AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

Chapter 1 Key terms

Psychology: The Study of Mental Processes and Behavior

1. Adaptive traits - a term applied to traits that help organisms adjust to their environment.
2. Behavioral genetics – a field that examines the genetic and environment basses of differences among individuals on psychological traits.
3. Behaviorism – same as behaviorist (behavioral) perspective.
4. Behaviorist (behavioral) perspective – the perspective pioneered by John Watson and B. F. Skinner, which focuses on the relation between observable behaviors and environmental events or stimuli; also called behaviorism.
5. Biopsychology or behavioral neuroscience – the field that examines the physical basis of psychological phenomena such as motivation, emotion, stress; also called behavioral neuroscience.
6. Cartesian dualism – the doctrine of dual spheres of mind and body.
7. Cognition – thought and memory.
8. Cognitive perspective – a psychological perspective that focuses on the way people perceive, process, and retrieve information.
9. Cross-cultural psychology – the field that attempts to test psychological hypotheses in different cultures.
10. Empiricism - the belief that the path to scientific knowledge is systematic observation and, ideally, experimental observation.
11. Ethology – the field that studies animal behavior from a biological and evolutionary perspective.
12. Evolutionary perspective – the viewpoint built on Darwin's principle of natural selection that argues that human behavioral proclivities must be understood in the context of their evolutionary and adaptive significance.
13. Evolutionary psychologists – apply evolutionary thinking to a wide range of psychological phenomena.
14. Falsifiability criterion – the ability of a theory to be proven wrong as a means of advancing science.
15. Free will versus determinism – the philosophical question of whether people act on the basis of their freely chosen intentions, or whether their actions are caused or determined by physical processes in their bodies or in the environment in which they live.
16. Functionalism – an early school of thought in psychology influenced by Darwinian theory that looked for explanations of psychological processes in terms of their role, or functions, in helping the individual adapt to the environment.
17. Gestalt psychology – a school of psychology that holds that perception id an active experience of imposing order I an overwhelming panorama of details by seeing them as parts of larger whole (or gestalts).

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

18. Inclusive fitness- the notion that natural selection favors organisms that survive, reproduce, and foster the survival and reproduction of their kin.
19. Information processing – the transformation, storage and retrieval of environmental inputs through thought and memory.
20. Introspection – the method used by Wundt and other structuralists in which trained subjects verbally reported everything that went through their minds when presented with a stimulus or task; more generally refers to eth process of looking inward at one's own mental contents or process.
21. Localization of function – the extent to which different parts of the brain control different aspects of functioning.
22. Mind-body problem – the question of how mental and physical events interact.
23. Natural selection – a theory proposed by Darwin which states that natural forces select traits in organisms that help them adapt to their environment.
24. Nature-nurture controversy – the question of the degree to which inborn biological processes or environmental events to determine human behavior.
25. Paradigm – a broad system of theoretical assumptions employed by a scientific community to make sense out of a domain of experience.
26. Perspectives – broad way of understanding psychological phenomena, including theoretical propositions, shared metaphors, and accepted methods of observation.
27. Psychodynamic perspective – the perspective initiated by Sigmund Freud that focuses on the dynamic interplay of mental forces.
28. Psychodynamics – a view analogous to dynamics among physical forces in which psychological forces such as wishes, fears, and intentions have a direction and intensity.
29. Psychological anthropologists – people who study psychological phenomena in other cultures by observing the way the natives behave in their daily lives.
30. Psychology – the scientific investigation of mental processes and behavior.
31. Rationalist philosophers – emphasize the role of reason in creating knowledge.
32. Reproductive success – the capacity to survive and reproduce offspring.
33. Sociobiology – a field that explores possible evolutionary and biological bases of human social behavior.
34. Structuralism – an early school of thought in psychology developed by Edward Titchener, which attempted to use introspection

as a method for uncovering the basic elements of consciousness and the way they combine with each other into ideas.

Chapter 2
Research Methods

1. Blind Studies - Studies in which subjects are kept unaware of or "blind" to important aspects of the research
2. Case Study - In-depth observation of one subject or a small group of subjects
3. Categorical Variable - A variable comprised of gouping, classifications, or category
4. Computerized Axial Tomography (CT or CAT scans) - A brain-scanning technique used to detect lesions
5. Conditions - Values or versions of the independent variable that vary across experimental groups
6. Confounding Variable - A variable that produces effects of independent variables
7. Construct Validity - The degree to which a measure actually assesses what it claims to measure
8. Continuous Variable - A variable that can be placed on a continuum, from none or little to much
9. Control Group - Subjects in an experiment who receive a relatively neutral condition to serve as a comparison group
10. Correlate - In research, to assess the extent to which the measure of one variable predicts the measure of a second variable
11. Correlational Research - Research that assesses the degree to which two variables are related, so that knowing the value of one can lead to the prediction of the other
12. Correlation Coefficient - An index of the extent to which two variables are related
13. Correlation Matrix - A table presenting the correlations among several variables
14. Criterion Validity - The degree to which a measure allows a researcher to distinguish among groups on the basis of certain behavior or responses
15. Demand Characteristics - The influence of subjects' perception of the researchers' goals on subjects' behavior
16. Dependent Variable - Subjects' responses in a study, hypothesized to depend on the influence of the independent variables
17. Descriptive Research - Research methods that cannot unambiguously demonstrate cause an effect, including case studies, naturalistic observation, survey research, and correlational methods
18. Descriptive Statistics - Numbers that describe the data from a study in a way that summarizes their essential features
19. Double-Blind Study - A study in which both subjects and researchers are blind to the status of subjects

