

Test Bank for Living World 11th Johnson

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CORRECT ANSWERS ARE LOCATED IN THE 2ND HALF OF THIS DOC.

TRUE/FALSE - Write 'T' if the statement is true and 'F' if the statement is false.

- 1) A theory provides the final explanation for a phenomenon.
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 2) A theory is more complex than a hypothesis.
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 3) Quantitative theories express relationships in mathematical terms.
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 4) Any theory that is not quantitative is qualitative.
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 5) Descriptive theories are the highest level of theories.
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 6) Fundamental theories are theories that depend on analogy to explain phenomena.
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 7) Cognitive dissonance theory is an example of a theory with a limited domain.
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 8) A good theory helps a researcher organize and understand the findings in a research area.
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 9) If a theory is proven incorrect, it is totally useless.
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false

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- 10) If you find yourself saying, "Ah, but of course!" with respect to a theory, that theory has explanatory relevance.
- ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 11) A testable theory is one that can potentially fail an empirical test.
- ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 12) A theory that generates research, even if it is later proven wrong, is a parsimonious theory.
- ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 13) One of the dangers in using a confirmational strategy is the possibility of affirming the consequence.
- ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 14) Weak inference will work only if alternative explanations generate well-defined predictions.
- ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 15) When research generates data that support the predictions of a theory, we can safely say that the theory was proven correct.
- ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 16) The best way to test theories is to use both confirmational and disconfirmational strategies together.
- ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 17) Interest in the Hull-Spence theory of learning died because the theory had become too complex.
- ☐ true
 - ☐ false
- 18) Theories should be developed even before a good base of empirical data exists.
- ☐ true
 - ☐ false

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- 19) Experimentation without theory prevents the generation of irrelevant data.
- Ⓐ true
 - Ⓑ false
- 20) In psychology and related disciplines, there has been far too much attention paid to theory development and testing.
- Ⓐ true
 - Ⓑ false

MULTIPLE CHOICE - Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- 21) A theory is a(n)
- A) plausible or scientifically acceptable, well-substantiated explanation of some aspect of the natural world.
 - B) well-substantiated explanation of some aspect of the natural world.
 - C) organized system of accepted knowledge that applies in a variety of circumstances to explain a specific set of phenomena and predict the characteristics of as yet unobserved phenomena.
 - D) All of the answers are correct.
- 22) A tentative explanation for an observation, phenomenon, or scientific problem that can be tested by further investigation is called a(n)
- A) fact.
 - B) theory.
 - C) hypothesis.
 - D) assertion.
- 23) Scientific hypotheses must be posed in a form that allows them to be
- A) rejected.
 - B) proven true.
 - C) accepted because they seem to make sense.
 - D) convincing.
- 24) Hypotheses and theories differ in that hypotheses are
- A) not well substantiated.
 - B) relatively simple.
 - C) more limited in scope.
 - D) All of the answers are correct.

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- 25) Which of the following statements is true of hypotheses?
- A) They are less limited in scope than are theories.
 - B) They are better substantiated than theories.
 - C) They are like educated guesses to be tested.
 - D) They are well-supported explanations for observations.
- 26) Proposing that the glorious tail-plumage of the peacock increases the peacock's success at breeding is an example of a
- A) sample.
 - B) law.
 - C) model.
 - D) hypothesis.
- 27) A theory that has been substantially verified is sometimes called a
- A) law.
 - B) model.
 - C) descriptive theory.
 - D) None of the answers is correct.
- 28) Which of the following statements is true of a law?
- A) It is an empirically verified, quantitative relationship between two or more variables.
 - B) It is a tentative explanation for an observation, phenomenon, or scientific problem.
 - C) It refers to a specific implementation of a more general theoretical view.
 - D) It is more limited in scope than is a hypothesis.
- 29) Mathematically expressed laws are rare in psychology because
- A) they are modeled to change the specific nature of constants.
 - B) it is difficult to control extraneous variables.
 - C) they offer only a tentative explanation for an observation.
 - D) it is difficult to distort relationships between variables.
- 30) In most cases, a model is
- A) the same as a theory.
 - B) a specific implementation of a more general theoretical view.
 - C) a less specific implementation of a more general theoretical view.
 - D) a general application of a specific theoretical view.

