would be like if it were based on the supernatural model, and on the biological model.
5. Define and give an example of homeopathic and contagious magic.
6. How did Hippocrates define health and illness? What treatments did he prescribe for helping his patients regain health?
7. When did witch-hunting reach its peak in Europe? How did the publishing of the *Malleus Maleficarum* facilitate witch-hunting? What were some of the signs taken as proof that a person was a witch or was bewitched? Why was it assumed that women were more likely to be witches or bewitched than men?
8. In what ways did individuals such as Paracelsus, Agrippa, Weyer, Scot, and Plater improve the plight of the mentally ill?
10. Why was Kraepelin’s listing of the various mental disorders seen as something both positive and negative?
11. Summarize the reasons Witmer is considered the founder of clinical psychology.
12. Describe and give an example exemplifying the tension between explanations of mental illness based on the medical model and those based on the psychological model.
13. Why does Szasz refer to mental illness as a myth? Why does he feel that labeling someone as mentally ill may be doing his or her a disservice?
14. According to Mesmer, what causes mental and physical illness? What procedures did Mesmer use to cure such illnesses? What was Mesmer’s fate?
15. In what way could Mesmer’s techniques be considered an improvement over other techniques of treating mental illness that existed at the time?
16. What major phenomena did Puysegur observe during his research on artificial somnambulism?
17. Describe the debate that occurred between members of the Nancy school and Charcot and his colleagues over hypnotizability. Who finally won the debate?
18. Summarize the theory that Charcot proposed to explain hysteria and hypnotic phenomena.

Chapter 16 – Psychoanalysis and Chapter 17 – Early Alternatives to Psychoanalysis

1. Provide evidence that many components of what was to become psychoanalysis were part of Freud’s philosophical or scientific heritage.
2. Describe the cocaine episode in Freud’s career. How did it affect his reputation?
3. What was the significance of Freud’s visit with Charcot for the development of psychoanalysis?
4. What did Freud learn from Liebeault and Bernheim at the Nancy school of hypnosis that influenced the development of psychoanalysis?
5. What did Freud mean when he said that true psychoanalysis began only after hypnosis had been discarded?
6. What was Freud’s seduction theory? What did Freud conclude his mistake regarding the seduction theory had been?
7. Explain the significance of dream analysis for Freud. Why did he originally use it? What is the difference between the manifest and the latent content of a dream? What is meant by dream work?
8. What is the Oedipus complex, and what is its significance in Freud’s theory?
9. Define the term parapraxes and show its importance to Freud’s contention that much everyday behavior is unconsciously motivated.
10. What is meant by saying that a behavioral or psychological act is overdetermined?
11. Make the case that Freud’s theory accepted Lamarck’s theory of evolution, that is, the inheritance of acquired characteristics.
12. Why did Freud feel the need to postulate the existence of a death instinct? What types of behavior did this instinct explain?
13. Define and give examples of objective, neurotic, and moral anxiety.
14. What, according to Freud, is the function of the ego defense mechanisms? Why is repression considered the most basic ego defense mechanism? Explain what Freud meant when he said that civilization is built on sublimation.
15. Why did Freud refer to the experiences of both male and female children during the phallic stage as Oedipal complexes? In what important ways do the two complexes differ? How did Freud’s effort to understand women end?
16. What was Freud’s view of human nature? Religion? What was his hope for humankind?
17. What major Freudian myths are currently being revealed and corrected by such individuals as Ellenberger, Esterson, and Sulloway?
18. Summarize the evidence suggesting that Freud instilled in his patients the repressed memories that he claimed to discover.
19. Explain why Esterson and others argue that psychoanalysts often discover repressed memories of childhood seduction in their patients because the analysts’ beliefs require that they be found. Also explain why, according to this argument, it is irrelevant whether such memories are assumed to be of real or imagined events.
20. Why do researchers such as Loftus question the existence of repressed memories? Explain why these researchers believe that a search for repressed memories may do more harm than good.
21. Summarize the major criticisms and contributions of Freud’s theory.
22. What were Anna Freud’s contributions to psychoanalysis? Why is she considered a pioneer of ego psychology?
23. Discuss Jung’s conception of the collective unconscious and the archetypes contained therein.
24. Summarize the main differences between Freud’s and Adler’s theories of personality.
25. In what way(s) did Vaihinger’s philosophy of “as if” influence Adler’s theory of personality?
26. According to Horney, what are the three major adjustment patterns that neurotics can use while interacting with people? How does the way normal people use these patterns differ from the way neurotics use them?
27. Why, according to Horney, do women sometimes feel inferior to men?
28. Did Horney agree with Freud’s contention that anatomy is destiny? Explain.
29. How did Horney and Freud differ in their explanations of the origins of psychological problems? On the prognosis for personality change? On the belief in peoples’ ability to solve their own psychological problems?