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

20. Electroencephalogram (EEG) - A record of the electrical activity toward the surface of the brain, used especially in sleep research and diagnosis of epilepsy
21. Error - That part of a subject's score on a test that is unrelated to the true score
22. Experimental Research - A research design in which investigators manipulate some aspect of a situation and examine the impact of this manipulation on the way subjects respond
23. Experimenter's Dilemma - The trade-off between internal and external validity
24. External Validity - The extent to which the findings of a study can be generalized to situations outside the laboratory
25. Face Validity -The degree to which a measure appears to measure what it purports to measure
26. Function Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) - A brain-scanning technique used as individual carries out tasks
27. Generalizability - The applicability of a study's findings to the entire population of interest
28. Hypothesis- A tentative belief or educated guess that purports to predict or explain the relationship between two or more variables
29. Independent Variables - The variables an experimenter manipulates, or whose affects the experimenter assesses
30. Inferential Statistics - Procedures for assessing whether the results obtained with a sample are likely to reflect characteristics of the population as a whole
31. Informed Consent - A subject's ability to agree to participate in a study in an informed manner
32. Interitem Reliability - See internal consistency
33. Internal Consistency - A type or reliability that assesses whether the items in a test measure the same construct
34. Internal Validity - The extent to which a study is methodologically adequate
35. Interrater Reliability - A measure of the similarity with which different rates apply a measure
36. Interviews - A research tool in which the investigator asks the subject questions
37. Magentic Resonance Imaging (MRI) - Brain- scanning technique
38. Mean - The statistical average of the scores of all subjects on a measure
39. Measure - A concrete way of assessing a variable
40. Median - The score that falls in the middle of the distribution of scores, with half of subjects scoring below it and half above it
41. Mode - The most common or most frequent score or value of a variable observed in a sample
42. Modal Score - See Mode

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

43. Naturalistic Observation - The in-depth observation of a phenomenon in its natural setting
44. Negative Correlation - A relation between two variables in which the higher one is, the lower the other tends to be
45. Neuroimaging Techniques - Methods for studying the brain that use computer programs to convert the data taken from brain-scanning devices into visual images
46. Operationalizing - Turning an abstract concept or variable into a concrete form that can be defined by some set of operations or actions
47. Participants or Subjects - The individuals who participate in a study; also called subjects
48. Placebo Effect- A phenomenon in which an experimental intervention produces an effect because subjects believe it will produce and effect
49. Population - A group of people or animals of interest to a researcher from which a sample is drawn
50. Positive Correlation - A relation between two variables in which the higher one is, the higher the other tends to be
51. Positron Emission Tomography (PET) - A computerized brain-scanning technique that allows observation of the brain in action
52. Probability Value (p-value) - The probability that obtained findings where accidental or just a matter of chance
53. Quasi-experimental Designs - Research designs that employ the logic of experimental methods but lacks absolute control over variables
54. Questionnaires - Research tools in which the investigator asks subjects to respond to a written list of questions or items
55. Random Sample - A sample of subjects selected from the population in a relatively arbitrary manner
56. Range - A measure of variability that represents the difference between he highest and the lowest value on a variable obtained in a sample
57. Reliability - A measure’s ability to produce consistent results
58. Representative - A sample the reflects characteristics of the population as a whole
59. Sample - A subgroup of a population likely to be representative of the population as a whole
60. Single-Blind Study - A study in which subjects are kept blind to crucial information, notably about the experimental condition in which they have been placed
61. Standard Deviation - The amount that the average subject deviates from the mean of the sample on a measure
62. Standardized Procedure - Procedures applied uniformly to subjects to minimize unintended variation
63. Stratified Random Sample - A sample selected to represent subpopulations proportionately, randomizing only within groups

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

64. Survey Research - Research asking a large sample of subjects question, often about attitudes or behaviors, using questionnaires
65. Test-Retest Reliability - Tendency of a test to yield relatively similar score for the same individual over time
66. Theory - A systematic way or organizing an explaining observations
67. Valid - Said of a study whose procedures are sound
68. Validity- The extent to which a test measures the construct it attempts to assess, or a study adequately addresses the hypothesis it attempts to assess
69. Variability of Scores - The extent to which subject tend to vary from each other in their scores on a measure
70. Variable- A phenomenon that changes across circumstances or varies among individuals

Chapter 3
Biological Bases

1. Acetylcholine- The neurotransmitter that is involved in learning a memory.
2. Action potential- the “firing” of a neuron.
3. Adrenal glands- the glands that secrete adrenaline (epinephrine) and other hormones during emergencies.
4. Adrenaline- A hormone that triggers physiological arousal, particularly in dangerous situations.
5. Afferent neurons- Transmit information from sensory cells in the body, called receptors, to the brain.
6. Alleles- Forms of the gene, which can be dominant or recessive.
7. Amygdale- A brain structure associated with the expression of rage, fear, and calculation of the emotional significance of a stimulus.
8. Association areas- the areas of the cortex involved in putting together perceptions, ideas, and plans.
9. Autonomic Nervous System- The part of the peripheral nervous system that serves visceral or internal bodily structures connected with the basic life processes such as the beating of the heart and breathing. It consists of two parts: the sympathetic nervous system and the parasympathetic nervous system.
10. Axon- The long extension from the cell body of a neuron through which electrical impulses pass.
11. Basal ganglia- a set of structures located nears the thalamus and hypothalamus involved in the control of movement and in judgments that require minimal conscious thought.
12. Boca’s area: A brain structure located in the left frontal lobe at the base of the motor cortex involved in the movements of the mouth and tongue necessary for speech production and in the use of grammar.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

13. Cell Body- the part of the neuron, which includes the nucleus containing the genetic material of the cell as well as other microstructures vital to cell functioning.
14. Central Nervous System- The brain and spinal cord.
15. Cerebellum- A large bulge in the dorsal or back area of the brain responsible for the coordination of smooth, well-sequenced movement as well as maintaining equilibrium and regulating postural reflexes.
16. Cerebral cortex- the main layered surface of a cerebrum which allows complex voluntary movement, permits subtle discrimination among complex sensory problems and makes possible symbolic thinking.
17. Cerebra Hemispheres- The two halves of the cerebrum.
18. Cerebrum- The “thinking” center of the brain, which includes the cortex and sub cortical structures such as the basal ganglia and limbic system.
19. Chromosomes- strands of DNA arranged in pairs.
20. Corpus Callous- A band of fibers that connect the two hemispheres of the brain.
21. Cortex- The many-layered surface of the cerebrum.
22. Cranial nerves- Pairs of specialized nerves in the brain.
23. Degree of relatedness- the probability that two people share any particular gene.
24. Dendrites- Branchlike extensions of the neuron that receive information from other cells.
25. Dizygotic twins- fraternal twins, who like other siblings, share only about half of their genes having developed from the union of two sperms with two separate eggs.
26. Dopamine- A neurotransmitter with wide ranging effects in the nervous system involved in thought, feeling, motivation, and behavior.
27. Efferent neurons- Transmit information to the muscles and glands of the body most often through the spinal cord.
28. Endocrine system- the collection of ductless glands that secrete hormones into the bloodstream and control various bodily and psychological functions.
29. Endorphins- Chemicals in the brain similar to morphine that elevate mood and reduce pain.
30. Estrogen- Hormone produced by the female gonads, the ovaries which control sex drive as well as the development of secondary sex characteristics.
31. Evolution- Examines changes in genetic frequencies over several generations.
32. Evolutionary theory- Examines the adaptive significances of human and animal behavior,