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- 31) A model can be a(n)
- A) specific implementation of a more general theoretical view.
 - B) application of a general theory to a specific situation.
 - C) synonym for a theory.
 - D) All of the answers are correct.
- 32) A _____ is a set of program statements that define the variables to be considered and the ways in which their values will change over the course of time or trials.
- A) computer model
 - B) mechanistic explanation
 - C) matching law
 - D) functional explanation
- 33) An advantage of building a computer model to test a theory is that
- A) it may help reveal inconsistencies or unspoken assumptions in the theory.
 - B) it eliminates ambiguity.
 - C) it can be used to make predictions that would be difficult to derive by verbally tracing out the implications of the theory.
 - D) All of the answers are correct.
- 34) Which of the following statements is true of a computer model?
- A) The attempt to build a computer model masks inconsistencies, unspoken assumptions, or other defects in a theory.
 - B) The behavior of a computer model under simulated conditions can be compared with the behavior of real people.
 - C) A computer model creates ambiguity, which makes it difficult to determine what the model assumes.
 - D) A properly implemented computer model will show what is to be ignored under normal conditions.
- 35) A _____ explanation describes the physical components and the chain of cause and effect through which conditions act on the physical components to produce behavior.
- A) mechanistic
 - B) functional
 - C) reductive
 - D) descriptive

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- 36) A _____ explanation describes an attribute of something in terms of what it does.
- A) mechanistic
 - B) functional
 - C) mechanical
 - D) descriptive
- 37) _____ tell you how a system works without necessarily telling you why it does what it does.
- A) Descriptive explanations
 - B) Functional explanations
 - C) Reductive explanations
 - D) Mechanistic explanations
- 38) _____ refer to the purpose or goal of a given attribute or system without describing how those purposes or goals are achieved.
- A) Mechanical explanations
 - B) Functional explanations
 - C) Reductive explanations
 - D) Descriptive explanations
- 39) Given the choice between a mechanistic explanation and a functional one, you should
- A) prefer the mechanistic one. TBEXAM.COM
 - B) prefer the functional one.
 - C) not care which one you choose.
 - D) flip a coin.
- 40) A(n) _____ defines the relationships between its variables and constants in a set of mathematical formulas.
- A) qualitative theory
 - B) applied general systems theory
 - C) quantitative theory
 - D) associative systems theory
- 41) A quantitative theory
- A) relates the numerical representations of variables and constants to one another.
 - B) uses analogies to physical systems for its base.
 - C) is stated in purely verbal terms.
 - D) None of the answers is correct.

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- 42) A qualitative theory
- A) relates the numerical representations of variables and constants to one another.
 - B) uses analogies to physical systems for its base.
 - C) is stated in purely verbal terms.
 - D) None of the answers is correct.
- 43) A theory that provides only a description of a phenomenon and makes no attempt to explain it is a(n) _____ theory.
- A) analogical
 - B) informational
 - C) fundamental
 - D) descriptive
- 44) Most descriptive theories
- A) use analogy to explain relationships.
 - B) are simply proposed generalizations from observations.
 - C) adequately explain phenomena within their scopes.
 - D) None of the answers is correct.
- 45) Proposing a theory of motivation that likens motivational control systems to home heating systems is an example of a(n) _____ theory.
- A) analogical
 - B) descriptive
 - C) fundamental
 - D) modeling
- 46) _____ borrow from well-understood models by suggesting that the system to be explained behaves in a fashion similar to that described by a well-understood model.
- A) Analogical theories
 - B) Fundamental theories
 - C) Descriptive theories
 - D) Functional theories
- 47) A problem with analogical theories is that
- A) analogies are sometimes hard to come by.
 - B) they merely describe phenomena.
 - C) they cannot be adequately tested.
 - D) analogies can be taken only so far before they begin to break down.

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48) Fundamental theories

- A) require and rely heavily on analogy.
- B) are the lowest form of theory because they do not explain phenomena.
- C) seek to model an underlying reality that produces the observed relationships among the variables.
- D) cannot be developed to explain psychological phenomena.

