InstantCert
ESTABLISHED IN 2002

Free Educational Psychology CLEP Practice Test

10 questions from InstantCert's 411-card Introduction to Educational Psychology study guide

How to use this PDF

Each of these questions is a sentence with one blank and four choices. Pick the best fit, mark it, and keep going. The answer key with explanations starts after question 10, so do all 10 before you look. No timer. On the real exam you get about 54 seconds per question, so if you want a challenge, give yourself 9 minutes for the set. One caveat before you start: this set has ONE question on Individual Differences, which is the largest category on the real exam at 17%, and nothing on Research Design and Analysis or Multiculturalism. The real exam also expects you to know how a term applies, which a blank cannot check.

What your score means

0 to 4 correct

The Introduction to Educational Psychology CLEP runs on theorists and vocabulary, and a score in this range usually means the terms are not there yet. Ten questions is a sample, not a diagnosis. Read the explanations all the way through, then take Round 2 on the page linked at the end before you decide how much work is ahead of you.

5 to 7 correct

Right in the middle. Close enough to the line to be worth studying for, and not close enough to walk in cold on an exam that 4 in 10 civilian test takers and more than half of military test takers do not pass. Take Round 2 and see if the number holds.

8 to 10 correct

You know Piaget, Erikson, conditioning, and the terms in this set. Keep in mind that ten questions with no clock is a sample, that the real exam is about 100 questions at 54 seconds each, and that this set has one question on Individual Differences, the largest category on the real exam, and nothing on Multiculturalism, Bloom's Taxonomy, Kohlberg, or Bandura. Take Round 2, then read the explanation on anything you missed.

Questions

QUESTION 1 OF 10 | DEVELOPMENT

Piaget concluded from this work that schools should emphasize cooperative decision-making and problem solving, nurturing moral development by requiring students to work out common rules based on _____.

A. utility
B. fairness
C. speed
D. outcome

QUESTION 2 OF 10 | COGNITIVE PERSPECTIVE

Fourteen letters is difficult for most people to store in their short-term memory. But you can use a technique called chunking to increase the capacity of short term memory. Instead of trying to remember 14 letters you must first chunk the letters into _____ units.

A. shorter
B. imaginary
C. mnemonic
D. larger

QUESTION 3 OF 10 | PEDAGOGY

_____-based learning prepares students to think critically and analytically, and to find and use appropriate learning resources.

A. Problem
B. Cognitive
C. Constructive
D. Experiential

QUESTION 4 OF 10 | BEHAVIORAL PERSPECTIVE

_____ conditioning refers to an automatic response being conditioned into a person's behavior, whereas operant conditioning deals with a learning process where a person takes a deliberate action in response to a certain stimuli.

A. Operant
B. Classical
C. Behavioral
D. Individual

QUESTION 5 OF 10 | BEHAVIORAL PERSPECTIVE

The _____ Principle states that a more-preferred activity can serve as a reinforcer for a less-preferred activity.

A. Peter
B. Premack
C. Darwin
D. Piaget

QUESTION 6 OF 10 | DEVELOPMENT

Erikson proposed that there were eight stages of psycho-social development, four of which occur during childhood. They are 1.) Trust vs. mistrust, 2.) Autonomy vs. shame and doubt, 3.) Initiative vs. guilt, 4.) _____ vs. Inferiority.

A. Benevolence
B. Malevolence
C. Industry
D. Apathy

QUESTION 7 OF 10 | MOTIVATION

A student studies diligently for his exams the first semester, and ends up with poor grades. As a result, he doesn't study for his exams during the second semester. This is an example of learned _____.

A. helplessness
B. rationalization
C. apathy
D. defeatism

QUESTION 8 OF 10 | INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

Robert Sternberg's _____ theory of successful intelligence includes three components: analytical, creative and practical.

A. trifecta
B. triarchic
C. triumvirate
D. trinity

QUESTION 9 OF 10 | COGNITIVE PERSPECTIVE

A _____ is a general strategy used in attempting to solve problems, as opposed to an algorithm, which is a step-by-step procedure for solving a problem.

A. heuristic
B. holistic
C. coherent
D. aggregate

QUESTION 10 OF 10 | TESTING

Most tests administered by teachers in classrooms are _____-referenced tests; they are designed to test mastery of certain objectives.

A. sample
B. criterion
C. parameter
D. norm

Answer Key

1. B fairness

Piaget believed that if children work together to establish common rules, they will have a greater sense of moral obligation to others and a stronger moral foundation.

2. D larger

For example, with a 14 letter group such as XIBMSATMTVPHDX, you would have a much easier time remembering X, IBM, SAT, MTV, PHD, and X, instead of trying to remember 14 individual letters.

3. A Problem

Problem based learning is an instructional method that challenges students to "learn to learn," working cooperatively in groups to seek solutions to real world problems. These problems are used to engage students' curiosity and initiate learning the subject matter.

4. B Classical

Classical conditioning refers to things like a shiver running down your spine whenever you hear a fox howl, or flinching when someone lifts their hand. On the other hand, operant conditioning might be something like pushing a button next to the door, because you've learned through experience that if you don't push the button, you will get zapped by the door knob.

5. B Premack

An example of the Premack principle might be to allow students to work with their friends on a second worksheet (the more-preferred activity), if they quietly complete the first worksheet on their own (the less-preferred activity).

6. C Industry

Erikson defined eight stages, and a "crisis" that is associated with each stage. The Industry (or Competence) vs. Inferiority stage deals with whether the child develops a sense of confidence in intellectual and social skills or develops a sense of failure and lack of confidence.

7. A helplessness

Learned helplessness occurs when students come to believe that they cannot control or improve their own learning.

8. B triarchic

The Sternberg Triarchic Abilities Test (STAT) was created to evaluate the components of Sternberg's theory. It includes analytical questions to measure the ability to learn from context and reason; creative questions to assess the ability to cope with new situations; and practical questions to assess the ability to solve everyday problems.

9. A heuristic

A Heuristic might be something like dividing a problem into sub-problems, or working backwards through a problem, etc.. On the other hand, an algorithm is a specific set of steps you follow to solve a problem. For instance, most math problems have an associated algorithm; most of life's problems are not that straightforward, and would be best solved with heuristics.

10. B criterion

Criterion-referenced tests test for a certain level of performance. For example, a math class would have a test that covers all of the different math concepts the students are expected to know by the end of the class. In a criterion-referenced test, it doesn't matter what the other students get--the test-takers must demonstrate mastery.

Want 10 more? Take Round 2 online

Round 2 is 10 more questions from the same 411 cards. It covers Piaget's advice to classroom teachers, Piaget and Vygotsky on children who talk to themselves, reinforcement schedules, locus of control, a kind of memory interference, the argument for the SAT, and an instructional variable named by Mary Budd Rowe. Take Round 1 on the page below, enter your email on the score screen, and the Round 2 link follows.

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The full Introduction to Educational Psychology study guide

411 Introduction to Educational Psychology flashcards, each one with an explanation of why the answer is right, plus 3 full-length timed mock exams in software built to feel like the real CLEP screen, plus the Specific Exam Feedback forum on DegreeForum.net, where members post what was on their exam. $20/month, cancel anytime. 30-day money-back guarantee. 92% of InstantCert students who reported an Introduction to Educational Psychology score passed (373 of 406), against a civilian pass rate of 60% and a military pass rate of 43%.

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