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

33. Frontal lobes- Brain structures involved in coordination of movement, attention planning, social skills, conscience, abstract thinking, memory, and aspects of personality.
34. GABA- Acronym for Gamma-Amino butyric Acid, one of the most widespread neurotransmitters in the nervous system, which largely plays an inhibitory role in the brain.
35. Gene- The unit of hereditary transmission.
36. Gill cells- Origin of the myelin sheath.
37. Glutamate- One of the most widespread neurotransmitters in the nervous system, which largely plays an excitatory role also called glutei acid.
38. Gonads- Endocrine glands that influence much of sexual development and behavior.
39. Graded potentials- a spreading voltage change that occurs when the neural membrane receives a signal from another cell.
40. Heritability- The extent to which individual differences in phenotype are determines by genetic practice or genotype.
41. Heritability coefficient- the statistic that quantifies the degree to which a trait is heritable.
42. Heterozygous- both alleles are the same.
43. Hind brain- the part of the brain above the spinal cord that includes the medulla, cerebellum and parts of the reticular formation.
44. Hippocampus- A structure in the limbic system involved in the acquisition and consolidation of new information in memory.
45. Homozygous- The two alleles are different.
46. Hormones- Chemicals secreted into the bloodstream by the endocrine glands.
47. Hypothalamus- The brain structure situated directly below the thalamus involved in the regulation of eating, sleeping, sexual activity, movement, and emotion.
48. Incomplete dominance- heterozygous state is intermediate between the recessive and dominant alleles.
49. Interneuron’s- Neurons that connect other neurons to each other, found only in the brain and spinal cord.
50. Language acquisition device (LAD)- The rewired innate mechanism that allows for the acquisition of language hypothesized by NorAm Chomsky.
51. Lateralized- Localized on one or other side of the brain.
52. Limbic system- Sub cortical structures responsible for emotional reactions, many motivational processes, learning and aspects of memory.
53. Linkage Studies- Method used to locate particular genes.
54. Medulla- An extension of the spinal cord, essential to life controlling such vital physiological functions such as heartbeat, circulation, and respiration.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

55. Medulla Oblongata- The lowest brain stem structure, an extension of the spinal cord that links the spinal cord to the brain.
56. Midbrain- The section of the brain above the hindbrain involved in some auditory and visual functions, movement and conscious arousal and activation.
57. Monozygotic twins- Twins identical in their genetic makeup, having developed from the union of the same sperm an egg.
58. Motor cortex- the primary zone of the frontal lobes responsible for control of motor behavior.
59. Motor neurons- a neuron that transmits commands from the brain to the glands or musculature of the body, typically the spinal cord, also called efferent neuron.
60. Myelin sheath: A tight coat of cells composed primarily of lipids that facilitate transmission of information to other neurons.
61. Nervous system: The interacting network of nerve cells that underlies all psychological activity.
62. Neuron: The fundamental unit of the nervous system.
63. Neurotransmitters: chemical that transmit s information from one neuron to another
64. Noradrenalin – a hormone that triggers physiological arousal, particularly in potential danger situations
65. Occipital lobes – brain structures located in the rear portion of the cortex, involved in vision
66. Parasympathetic nervous system – the pare to the autonomic nervous system involved in conserving and maintain the body's energy resources
67. Parietal lobes – brain structures locate din front of the occipital lobes, involved in a number of functions, unlading sense of touch and the ex [eminence of one's own body in space and in movement
68. Parkinson's disease - a disorder characterized by uncontrollable tremors, repetitive movements, and difficulty in both initiating, behavior and stopping movements already in progress
69. Peripheral nervous system - a component of nouns system that includes neurons that travel to and form the central nervous system; includes the somatic n serous system and the autonomic nervous system
70. Pituitary gland – Often referred to s the "master gland of the endocrine system because many of the hormones it releases stimulate and thus regulates the hormonal action of other endocrine system
71. Primary areas – the areas of the cortex involved in sensory functions and in the direct control of motor movements
72. Psychoneuroimmunology - the study of the interactions among behavior, the nervous system, the endocrine system, and the immune system
73. Receptors – in neurons, protein molecules in the postsynaptic membrane that pick up neurotransmitters; in sensation, specialized

cells of the sensory systems that respond to the environmental stimuli and typically activate sensory neurons

74. Reflexes – a behavior that is elicited automatically by an environmental stimulus
75. Resting potential – condition in which the neuron is not firing
76. Reticular activating system – a diffuse network of neurons that extends from the lowest parts of t he medulla in the hindbrain to the upper end of the midbrain, serving to maintain consciousness, regulate arousal levels, and modulate the activity of neurons throughout the central nervous system
77. Sensory neurons – neuron that transmits information from sensory cells in the body called receptors to the brain
78. Serotonin – a neurotransmitter involved in the regulation of mood, sleep, eating, arousal, and pain
79. Somatic nervous system – the division of the peripheral nervous system that consists of sensory and motor neurons that transmit sensory information and control intentional actions
80. Somatosensory cortex - the primary area of the parietal loves, located behind the central tissue, which receives sensory information from different sections of the body
81. Speciation – phenomenon in which members of a previously common gene pool have become separated and over time genetic drift has acted to such an extent that the two subpopulations can no longer interbreed
82. Spinal cord – the part of the central nervous system that transmits information from sensory neurons to the brain, and from the brain to motor neurons that initiate movement; it is also capable of reflex actions
83. Split brain – the condition that results when the corpus callosum has been surgically cut, blocking communication between the two cerebral hemispheres
84. SSRIs – a class of antidepressant medications, including Prozac, that blocks the presynaptic membrane from taking back serotonin, and hence leaves it acting longer in the synapse
85. Stigmatization – process by which people with some discrediting feature are excluded from social interactions
86. Suborbital forebrain – structures within the cerebrum, such as the basal ganglia and limbic system, which lie below the cortex
87. Sympathetic nervous system – a branch of the autonomic nervous system, typically activated in response to threats to the organism, which readies the body for “fight-or-flight” reactions
88. Synapses – the place at which transmission of information between neurons comes
89. Tectum – a midbrain structure involved in vision and hearing