49) Fundamental theories

- A) do not rely on analogy to explain phenomena.
- B) propose a new structure that directly relates variables and constants within a system.
- C) are the highest form of theory.
- D) All of the answers are correct.

50) Fundamental theories are rare in psychology because

- A) they are the lowest level of description.
- B) it is extremely difficult to control the relevant variables.
- C) they are too general to account for psychological phenomena.
- D) it is easy to identify variables using mathematical laws.

51) The _____ of a theory concerns the range of situations to which it applies.

- A) applicability
- B) generality
- C) domain
- D) broadness

52) Freud's theory of personality gave us deep insight into the operation of the unconscious mind.

This is an example of a theory

- A) adding confusion to an already confused issue.
- B) predicting events accurately.
- C) having limited application.
- D) helping us understand a complex phenomenon.

53) Which of the following was listed in your text as a role of theory in science?

- A) Increasing publication rates
- B) Providing a way to predict the behavior of systems
- C) Validating new dependent variables
- D) All of the answers are correct.

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- 54) Dr. Jones proposed a theory of helping behavior that turned out to be wrong. However, it did serve as a catalyst for a fruitful research area. This illustrates the _____ value of a theory.
- A) heuristic
 - B) catalytic
 - C) predictive
 - D) organizational
- 55) Which of the following statements is true of the heuristic value of a theory?
- A) It acts as a countermeasure in a new research.
 - B) It affects only the independent variables in a research.
 - C) It is often independent of its validity.
 - D) It nullifies correlation between variables.
- 56) Because of the failure of theories of learning, Skinner (1949) suggested that
- A) researchers be more careful when developing theories.
 - B) researchers rely more heavily on analogical theories than on fundamental theories.
 - C) research be guided more by the search for functional relationships than by theory.
 - D) theories are useless.
- 57) For a theory to be of value, it must
- A) be able to account for data within its scope.
 - B) give good reason to believe that a phenomenon would occur under the specified conditions.
 - C) be testable.
 - D) All of the answers are correct.
- 58) If a theory gives good reason to believe that a phenomenon would occur under the conditions specified by the theory, the theory is said to have
- A) strong inference capacity.
 - B) explanatory relevance.
 - C) testability.
 - D) predictability.
- 59) According to the text, Freud's theory of personality lacks
- A) explanatory relevance.
 - B) predictability.
 - C) heuristic value.
 - D) testability.

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- 60) A theory is _____ if it is capable of failing an empirical test.
- A) sound
 - B) relevant
 - C) testable
 - D) controvertible
- 61) If a theory can account for a phenomenon, no matter what the phenomenon is, then the theory
- A) is probably untestable.
 - B) lacks explanatory relevance.
 - C) has too wide a scope.
 - D) lacks heuristic value.
- 62) With respect to predicting events, a theory
- A) need only predict phenomena within its scope.
 - B) need not predict events within its scope.
 - C) should predict phenomena beyond its original scope as well as those within its scope.
 - D) None of the answers is correct.
- 63) Theory A explains a behavior with 10 propositions. Theory B explains the same behavior with 5 propositions. With respect to Theory A, Theory B
- A) has greater explanatory relevance.
 - B) has a narrower scope.
 - C) has greater heuristic value.
 - D) is more parsimonious.
- 64) A(n) _____ explains a phenomenon with as few statements as possible.
- A) explanatory relevant theory
 - B) theory with high heuristic value
 - C) parsimonious theory
 - D) strong theory
- 65) According to the text, the collapse of the Hull-Spence theory of learning occurred because the theory
- A) lacked heuristic value.
 - B) was no longer parsimonious.
 - C) lacked explanatory relevance.
 - D) was too limited in scope.

