

2021

AP[®]

 CollegeBoard

AP[®] Psychology

Free-Response Questions

Set 2

PSYCHOLOGY

SECTION II

Time—50 minutes

2 Questions

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. You may plan your answers in this orange booklet, but no credit will be given for anything written in this booklet. **You will only earn credit for what you write in the separate Free Response booklet.**

1. Part A

Damian spends a great deal of time playing video games. He prefers complex games that require skill in moving from one level of competence to the next. He regularly compares his progress with that of his online friends and gets tips from them for more successful strategies.

Explain how each of the following psychological concepts applies to Damian’s gaming behavior.

- Motor cortex
- Algorithm
- Reciprocity norm
- Monocular depth cue of interposition
- Mental set

Part B

Damian’s parents are concerned because Damian has been missing meals, has lost weight, and has made no effort to complete his college applications.

- Explain how Damian’s parents could use a behavioral approach to get him to apply to college using a fixed-ratio schedule.
- Explain how a psychoanalyst would use free association with Damian.

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

2. Dr. Jones was doing a formal research study of the effect of mental imagery on memory. She randomly assigned students in the psychology course she was teaching into two groups and required them to complete the task as part of their coursework. Forty students were in each group. Each group was presented the same list of thirty word pairs (e.g., tree/book, house/street, friend/cat). Group A was told to form a mental image for each pair. Group B was not given that instruction. Each group was given two minutes to memorize the pairs of words. Dr. Jones then tested their recall of the list by giving each group the first word and asking them to remember the second word. Dr. Jones recorded the number of words recalled by each group and then debriefed the participants. The results are presented in the table below.

	Group A	Group B
Mean Number of Words Recalled	25	10
Standard Deviation	4	6

- Identify the independent variable presented in the study.
- Identify the control group.
- Explain why the type of research design being used is appropriate for this study.
- Explain what the different standard deviations indicate about the data from the two groups.
- Explain the ethical flaw that is explicitly presented in the scenario.
- Explain how the primacy effect could apply to this research.
- Explain how levels of processing are related to this research.

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

STOP

END OF EXAM