90. Tegmentum – midbrain structure that includes variety of neural structures, related mostly to movement and conscious arousal and activation
91. Temporal lobes – brain structures located in he lower side portion of the cortex that are important in audition (hearing) and language
92. Terminal buttons – structures at the end of the neuron that receive nerve impulses from the axon and transmit signal to adjacent cells
93. Testosterone – the hormone produced by the male gonads (testes)
94. Thalamus – a structure located deep in the center of the brain that acts as a relay station for sensory information, processing it and transmitting it to higher brain centers
95. Thyroid gland - endocrine structure located next to the trachea and larynx in the neck, which releases hormones that control growth and metabolism
96. Wernicke's area – a brain structure located in the left temporal lobe involved in language comprehension

Chapter 4
Sensation and Perception

1. Absolute Threshold: The minimum amount of physical energy (stimulation) needed for an observer to notice a stimulus
2. Accommodation: In vision, the changes in the shape of the lens that focuses light rays: Piaget's theory, the modifications of schemas to fit reality
3. Amplitude: The difference between the minimum and maximum levels in a sound wave, measured in decibels: Amplitude corresponds to the psychological property of loudness
4. Audition: Hearing
5. Auditory Nerve: The bundle of sensory neurons that transmit auditory information from the ear to the brain
6. Binocular Cells: Neurons that receive information from both eyes
7. Binocular Cues: Visual input integrated from two eyes that provides perception of depth
8. Bipolar Cells: Neurons in the retina that combine information from many receptors and excite ganglion cells
9. Blind sight: A phenomenon in which individuals with cortical lesions have no conscious visual awareness, but can make discriminations about objects placed in front of them
10. Blind Spot: The point on the retina where the optic nerve leaves the eye in which contains no receptor cells
11. Bottom- Up Processing: Perceptual processing that starts with raw sensory data that feed "up" to the brain: what is perceived is

determined largely by the features of stimuli reaching the sense organs

12. Closure: a Gestalt rule of perception that states that people tend to perceive incomplete figures as complete.
13. Cochlea: The three chamber tube in the inner ear in which sound is transduced
14. Color Constancy: The tendency to perceive a color of objects as stable despite challenging illuminations.
15. Complexity: The extent to which a sound wave is composed of multiple frequencies
16. Cones: One of two types of photoreceptors, which are specialized for color vision and allow perception of fine detail
17. Cornea: The tough, transparent tissue covering the front of the eyeball
18. Cycle: A single round of expansion and contraction of the distance of molecules in air in a sound wave
19. Decibels: The unit of measure of amplitude (loudness) of a sound wave
20. Depth or Distance Perception: The organization of perception in three dimensions: Also called Distance Perception
21. Difference Threshold: The smallest difference in intensity between two stimuli that a person can detect
22. Direct Perception: A theory which states since sensory information intrinsically carries meaning
23. Eardrum or Tympanic Membrane: The thin, flexible membrane that marks the outer boundary of the middle ear: the ear drum is set in motion by sound waves and in turns sets in motion the ossicles: also called the tympanic membrane
24. Feature Detectors: A neuron that fires only when stimulation in its receptive field matches a particular pattern or orientation
25. Fechner's Law: The law of psychophysics proposed by Gustav Fechner, that the subjective magnitude of a sensation grows as a proportion of the logarithm of the stimulus
26. Figure- Ground Perception: a fundamental rule of perception described by Gestalt of psychology which states that people inherently differentiate between figures (the object they are viewing, sound to what they are listening to, etc.) and ground (background)
27. Form Perception: The organization of sensation into meaningful shapes and patterns
28. Fovea: The central region of the retina, where light is most directly focused by the lens
29. Frequency: In a sound wave, the number of cycles per second, expressed in hertz and responsible for subjective experience of pitch
30. Frequency Theory: The theory of pitch that asserts that perceive pitch reflects the rate of vibration of the basilar membrane

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

31. Ganglion Cells: Nerve cells in the retina that integrate information from multiple bipolar cells, the axons of which bundle together to form he optic nerve.
32. Good Continuation: A Gestalt Rule of perception which states that, if possible, the brain organizes stimuli in two continuous lines or patterns rather than discontinuous elements
33. Gustation: Taste
34. Hair Cells: Receptors for sound attached to the Basilar Membrane
35. Hertz: The unit of measurement of frequency of sound waves
36. Hue: The sensory quality people normally consider color
37. Iris: the ring of pigmented tissue that gives the eye its blue, green, or brown color: its muscle fibers cause the people to constrict or dilate.
38. Just noticeable difference: The smallest difference in intensity between two stimuli that a person can detect
39. Kinesthesia: the sense that provides information about movement and position of limbs and other parts of the body: Receptors in joints transduce information about the position of the bones, and receptors in tendons and muscles transmit messages about muscular tension
40. Lens: the disc shaped, elastic structure of the eye that focuses light
41. Loudness: the psychological property corresponding to a sound waves amplitude
42. Monocular Cues: visual input from a single eye alone, that contributes to depth perception
43. Motion Detectors: Ganglion cells that are particularly sensitive to movement
44. Motion Parallax: A monocular depth view involving the relative movements of retinal images of objects: nearby objects appear to speed across the field of vision, whereas distant objects barely seem to move
45. Motion Perception: the perception of movement in objects
46. Muller-Lyer illusion: A perceptual illusion in which two lines of equal length appear different in size
47. Olfaction: Smell
48. Olfactory epithelium: thin pair of structures in which transduction of smell occurs
49. Olfactory Nerve: the bundle of axons from sensory receptor cells that transmit information from the nose to the brain
50. Opponent-Process Theory: a theory of color vision that processes the existence of three antagonistic color systems: a blue-yellow system, a red-green system, a black-white system: according to this theory the blue-yellow and green-red systems are responsible for

hue, while the black- white system contributes to perception of brightness and saturation