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- 66) When data support your theory, it means that
- A) you can have more confidence in the theory's ability to explain and predict phenomena within its scope.
 - B) the theory has been proven correct.
 - C) the theory has been disconfirmed.
 - D) the theory will not be proven incorrect later on.
- 67) It is difficult to prove a theory correct because
- A) at the present time our experimental techniques are too crude to provide the ultimate test of a theory.
 - B) a theory is a general statement and it is a logical fallacy to try to prove a general statement correct.
 - C) theories usually have mechanisms built into them to prevent them from being proven correct.
 - D) None of the answers is correct.
- 68) If a theory is disconfirmed by data, it is
- A) usually discarded immediately.
 - B) sometimes modified so that the theory can account for the new data.
 - C) retained because data from empirical research are usually unreliable.
 - D) retained without modification until more data come in.
- 69) The process of developing alternative explanations for a phenomenon, developing predictions based on the alternatives, and testing those predictions is known as
- A) strong inference.
 - B) a confirmational strategy.
 - C) a disconfirmational strategy.
 - D) weak inference.
- 70) Strong inference will work only if
- A) a theory is parsimonious.
 - B) alternative explanations give rise to well-defined predictions.
 - C) a theory is capable of being confirmed.
 - D) All of the answers are correct.

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- 71) According to the text, following a confirmational strategy to test a theory is important but has limitations. Which of the following is one of those limitations?
- A) Alternative explanations generated often do not give rise to predictions that are specific enough to be confirmed.
 - B) Current research methods are not developed enough to firmly confirm a theory.
 - C) You can gather all the confirmational data in the world, but the theory could still be wrong.
 - D) All of the answers are correct.
- 72) If a positive result of an experiment does not support a prediction made by a theory, you are using
- A) strong inference.
 - B) analogical inference.
 - C) a confirmational strategy.
 - D) a disconfirmational strategy.
- 73) According to the text, adequate testing of a theory involves using
- A) only a disconfirmational strategy.
 - B) only a confirmational strategy.
 - C) both disconfirmational and confirmational strategies.
 - D) strong inference alone. TBEXAM.COM
- 74) According to the text, a theory should be developed
- A) before any empirical data are collected.
 - B) after there is an adequate base of empirical data on the phenomenon of interest.
 - C) only if the attempts to find functional relationships via research fail.
 - D) whenever there is a phenomenon that cannot be adequately explained.
- 75) Theory development in psychology and related disciplines is
- A) a well-developed institutionalized branch.
 - B) unnecessary because those are empirical disciplines.
 - C) impossible due to the nature of the subject matter.
 - D) relatively lacking compared to disciplines such as physics.

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ESSAY. Write your answer in the space provided or on a separate sheet of paper.

76) Compare and contrast theory, hypothesis, and law. Define each and mention how they relate to one another.

77) What is the difference between a mechanistic explanation and a functional explanation? Which is better, and why?

78) Define what is meant by descriptive, analogical, and fundamental theories. What are the defining characteristics, strengths, and weaknesses of each?

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79) Discuss the various roles that theory plays in science. Where applicable, give examples.

80) Outline the characteristics of a good theory.

81) If you wanted to test a particular theory, what strategy would you use and why?

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Answer Key

Test name: Chapter 02

- 1) FALSE
- 2) TRUE
- 3) TRUE
- 4) TRUE
- 5) FALSE
- 6) FALSE
- 7) FALSE
- 8) TRUE
- 9) FALSE
- 10) TRUE
- 11) TRUE
- 12) FALSE
- 13) TRUE
- 14) FALSE
- 15) FALSE
- 16) TRUE
- 17) TRUE
- 18) FALSE
- 19) FALSE
- 20) FALSE
- 21) D
- 22) C
- 23) A
- 24) D
- 25) C
- 26) D
- 27) A
- 28) A
- 29) B
- 30) B
- 31) D
- 32) A
- 33) D
- 34) B
- 35) A
- 36) B
- 37) D

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- 38) B
- 39) A
- 40) C
- 41) A
- 42) C
- 43) D
- 44) B
- 45) A
- 46) A
- 47) D
- 48) C
- 49) D
- 50) B
- 51) C
- 52) D
- 53) B
- 54) A
- 55) C
- 56) A
- 57) D
- 58) B
- 59) D
- 60) C
- 61) A
- 62) C
- 63) D
- 64) C
- 65) B
- 66) A
- 67) B
- 68) B
- 69) A
- 70) B
- 71) C
- 72) D
- 73) C
- 74) B
- 75) D
- 76) Essay

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Answers may vary.

77) Essay

Answers may vary.

78) Essay

Answers may vary.

79) Essay

Answers may vary.

80) Essay

Answers may vary.

81) Essay

Answers may vary.

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