

2021

AP<sup>®</sup>

 CollegeBoard

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# AP<sup>®</sup> Psychology

## Free-Response Questions

### Set 1

**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. Malia has an assignment to write a research paper for a class. She has several weeks to work on the paper before turning in the finished product.

Part A

Explain how each of the following could apply to Malia’s completion of the assignment.

- Albert Bandura’s theory of self-efficacy
- A low score on the Big Five trait of neuroticism
- External locus of control
- Divergent thinking
- Efferent neurons

Part B

Malia’s teacher, Mr. Barry, has many papers to grade. Explain how each of the following might apply to his success in grading the papers.

- Incentive theory
- Crystallized intelligence

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**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. Mr. Gomez decides to conduct a study with his sixth-grade math class, after first obtaining informed consent. Half of his students happen to arrive early for class (group 1), so he uses the time to give them some extra problem-solving tips. The next week he compares their scores on a quiz with the scores of the students who arrived on time (group 2) and did not receive the tips. The students' grades are represented in the table below. Mr. Gomez comes to the conclusion that the problem-solving tips led to higher scores on the quiz. Mr. Gomez posts the table of grades on the door of his classroom to emphasize that the tips helped improve the student grades.

Group 1	Grade on Quiz	Group 2	Grade on Quiz
Jaime	4	Lynda	3
Steven	5	Adam	4
Thomas	3	Sami	1
Elizabeth	3	Marlena	1
Marwa	7	Kiara	5
Frances	6	Caylin	4
Fekru	3	Darin	2
David	6	Chinami	4

- Identify the dependent variable presented in the study.
- Explain how the study could be modified to be an experiment.
- Compare the mode of group 1 to the mode of group 2.
- Identify the measure of central tendency that needs to be calculated to determine the standard deviation.
- Explain the ethical flaw that is explicitly presented in the study.
- Explain how metacognition could apply to the scenario.
- Suppose Mr. Gomez had conducted this study as an experiment without any flaws and obtained the same results and that the results were statistically significant. Explain how the findings depicted in the table above could support the theory of levels of processing.

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**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**