51. Optic Nerve: the bundle of axons of ganglion cells that carries information to the retina to the brain
52. Perception: the process by which the brain selects, organizes, and interprets sensation
53. Percepts: meaningful perceptual units, such as images of particular objects
54. Perceptual Constancy: the organization of changing sensations into percepts the are relatively stable in size, shape, and color
55. Perceptual Illusions: perceptual misinterpretations produced in the course of normal perceptual processes
56. Perceptual Interpretation: the process of generating meaning from sensory experience
57. Perceptual Organization: the process of integrating sensations into meaningful perceptual units
58. Phantom Limbs: misleading “sensations” from missing limbs
59. Pheromones: a chemical secreted by organisms and some species that allow communication between organisms
60. Pitch: the psychological property corresponding to the frequency of a sound wave: the quality of a tone from low to high
61. Place Theory: a theory of pitch which proposes that different areas of the basilar membrane are maximally sensitive to different frequencies
62. Proprioceptive Senses: senses that provide information about body position and movement: the two proprioceptive senses are kinesthesia and vestibular sense
63. Proximity: a Gestalt Rule of perception which states that, other things being equal, the brain groups objects together that are close to each other
64. Psychophysics: branch of psychology that studies the relationship between attributes of physical world and the psychological experience of them.
65. Pupil: the opening and centering of the iris that constricts or dilates to regulate the amount of light entering the eye
66. Receptive Field: a region within which a neuron responds to appropriate stimulation
67. Recognition-by- Components: the theory that asserts that we perceive and categorize objects in our environment by breaking them down into component parts and then matching the components and the way they are arranged against similar “sketches” stored in memory
68. Response Bias: - in signal detection theory, the subject’s readiness to report detecting a signal when uncertain; also called decision criterion

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

69. Retina – the light-sensitive layer of tissue at the back of the eye that transduces light into neural impulses
70. Rods – one of two types of photoreceptors; allow vision in dim light
71. Schemas – integrate pattern of knowledge stored in memory that organizes information and guides the acquisition of new information
72. Sensation – the process by which the sense organs gather information about the environment
73. Sensory Adaptation – the tendency of sensor systems to respond less to stimuli that continue without change
74. Shape Constancy – the perception that an object's shape remains constant despite the changing shape of the retinal image as the object is viewed from varying perspectives
75. Similarity – a Gestalt rule of perception which states that the brain tends to group similar elements within a perceptual field
76. Simplicity – a Gestalt rule of perception which states that people tend to perceive the simplest pattern possible
77. Size Constancy - the perception that the shape of objects remain unchanged in spite of the fact that different impressions are made on the retina each time the object in encountered
78. Sound Localization – identifying the location of a sound in space
79. Sound Waves – a pulsation of acoustic energy
80. Steven's Power Law – a law of sensation proposed by S. S. Stevens, which states that the subjective intensity of a stimulus grows as a proportion of the actual intensity raised to some power
81. Taste Buds – structures that line the walls of the papillae of the tongue (and elsewhere in the mouth) that contain taste receptors
82. Timbre – the psychological property corresponding to a sound wave's complexity; the texture of a sound
83. Top-Down Processing – perceptual processing that starts with the observer's expectations and knowledge
84. Transduction – the process of converting physical energy into neural impulses
85. Vestibular Sense – the sense that provides information about the position of the body in space by sensing gravity and movement
86. Visual Cliff – a clear table with a checkerboard directly beneath it on one side and another checkerboard that appears to drop off like a cliff on the other, used especially with human infants in depth perception of studies
87. Wave Lengths – the distance over which a wave of energy completes a full oscillation
88. Webber's Laws 0 the perceptual law described by Ernst Weber that states that for two stimuli to be perceived s differing in intensity, the second must differ from the first by a constant proportion

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

89. What pathway – the pathway running form the striate cortex in the occipital lobes trough the lower part of the temporal lobes, involved in determining what an object is
90. Where pathway - the pathway running form the striate cortex through the middle ad upper regions of the temporal lobes and up into the parietal lobes, involved in locating an object in space, following its movement, and guiding movement toward it
91. Young-Helmholtz or trichromatic theory of Color – a theory of color vision initially proposed by Young and modified by Helmholtz which proposes that the eye contains three types of receptors, each sensitive to wavelengths of light that produce sensations of blue, green, and red; by this theory, the colors that human see reflect blends of the three colors to which the retina is sensitive; also called trichromatic theory

Chapter 5
Learning

1. Avoidance learning – a negative reinforcement procedure in which the behavior of an organism is reinforced by the prevention of an expected aversive event
2. Behavioral approach system – the anatomical system that is associated with pleasurable emotional states and is responsible for approach-oriented operant behavior
3. Biofeedback – a procedure for monitoring autonomic physiological processes and learning to alter them at will
4. Blocking – when a stimulus fails to elicit a conditioned response because it is combined with another stimulus that already elicits the response
5. Chaining – a process of learning in which a sequence of already established behaviors is reinforced step by step
6. Classical conditioning – a procedure by which a previously neutral stimulus comes to elicit a response after it is paired with a stimulus that automatically elicits that response
7. Cognitive maps – mental representation of visual space
8. Cognitive-social theory – a theory of learning that emphasizes the role of thought and social learning in behavior
9. Conditioned response – in classical conditioning, a response that has been learned
10. Conditioned stimulus – a stimulus that the organism has learned to associate with the unconditioned stimulus
11. Conditioning – a form of learning
12. Continuous reinforcement schedule – when the environment consequences are the same each time an organism emits a behavior
13. Discriminative stimulus – a stimulus that signals that particular contingencies of reinforcement are in effect
14. Drive – an internal tension state that builds up until satisfied

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

15. Drive-reduction theory – mid-twentieth century in which proposed that motivation stems from a combination of drive and reinforcement
16. Escape learning – a negative reinforcement procedure in which the behavior of an organism is reinforced by the cessation of an aversive event that already exists
17. Expectancies – expectation relevant to desired outcomes
18. Explanatory style – the way people make sense of events or outcomes
19. External locus of control – the belief that ones' life is determined by forces outside oneself
20. Extinction – the process by which a conditioned response is weakened by presentation of the conditioned stimulus without the unconditioned stimulus
21. Fight-flight system – anatomical system associated with unconditioned escape and defensive aggression and the emotions of terror and rage
22. Fixed-interval schedule – when the organism receives rewards for its responses only after a fixed amount of time
23. Fixed-ratio schedule – when the organism receives reinforcement at a fixed rate
24. Galvanic skin response – an electrical measure of the amount of sweat on the skin that is produced during states of anxiety or arousal
25. Generalized expectancies – expectancies that influence a broad spectrum of behavior
26. Habituation – the decreasing strength of a response after repeated presentations of the stimulus
27. Immune system – a system of cells that fights disease throughout the body
28. Insight – the ability to perceive a connection between a problem and its solution
29. Internal locus of control – the belief that one is the master of one's fate
30. Interstimulus interval – the duration of time between presentation of the conditioned stimulus and the unconditioned stimulus
31. Interval schedules – operant conditioning procedure in which rewards are delivered
32. Latent inhibition – a phenomenon on classical conditioning in which initial exposure to a neutral stimulus without a UCS slows the process of later learning, the CS/UCS association and developing a CR
33. Latent learning – learning that has occurred but has not currently manifest in behavior
34. Law of effect – law proposed by Thorndike which states that the tendency of an organism to produce a behavior depends on the effect the behavior has on the environment

