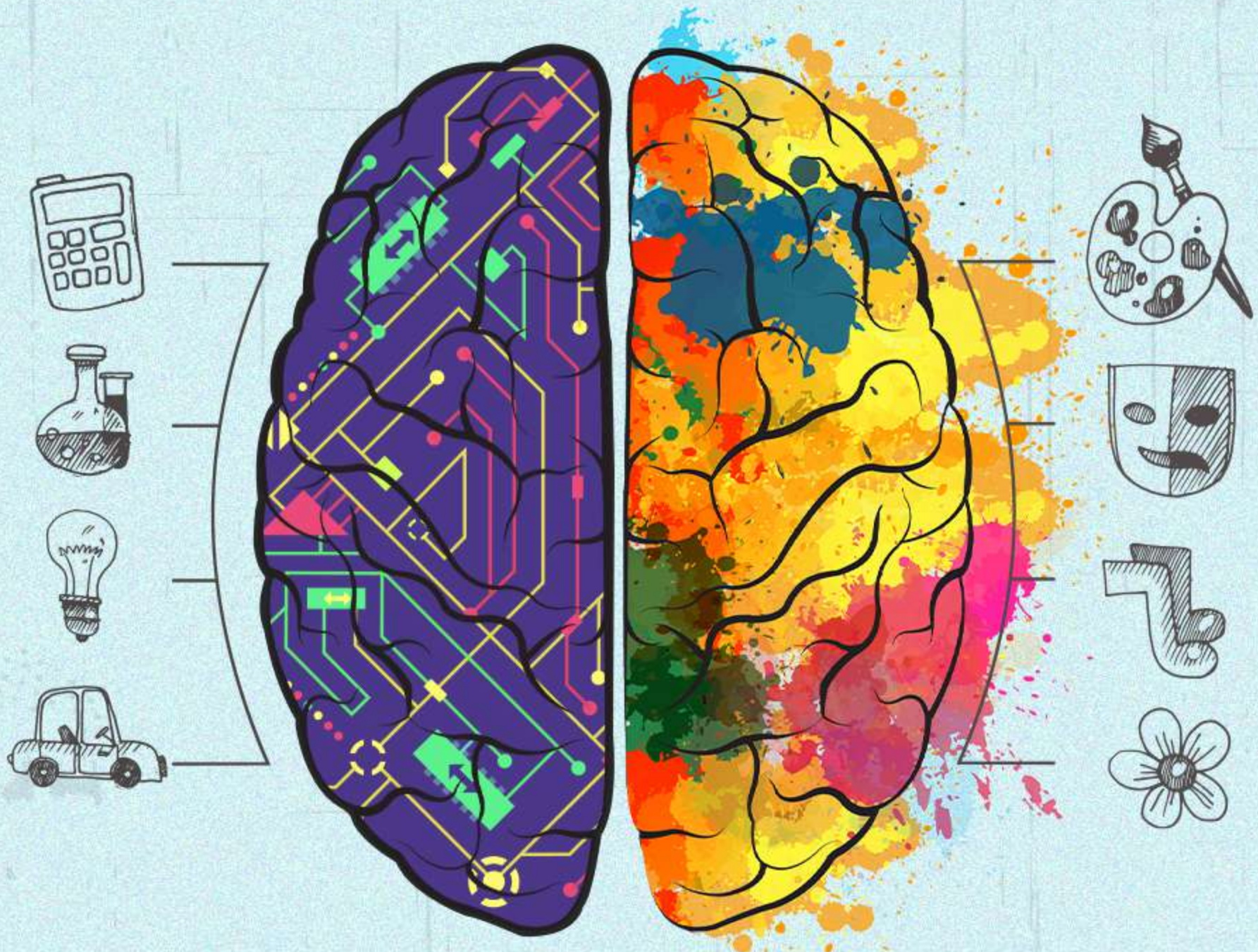




Implicit Vs Explicit Memory

Two major types of long-term memory

Sample MCQs For Psychology Entrances

Let's first see exam-style questions linked to this topic!

Ques. 1

Damage to the basal ganglia would most likely impair which type of memory?

- a Semantic memory
- b Episodic memory
- c Procedural memory
- d Short-term memory

Ques. 2

A patient exhibits normal procedural learning but is unable to recall personal experiences. Which type of memory is most likely impaired?

- a Semantic memory
- b Episodic memory
- c Implicit memory
- d Short-term memory

Go through the post and try solving it on your own.
If you can't, the last slide has the answers.

Introduction to Memory Types

Memory is broadly divided into **short-term** and **long-term** memory. Long-term memory further splits into:

1.

