

Psychology Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Psychology trivia explores the study of mind and behavior through memorable findings, influential thinkers, and the ideas that shaped modern psychology. Emerging as a distinct scientific discipline in the late 19th century, psychology spans topics from perception and memory to emotion and social interaction. This page offers a family-friendly mix of easy, funny, and challenging questions that make the subject approachable while rewarding deeper knowledge.

HARD PSYCHOLOGY TRIVIA

1. Who published *On Being Sane in Insane Places* in 1973?

Answer: David Rosenhan

2. In Rosenhan's study, how many hospitals admitted pseudopatients?

Answer: 12

3. Which early school of psychology is most closely associated with Edward Titchener?

Answer: Structuralism

4. William James is most closely linked with which early psychological approach?

Answer: Functionalism

5. Who founded psychophysics?

Answer: Gustav Fechner

6. Which memory researcher used nonsense syllables in classic experiments?

Answer: Hermann Ebbinghaus

7. Better retention from distributed practice than cramming is known as what?

Answer: Spacing effect

8. What theory separates sensitivity from response bias in detection judgments?

Answer: Signal detection theory

9. Which test is commonly used to assess executive function by requiring rule shifts?

Answer: Wisconsin Card Sorting Test

10. What is the abbreviation for the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale?

Answer: WAIS

11. In what year was the MMPI first published?

Answer: 1943

12. Which emotion theory says bodily changes come before the conscious feeling of emotion?

Answer: James-Lange theory

13. What theory says emotional feeling and bodily arousal occur at the same time?

Answer: Cannon-Bard theory

14. The two-factor theory of emotion is associated with which pair of names?

Answer: Schachter and Singer

FUNNY PSYCHOLOGY TRIVIA

1. What's the name for that classic moment when someone knows a little and rates themselves like a genius anyway?

Answer: Dunning-Kruger effect

2. Which compliance trick opens with a huge ask before switching to a smaller one?

Answer: Door-in-the-face technique

3. What technique starts tiny so a later bigger request seems easier to accept?

Answer: Foot-in-the-door technique

4. When a group chases agreement so hard that decision quality drops, what's that called?

Answer: Groupthink

5. Sticking with something just because you've already poured time or money into it is the what fallacy?

Answer: Sunk cost fallacy

6. Favoring evidence that already agrees with you is known as what?

Answer: Confirmation bias

7. That uncomfortable mental clash from conflicting beliefs or actions has what name?

Answer: Cognitive dissonance

8. If you explain someone's behavior by personality while ignoring the situation, which error are you making?

Answer: Fundamental attribution error

9. Feeling like everyone noticed your awkward moment is a textbook example of what effect?

Answer: Spotlight effect

10. What effect makes vague personality statements feel eerily personal?

Answer: Barnum effect

11. Assuming other people know what you know is called the what of knowledge?

Answer: Curse of knowledge

12. Persistent self-doubt despite clear success goes by what name?

Answer: Impostor syndrome

13. Which bias convinces you a job will take one hour when experience keeps saying otherwise?

Answer: Planning fallacy

FUN PSYCHOLOGY TRIVIA

1. In the famous study with a white rat, what nickname was given to the child participant?

Answer: Little Albert

2. What illusion can make a person feel that a fake hand belongs to them?

Answer: Rubber hand illusion

3. When the word 'red' is printed in blue ink and naming the ink takes longer, what effect is being shown?

Answer: Stroop effect

4. What memory pattern combines primacy and recency for items in a list?

Answer: Serial position effect

5. Hearing your own name in a noisy room is a classic example of what?

Answer: Cocktail party effect

6. What term describes increased liking just because something is seen again and again?

Answer: Mere exposure effect

7. Which effect became widely known after discussions of the 1964 Kitty Genovese case?

Answer: Bystander effect

8. Martin Seligman developed research that led to what concept about giving up after repeated lack of control?

Answer: Learned helplessness

9. Which brain structure is crucial for forming new episodic memories?

Answer: Hippocampus

10. Which famous patient had severe memory loss after surgery on both medial temporal lobes?

Answer: H.M.

11. What is the term for being unable to form mental images?

Answer: Aphantasia

12. The inability to recognize familiar faces is called what?

Answer: Prosopagnosia

13. Arrow-like fins that distort perceived line length are part of which illusion?

Answer: Müller-Lyer illusion

PSYCHOLOGY FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Who helped create one of the first practical intelligence tests in France?

Answer: Alfred Binet

2. Which psychologist became the first woman president of the American Psychological

Association in 1905?

Answer: Mary Whiton Calkins

3. Who developed structuralist psychology while working at Cornell University?

Answer: Edward Titchener

4. At which university did William James teach?

Answer: Harvard University

5. Before leaving academia, John B. Watson worked at which university?

Answer: Johns Hopkins University

6. The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory was developed at what university?

Answer: University of Minnesota

7. At which university in California was the Stanford prison experiment conducted?

Answer: Stanford University

8. Frederic Bartlett's memory research was closely tied to which English university?

Answer: University of Cambridge

9. Who won the Nobel Prize in 1981 for split-brain research?

Answer: Roger Sperry

10. Which 1967 author helped name the cognitive approach with a book titled Cognitive Psychology?

Answer: Ulric Neisser

11. The phrase 'neurons that fire together wire together' is often linked to whom?

Answer: Donald Hebb

12. Research on false memories and eyewitness testimony is especially associated with which psychologist?

Answer: Elizabeth Loftus

EASY PSYCHOLOGY TRIVIA

1. Who opened the first experimental psychology laboratory in Leipzig in 1879?

Answer: Wilhelm Wundt

2. Which psychologist wrote The Principles of Psychology in 1890?

Answer: William James

3. Psychoanalysis was founded by which figure?

Answer: Sigmund Freud

4. The dog experiments tied to classical conditioning are most associated with whom?

Answer: Ivan Pavlov

5. Operant conditioning is most strongly connected to which psychologist?

Answer: B. F. Skinner

6. Who proposed a stage theory of cognitive development?

Answer: Jean Piaget

7. In Maslow's hierarchy, what sits at the top?

Answer: Self-actualization

8. Carl Rogers helped develop which school of psychology?

Answer: Humanistic psychology

9. Who led the Stanford prison experiment in 1971?

Answer: Philip Zimbardo

10. Which researcher studied obedience at Yale University?

Answer: Stanley Milgram

11. What kind of images are used in the Rorschach test?

Answer: Inkblots

12. Which brain structure is strongly associated with fear processing?

Answer: Amygdala

13. George Miller's 1956 paper is often linked to short-term memory capacity of about how many items?

Answer: 7 items

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/psychology>