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

35. Laws of association – first proposed by Aristotle basic principles used to account for learning and memory
36. Learned helplessness – the expectancy that one cannot escape from aversive events
37. Learning – any relatively permanent change in the way an organism response based on its experience
38. Locus of control reinforcement – generalized expectancies people hold about whether or not their own behavior will bring about the outcomes they seek\
39. Long-term potentiation – the tendency of a group of neurons to fire more readily after consistent stimulation from other neurons
40. Modeling – a social learning procedure in which a person learns to reproduce behavior by a model
41. Negative reinforcement – the process whereby a behavior is made more likely because it is followed by the removal of an aversive stimulus
42. Observational learning – learning that occurs by observing the behavior of others
43. Operant conditioning – learning that results when an organism associates a response that occurs spontaneously with a particular environment effect
44. Operant – a behavior that is emitted by the organism rather than elicited by the environment
45. Partial/intermittent schedules of reinforcement – an operant procedure in which an organism is reinforced only some of the time it emits a behavior
46. Pessimistic explanatory style – a tendency to explain bad events that happen in self-blaming manner
47. Phobias – an irrational fear of a specific object or situation
48. Positive reinforcement – the process by which a behavior is made more likely because of the presentation of a rewarding stimulus
49. Positive reinforcer – a rewarding stimulus that strengthens a behavior when it is presented
50. Prepared learning – responses to which an organism is predisposed because they were selected through natural selection
51. Primary reinforcers – a stimulus that is innately rewarding to an organism
52. Punishment – a conditioning process that decreases the probability that a behavior will occur
53. Ratio schedules of reinforcement – operant conditioning procedures in which an organism is reinforced for some proportion of responses
54. Reflex – a behavior that is elicited automatically by an environmental stimulus
55. Reinforcement – a conditioning process that increases the probability that a response will occur

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

56. Reinforcer – an environmental consequence that occurs after an organism has produced a response and makes the response more likely recur
57. Secondary reinforcer - a stimulus that acquires reinforcement value after an organism learns to associate it with stimuli that are innately reinforcing
58. Self-fulfilling prophecy – false impressions of a situation that evoke behavior that, in turn, makes impressions become true
59. Shaping – the process of teaching a new behavior by reinforcing closer and closer approximations of the desired response
60. Social learning – learning in which individuals learn many things from the people around them, with or without reinforcement
61. Spontaneous recovery – the spontaneous reemergence of a response or an operant that has been extinguished
62. Stimulus – an object or event in the environment that elicits the response in an organism
63. Stimulus discrimination – the tendency for an organism to respond to a very restricted range of stimuli
64. Stimulus generalization – the tendency for learned behavior to occur in response to stimuli that were not present during conditioning but that are similar to the conditioned stimulus
65. Superstitious behavior – a phenomenon that occurs when the learning erroneously associates an operant and an environmental event
66. Tutelage – the teaching of concepts or procedures primarily through verbal explanation or instructions
67. Unconditioned reflex – a reflex that occurs naturally, without any prior learning
68. Unconditioned response – an organism's unlearned, automatic response to stimulus
69. Unconditioned stimulus – a stimulus that produces a reflexive response without any prior learning
70. Variable-interval schedule – an operant conditioning procedure in which an organism receives a reward for its responses after an amount of time that is not constant
71. Variable ratio schedule – an organism receives the reward for a certain percentage of behaviors that are emitted, but this percentage are not fixed
72. Vicarious conditioning – the process by which an individual learns the consequences of an action by observing its consequences for someone else

Chapter 6
Memory

1. Chunking- a memory technique that uses knowledge stored in LTM to group information in larger units than single words or digits

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

2. Cultural Models- shared cultural concepts
3. Decay Theory- the notion that memories are lost as a result of a fading of the memory trace
4. Declarative Memory- knowledge that can be consciously retrieved and declared
5. Echoic Storage- an auditory sensory registration process by which people retain and echo or brief auditory representation of a sound to which they have been exposed
6. Elaborative Rehearsal- an aid to long-term memory storage that involves thinking about the meaning of information in order to process it with more depth
7. Encoded- refers to information that is cast into a representational form or code so that it can be readily accessed from memory
8. Encoding Specificity Principle- the notion that the match between the way information is encoded and the way it is retrieved is important to remembering
9. Episodic Memory- memories of particular episodes or events from personal experience
10. Everyday Memory- memory as it occurs in daily life
11. Explicit Memory- the conscious recollection of facts and events
12. Flashbulb Memories- especially vivid memories of exciting or highly consequential events
13. Forgetting- the inability to retrieve memories
14. Generic Memory- general world knowledge or facts
15. Iconic Storage- a visual sensory registration process by which people retain an afterimage of a visual stimulus
16. Implicit Memory- memory that cannot be brought to mind consciously but can be expressed in behavior
17. Interference- the intrusion of similar memories on one another
18. Level of Processing- the degree to which information is elaborated, reflected upon, or processed in a meaningful way during encoding of memory
19. Long-Term Memory- memory for facts, images, thoughts, feelings, skills, and experiences that may last as long as a lifetime
20. Maintenance Rehearsal- the process of repeating information over and over to maintain it momentarily in STM
21. Method of Loci- a memory aid or mnemonic device in which images are remembered by fitting them into an orderly arrangement of locations
22. Mnemonic Devices- systematic strategies for remembering information
23. Modules- discrete but interdependent processing units responsible for different kinds of remembering
24. Motivated Forgetting- forgetting for a reason, which leads to inhibition of retrieval