Explicit (Declarative) Memory

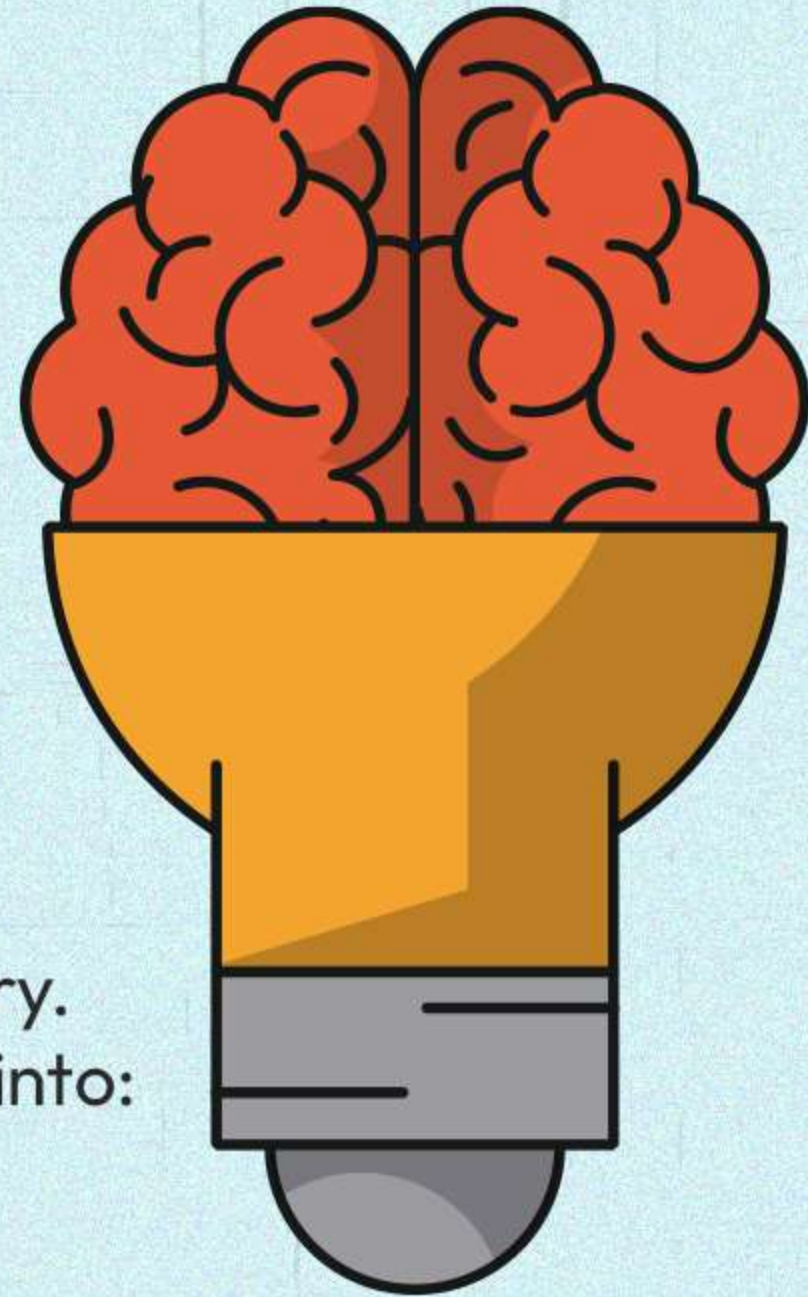
conscious recall of facts and events.

2.

