

AP Psychology Unit 4 Study Guide: Sensation/Perception

- _____ processing refers to how the physical characteristics of stimuli influence their interpretation.
 - Top-down
 - Bottom-up
 - Parapsychological
 - Psychophysical
- _____ processing refers to how our knowledge and expectations influence perception.
 - Top-down
 - Bottom-up
 - Parapsychological
 - Psychophysical
- Concluding her presentation on sensation and perception, Kelly notes that
 - perception is bottom-up processing
 - sensation is top-down processing
 - without sensation there is no perception
 - sensation and perception blend into one continuous process.
- Concerning the evidence for subliminal stimulation, which of the following is the best answer?
 - The brain processes some information without our awareness.
 - Stimuli too weak to cross our thresholds for awareness may trigger a response in our sense receptors.
 - Because the "absolute" threshold is a statistical average, we are able to detect weaker stimuli some of the time.
 - All of these statements are true.
- Which of the following is an example of sensory adaptation?
 - finding the cold water of a swimming pool warmer after you have been in it for a while
 - developing an increased sensitivity to salt the more you use it in foods
 - becoming very irritated at the continuing sound of a dripping faucet
 - All of these are examples
- When admiring the texture of a piece of fabric, Calvin usually runs his fingertips over the cloth's surface. He does this because
 - if the cloth were held motionless, sensory adaptation to its feel would quickly occur.
 - the sense of touch does not adapt.
 - a relatively small amount of brain tissue is devoted to processing touch from the fingertips.
 - of all these reasons.
- The process by which the lens changes its curvature is
 - accommodation.
 - sensory adaptation.
 - feature detection.
 - transduction.
- Wavelength is to _____ as _____ is to brightness.
 - hue; intensity
 - intensity; hue
 - frequency; amplitude
 - brightness; hue
- The receptor of the eye that functions best in dim light is the
 - fovea.
 - cone.
 - bipolar cell.
 - rod.
- Which of the following is true of cones?
 - Cones enable color vision.
 - Cones are highly concentrated in the foveal region of the retina.
 - Cones have a higher absolute threshold for brightness than rods.
 - All of these statements are true.
- Hubel and Wiesel discovered feature detectors in the visual
 - fovea.
 - optic nerve.
 - iris.
 - cortex.
- Most color-deficient people will probably
 - lack functioning red- or green-sensitive cones.
 - see the world in only black and white.
 - also suffer from poor vision.
 - have above average vision to compensate for the deficit.

13. I am a cell in the thalamus that is excited by red and inhibited by green. I am a(n)
- feature detector.
 - cone.
 - bipolar cell.
 - opponent-process cell.
14. Frequency is to pitch as _____ is to _____.
- wavelength; loudness
 - amplitude; loudness
 - wavelength; intensity
 - amplitude; intensity
15. The frequency theory of hearing is better than place theory at explaining our sensation of
- the lowest pitches.
 - pitches of intermediate range.
 - the highest pitches.
 - all of these pitches.
16. Of the four distinct skin senses, the only one that has definable receptors is
- warmth.
 - cold.
 - pressure.
 - pain.
17. What enables you to feel yourself wiggling your toes even with your eyes closed?
- vestibular sense
 - kinesthesia
 - the skin senses
 - sensory interaction
18. The phantom limb sensation indicates that
- pain is a purely sensory phenomenon.
 - the central nervous system plays only a minor role in the experience of pain.
 - pain involves the brain's interpretation of neural activity.
 - all of these are true.
19. Which of the following is NOT one of the basic tastes?
- sweet
 - salty
 - umami
 - bland
20. Which of the following is an example of sensory interaction?
- finding that despite its delicious aroma, a weird looking meal tastes awful
 - finding that food tastes bland when you have a bad cold
 - finding it difficult to maintain your balance when you have an ear infection
 - all of these are examples
21. The historical movement associated with the statement "The whole may exceed the sum of its parts" is
- parapsychology.
 - behavioral psychology.
 - functional psychology.
 - Gestalt psychology.
22. The figure-ground relationship has demonstrated that
- perception is largely innate.
 - perception is simply a point-for-point representation of sensation.
 - the same stimulus can trigger more than one perception.
 - different people see different things when viewing a scene.
23. The tendency to organize stimuli into smooth, uninterrupted patterns is called
- closure.
 - continuity.
 - similarity.
 - proximity.
24. When we stare at an object, each eye receives a slightly different image, providing a depth cue known as
- interposition.
 - linear perspective.
 - relative motion.
 - retinal disparity.
25. The depth cue that occurs when we watch stable objects at different distances as we are moving is
- linear perspective.
 - interposition.
 - relative clarity.
 - relative motion.
26. An artist paints a tree orchard so that the parallel rows of trees converge at the top of the canvas. Which cue has the artist used to convey distance?
- interposition
 - retinal disparity
 - linear perspective
 - figure-ground
27. As we move, viewed objects cast changing shapes on our retinas, although we do not perceive the objects as changing. This is part of the phenomenon of
- perceptual constancy.
 - relative motion.
 - linear perspective.
 - continuity.

28. The Moon illusion occurs in part because distance cues at the horizon make the Moon seem
- farther away and therefore larger.
 - closer and therefore larger.
 - farther away and therefore smaller.
 - closer and therefore smaller.
29. Which of the following explains why a rose appears equally red in bright and dim light?
- the Young-Helmholtz theory
 - the opponent-process theory
 - feature detection
 - color constancy
30. According to the philosopher _____, we learn to perceive the world.
- Locke
 - Kant
 - Gibson
 - Walk
31. Experiments with distorted visual environments demonstrate that
- adaptation rarely takes place.
 - animals adapt readily, but humans do not.
 - humans adapt readily, while lower animals typically do not.
 - adaptation is possible during a critical period in infancy but no thereafter.
32. Although carpenter Smith perceived a briefly viewed object as a screwdriver, the police officer Wesson perceived the same object as a knife. This illustrates that perception is guided by
- linear perspective.
 - shape constancy.
 - retinal disparity.
 - perceptual set.
33. Thanks to _____, TiVo and DVR have solved the TV recording problem caused by the complexity of VCRs.
- parapsychologists
 - human factors psychologists
 - psychokineticists
 - Gestalt psychologists
34. Psychologists who study ESP are called
- clairvoyants.
 - telepaths.
 - parapsychologists.
 - levitators.
35. Researchers who investigated telepathy found that
- when external distractions are reduced, both the "sender" and the "receiver" become much more accurate in demonstrating ESP.
 - only "senders" become much more accurate.
 - only "receivers" become much more accurate.
 - over many studies, none of these events occur.