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

25. Networks of Association- clusters of interconnected information stored in long-term memory
26. Node- a cluster or piece of information along a network of association
27. Priming Effects- the processing of specific information is facilitated by prior exposure to the same or similar information
28. Proactive Interference- a phenomenon in which old memories that have already been stored interfere with the retrieval of new information
29. Procedural Memory- knowledge of procedures or skills that emerge when people engage in activities that require them
30. Prospective Memory- memory for things that need to be done in the future
31. Recall- the explicit recollection of material from long-term memory
32. Recognition- explicit knowledge of whether something currently perceived has been previously encountered
33. Rehearsal- repeating or studying information to retain it memory
34. Retrieval- bringing information from long-term memory into short-term, or working, memory
35. Retrieval Cues- stimuli or thoughts that can be used to stimulate retrieval
36. Retroactive Interference- interference of new information with the retrieval of old information
37. Retrospective Memory- memory for events that have already occurred
38. Semantic Memory- general world knowledge or facts
39. Sensory Registers- memory systems that can hold information for a brief period of time
40. Sensory Representations- information that is represented in one of the sense modalities
41. Serial Position Effect- the phenomenon that people are more likely to remember information that appears first and last in a list than information in the middle of the list
42. Short-Term Memory- memory for information that is available to consciousness for roughly 20-30 seconds
43. Spacing Effect- the superior long-term retention of information rehearsed in sessions spread out over longer intervals of time
44. Spreading Activation Theory- the theory that the presentation of a stimulus triggers activation of closely related nodes
45. SQ3R Method- a mnemonic device designed for helping students remember material from text books which includes five steps: survey, question, read, recite, and review

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

46. Tip-of-the-tongue Phenomenon- the experience in which people attempting but failing to recall information from memory know the information is there but are not quite able to retrieve it
47. Verbal Representations- information represented in words
48. Working Memory- conscious workspace used for retrieving and manipulating information, maintained through maintenance rehearsal

Chapter 7
Thought & Language

1. Algorithms- A systematic problem-solving procedure that inevitably produces a solution
2. Analogical Reasoning- The process by which people understand a novel situation in terms of a familiar one
3. Availability Heuristic- A strategy that leads people to judge the frequency of a class of events or the likelihood of something happening on the basis f how easy it is o retrieve from explicit memory.
4. Basic Level-The level of categorization to which people naturally go; the level which objects share distinctive common attributes
5. Bounded Rationality-The notion that people are rational within constraints imposed by their environment, goals, and abilities.
6. Categories-A grouping based on a common property
7. Categorization-The process of identifying an object as an instance of a category, recognizing its similarity to some objects and dissimilarity to others
8. Concept-a mental representation of a category of objects, ideas, or events that share common properties
9. Confirmation Bias-The tendency for people to search for information that confirms their expectations
10. Connectionism- A model of a human cognitive processes in which many cognitive processes occur simultaneously so that a representation is spread out (i.e. distributed) throughout a network of interacting processing units; also called parallel distributed processing (PDP)
11. Constraint Satisfaction- The tendency to settle on a cognitive solution that satisfied as many constraints as possible in order to achieve the best fit to the data
12. Decision Making-The process by which people weigh the pros and cons of different alternatives in order to make a choice among two or more options.
13. Deductive Reasoning- The process of reasoning that draws logical conclusions from premises.
14. Defining Features- Qualities that are essential, or necessarily present, in order to classify an object as a member of a category.
15. Discourse- the way ordinarily people speak, hear, read, and write in interconnected sentences.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

16. Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex- An area in the brain that plays a central role in working memory and explicit manipulation of representations.

17. Expected Utility- A combined assessment of the value and probability of different options.
18. (pg.243)

19. Explicit Cognition- Thinking that involves conscious manipulation of representation.
20. (pg.244)

21. Functional Fixedness-The tendency to ignore other possible functions of an object when one already has a function in mind
22. Grammar- A system of rules for generating understandable and acceptable language utterances
23. Heuristics- In problem-solving, cognitive shortcuts or rules of thumb
24. Ill-defined Problems- a situation in which both the information needed to solve a problem and the criteria that determine whether the goals are attained are vague.
25. Implicit Cognition- thinking that occurs outside awareness.
26. Inductive Reasoning- The process of reasoning from specific observations to generate propositions
27. Language- The system of signals, sounds, meanings, and rules for their combination that institutes the primary mode of communication among humans.
28. Mental Images- A visual representation of a stimulus
29. Mental Models- Representations that describe, explain, or predict the way things work.
30. Mental stimulation- a problem-solving strategy in which people imagine the steps to problem solving mentally before actually undertaking them
31. Morphemes- In language, a basic unit of meaning
32. Nonverbal Communications- Mode of communications that relies on gestures, expressions, intonation, body language, and other unspoken signals.
33. Parallel Distributed Processing (PDP)- A model of human cognitive processes in which many cognitive processes occur simultaneously (i.e. in parallel), so that a representation is spread out (i.e. distributed) throughout a network of interacting processing unit; also called connectionism.
34. Phonemes- The smallest unit of speech that distinguishes one linguistic utterance from another
35. Phrases- A group of words that act as a unit and convey a meaning.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

36. Pragmatics- The way language is used and understood in everyday life.
37. Problem Solving- The process in which transforming ones situation into another that meets a goal
38. Problem-Solving Strategies- a technique used to solve problems.
39. Prototype- A particularly good example of a category
40. Reasoning- The process by which people generate and evaluate arguments and beliefs
41. Representativeness Heuristic- a cognitive shortcut used to assess whether an object or incident belongs in a particular class.
42. Semantics- the rules that govern the meanings, rather than the order, of morphemes, words, phrases, and sentences.
43. Sentences- A unit of language that combines a subject and predicate and expresses a thought or meaning
44. Subgoals- Mini-goals on the way to achieving a broader goal
45. Subordinate Level- a level of categorization below the basic level in which members of a category share more specific attributes.
46. Superordinate Level- Goals requiring groups to cooperate for the benefit of all.
47. Syllogism- A formal statement of deductive reasoning, which consists of two premises that lead to a logical conclusion
48. Syntax- Rules that govern the placement of specific words or phrases within a sentence.
49. Thinking- manipulating mental representations for a purpose
50. Ventromedial Prefrontal Cortex- An area in the brain that serves many functions including helping people use their emotional reactions to guide decision making and behavior.
51. Weighted Utility Value- In expectancy value theory, a combined measure of the importance of an attribute and how well a given option satisfies it.
52. Well-Defined Concepts- A concept that has properties clearly setting it apart from other concepts
53. Well-Defined Problems- Problems in which there is adequate information to solve the problem and clear criteria by which to determine whether the problem has been solved.
54. Whorfian Hypothesis of Linguistic Relativity- The notion that language shapes thought.