Implicit (Non-declarative) Memory

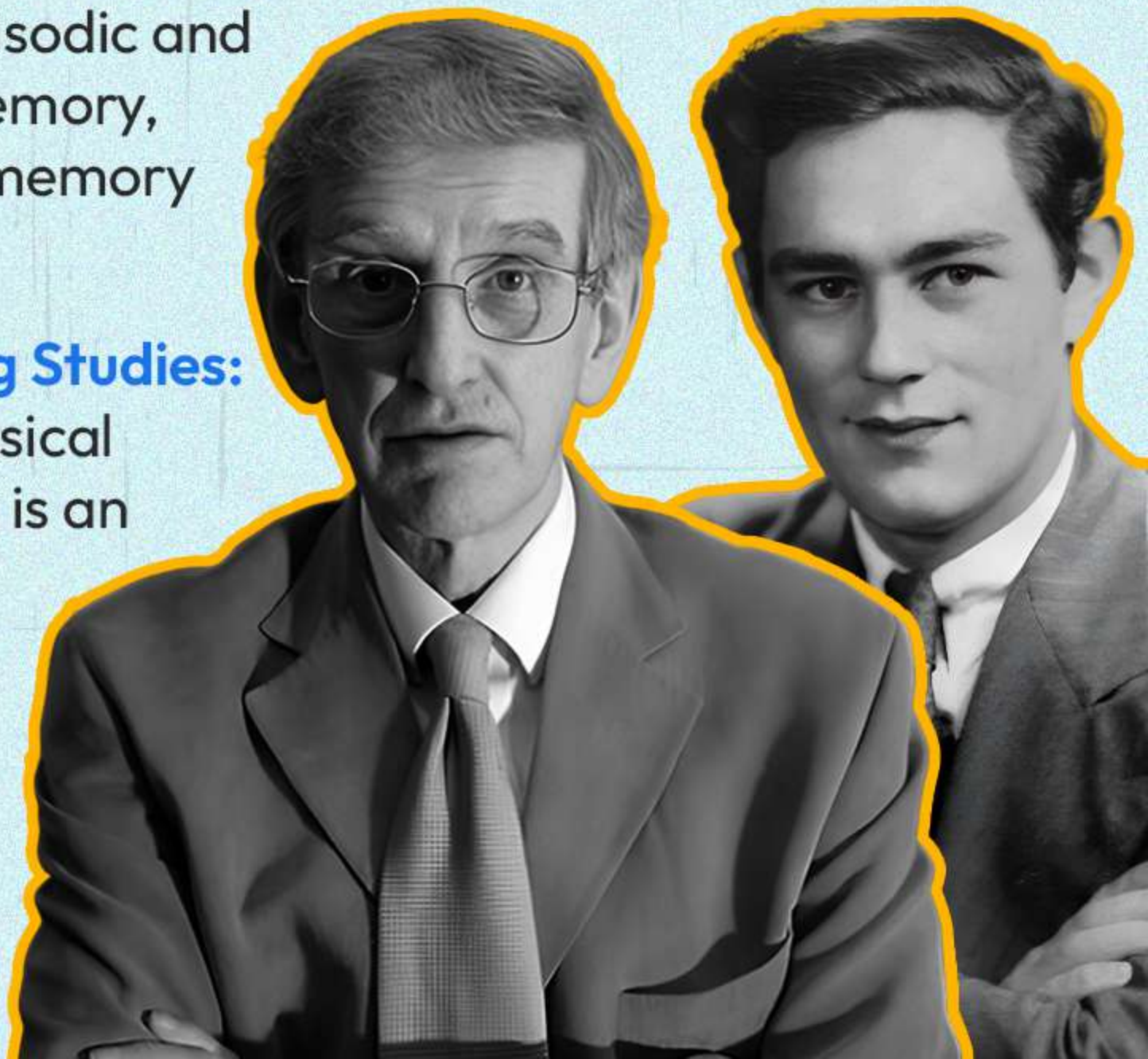
unconscious skills and conditioned responses.

Remember, explicit = conscious; implicit = unconscious.



Research & Classic Studies

- **Clive Wearing (1990s):** Severe hippocampal damage → lost explicit memory, intact procedural skills.
- **H.M. (Henry Molaison):** Hippocampal removal → impaired episodic and semantic memory, procedural memory intact.
- **Conditioning Studies:** Pavlov's classical conditioning is an example of implicit memory.



Explicit Memory (Declarative)

Explicit memory involves intentional recollection. It has two subtypes:

- **Episodic Memory:**

Personal experiences, e.g., your first psychology class.



- **Semantic Memory:**

General knowledge, facts, and concepts, e.g., the definition of classical conditioning.



Key Point: Explicit memory is hippocampus-dependent. Damage to the hippocampus often impairs this memory type.

Implicit Memory (Non-declarative)

Implicit memory works without conscious awareness. It includes:

- **Procedural Memory:**

Skills like riding a bike or typing.



- **Priming:**

Exposure to one stimulus influences response to another.



- **Conditioned Responses:**

Learned fears or habits.



Key Differences Between Implicit & Explicit Memory

Feature	Explicit	Implicit
Awareness	Conscious	Unconscious
Content	Facts & events	Skills & habits
Brain Area	Hippocampus (medial temporal lobe) & associated cortical areas	Basal ganglia, cerebellum, amygdala
Example	Recalling exam date	Riding a bicycle

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The correct answers are:

Q.1 C) Procedural
memory

Q.2 B) Episodic
memory