Chapter 18 – Humanistic (Third-Force) Psychology

1. What is third-force psychology? What did the third-force psychologists see as the limitations of the other two forces?
2. Describe Brentano’s phenomenology. What did he mean by intentionality? What did Husserl mean by pure phenomenology?
3. How did Heidegger expand phenomenology? Discuss the following terms and concepts from Heidegger’s theory: Dasein, authenticity, becoming, responsibility, and thrownness.
4. Describe Binswanger’s method of Daseinanalysis. Discuss the following terms and concepts from Binswanger’s theory: Umwelt, Mitwelt, Eigenwelt, world-design, ground of existence, and being-beyond-the-world.
5. In May’s theory, what is the relationship between anxiety and guilt? What is the difference between normal anxiety and neurotic anxiety?
6. What, according to May, is the human dilemma?
7. For May, what functions do myths provide in human existence? What determines the content of classical myths? Are some myths better than others?
8. Describe the kind of science that May believed needs to be created in order to effectively study humans.
9. Why did Kelly maintain that all humans are like scientists?
10. Describe Kelly’s concepts of constructive alternativism and prepositional thinking.
11. Describe Kelly’s approach to psychotherapy. What did Kelly mean when he said that psychological problems are perceptual problems? What techniques did Kelly use to help his clients regain their ability to make-believe.
12. What are the main tenets of humanistic psychology?
13. Why, according to Maslow, are self-actualizing people so rare?
14. List what Maslow found to be the characteristics of self-actualizing people.
15. What is the difference between deficiency motivation and being motivation? Give an example of each.
16. Describe what Maslow meant by transpersonal or fourth-force psychology.
17. How did Rogers attempt to measure the effectiveness of psychotherapy.
18. For Rogers, what constitutes an incongruent person? In your answer, include a discussion of the organismic valuing process, the need for positive regard, and conditions of worth.
19. According to Rogers, what is the only way to avoid incongruency?
20. According to Rogers, what are the three major components of any relationship that facilitate personal growth?
21. What are the similarities and differences between humanistic and existential psychology?
22. Summarize the criticisms and contributions of humanistic psychology.
23. Compare the contemporary field of positive psychology with traditional humanistic psychology.

Chapter 19 – Psychobiology, Chapter 20 – Cognitive Psychology, and Chapter 21 – Contemporary Psychology

1. Provide evidence that psychobiology has been a persistent theme throughout psychology’s history.
2. Discuss Lashley’s principles of mass action and equipotentiality. In what way(s) did these principles conflict with the behavioristic view of brain functioning? How did they support the Gestalt view of brain functioning?
3. What is the engram? Was Lashley’s search for it successful? Was that of subsequent researchers?
4. According to Hebb, what are cell assemblies and phase sequences, and how do they develop? Give an example of how Hebb employed the concepts of cell assembly and phase sequence in explaining cognitive experience.
5. Describe Sperry’s split-brain preparation. What discoveries about the learning process did Sperry make using this preparation? Why was the preparation used on humans? What was learned about hemispheric specificity by studying humans with split brains?
6. Explain how the ethologists were instrumental in reducing the influence of radical behaviorism.
7. Within sociobiology, what is the meaning of the term biogrammar? Nothing-butsim? What is the leash principle?
8. Why have evolutionary psychologists been criticized for emphasizing adaptationism? Include in your answer the definitions of exaptations and spandrels.
9. In what ways did the Brelands’ observation of instinctual drift contradict assumptions made by the behaviorists? How did Seligman’s preparedness continuum also contradict those assumptions?
10. What was Bouchard’s rationale for using identical twins reared apart from birth in his study of the relative contributions of nature and nurture to intelligence and personality? What conclusions were supported by his research?
11. Justify the contention that psychology has almost always been concerned with studying human cognition. Throughout most of psychology’s history, how was cognition studied? What philosopher provided the framework within which cognition could be studied experimentally?
12. Give examples of early efforts (before 1950) to study human cognition experimentally.
13. Give examples of events that occurred in the 1950s that contributed to the development of experimental cognitive psychology.
14. Describe the pivotal events that occurred in the 1960s that contributed to the current popularity of experimental cognitive psychology.
15. What is the Turing test, and for what was it used?
16. Describe Searle’s thought experiment involving the “Chinese Room.” What, according to Searle, does this experiment prove?
17. Which philosophies would tend to support the position of strong AI? Weak AI? Which would deny the usefulness of either type of AI?
18. What are the major tenets of information-processing psychology? How is information-processing psychology related to AI?
19. Why can information-processing psychology be seen as following in the tradition of Kantian philosophy? Why can information-processing psychology be seen as marking a return to faculty psychology? A return to the mind-body problem?
20. What is new connectionism, and how does it compare to GOFAI?
21. Describe an artificial neural network and then discuss how such a network learns by applying Hebb’s rule.
22. Within new connectionism, what is a back-propagation model? Give an example.
23. Which of the criticisms of GOFAI remain valid when directed against new connectionism? Which are not?
24. Is psychology a science? Summarize the various answers to this question reviewed in this chapter.
25. What characterized premodern philosophy and psychology?
26. What is modernism? Who were its champions and what were its ideals?
27. Define postmodernism and give examples of how postmodernist thinking manifested itself throughout the history of psychology.
28. Describe the relevance of Wittgenstein’s concept of language games to postmodernism.
29. How, according to Wittgenstein are traditional philosophical debates best understood and resolved?
30. Make a case that the answer to the question, “Is there anything new in psychology?” is both yes and no.
31. Why are psychology’s persistent questions so persistent?