Chapter 8
Intelligence

1. Creativity (274) – The ability to produces valued outcomes in a novel way.
2. Crystallized Intelligence (279) – People’s store of knowledge.
3. Divergent Thinking (274) – The ability to generate multiple possibilities in a given situation.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

4. Factor Analysis (278) – A statistical technique for identifying common factors that underlie performance on a wide variety of measures.
5. Factors (278) – Common elements that underlie performance across a set of tasks.
6. Fluid Intelligence (279) – Intellectual capacities that have no specific content but are used in processing information.
7. G-Factor (278) – The general intelligence factor that emerges through factor analysis of IQ Tests.
8. GF-GC Theory (279) – A hierarchal model of intelligence that argues for the presence of two overarching types of intelligence – fluid intelligence, crystallized intelligence, as well as more specific intellectual skills, such as short term memory.
9. Gifted (273) – Exceptionally talented.
10. Intelligence (268) – The application of cognitive skills and knowledge to learn, solve problems, and obtain ends that are valued by an individual or culture.
11. Intelligence Quotient (270) – A score originally derived by dividing mental age and chronological age and multiplying by 100, but now generally established by comparing the individuals performance to norms of people his or her own age.
12. Intelligence Tests (269) – A measure design to assess an individual's level of cognitive capability compared to other people in the population.
13. Knowledge Base (281) – Accumulated information stored in long-term memory.
14. Mental Age [MA] (269) –The average of which children can be expected to achieve a particular score on an intelligence test.
15. Mental Retardation (272) – Significantly sub average general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adapted behavior and manifested during childhood.
16. Psychometric Approach (278) – An approach to the study of intelligence, personality, and psychopathology which tries to derive some sort of theoretical meaning imperially from statistical analysis of psychometric test findings.
17. Psychometric Instruments (269) – Tests that quantify psychological attributes, such as personality traits or intellectual abilities.
18. S-Factors (278) – Specific cognitive abilities.
19. Theory of Multiple Intelligence (282) – Howard Gardner's theory of seven intelligences used to solve problems or produce culturally significant products.
20. Two-Factor Theory of Intelligence – A theory derived by Charles Spearman that holds two types of factors or abilities that underlie intelligence.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

21. Wechsler's Adult Intelligence Scale Third Edition [WAIS-III] (271) – intelligence test for adults that yields scores for both verbal and nonverbal IQ scores.
22. Wechsler's Intelligence Scale For Children [WISC-II] (271) – An intelligence test for children up to age 16 that yields verbal and nonverbal IQ scores.

Chapter 9
Consciousness

1. States of consciousness: qualitatively different patterns of subjective experience
2. Consciousness: the subjective awareness of mental events.
3. Attention: the process of focusing conscious awareness.
4. Divided attention: splitting attention between two complex tasks.
5. Selective inattention: people sometimes divert attention from information that may be relevant but emotionally upsetting.
6. Dichotic listening: subjects are fitted with earphones and different information is simultaneously presented to the left and right ears.
7. Conscious: mental processes involve subjective awareness of stimuli, feelings, or ideas.
8. Preconscious: mental processes are not presently conscious but could be readily brought to consciousness if the need arose.
9. Unconscious: processes that are dynamically kept from consciousness because they are not threatening.
10. Cognitive unconscious: information-processing mechanisms that operate outside awareness rather than info the person is motivated to keep from awareness.
11. Circadian rhythm: a cyclical biological process that evolved around the daily cycles of light and dark.
12. Insomnia: inability to sleep.
13. Rapid Eye Movement (REM) Sleep: a qualitatively different stage of sleep that is named for the darting eye movements that characterize it. Stages 1-4 are often collectively called simply non-REM (NREM) sleep.
14. Manifest content: the story line of the dream.
15. Latent Content: the dream's underlying meaning.
16. Altered states of consciousness: the usual conscious ways of perceiving, thinking, and feeling are modified or disrupted.
17. Meditation: the meditator develops a deep state of tranquility by altering the normal flow of conscious thoughts.
18. Hypnosis: characterized by deep relaxation and suggestibility.
19. Hypnotic susceptibility: the capacity to enter into deep hypnotic states.
20. Psychoactive substances: drugs that operate on the nervous system to alter mental activity.

21. Depressants: substances that depress, or slow down, the nervous system.
22. Stimulants: drugs that increase alertness, energy, and autonomic reactivity.
23. Hallucinations: sensations and perceptions that occur in the absence of external stimulation.
24. Hallucinogens: alter the interpretation of sensory information to produce bizarre or unusual perceptions.
25. Religious experiences: subjective experiences of being in contact with the divine or spiritual.

Chapter 10
Motivation

1. Absorptive phase-the phase of metabolism during which a person is ingesting food
2. Activational effect – effects of hormones activating brain circuitry to produce psychobiological changes
3. Affect-a positive or negative feeling state that typically includes arousal, subjective experiences, and behavioral expression; a synonym for emotion
4. Affect regulation-see emotion regulation
5. Affiliation-interaction with friends or acquaintances
6. Agency-motives for achievement, mastery, power, autonomy, and other self-oriented goals
7. Androgen insensitivity Syndrome -a condition in which androgens are secreted in utero, but a genetic defect leads to an absence of androgen receptors, so that a genetic male develops female genitalia
8. Attachment motivation-the desire for physical and psychological proximity to an attachment figure
9. Attributions-the process of making inferences about the causes of one's own and others' thoughts, feelings and behavior
10. Basic emotions-feeling states common to the human species from which other feeling states are derived
11. Cannon-Bard theory-a theory of emotion that asserts that emotion-including stimuli elicit both emotional experiences and bodily responses
12. Congenital adrenal hyperplasia-a disorder in which the adrenal glands secrete too much androgen, thus masculinizing the genitals in females
13. Corrective mechanisms-processes that restores a homeostatic system to its set point
14. Display rules-patterns of emotional expression that are considered acceptable in a given culture
15. Drive-reduction theorists-mid-twentieth century behaviorists theories which proposed that motivation stems from a combination of

drive and reinforcement, in which stimuli become reinforcing because they are associated with reduction of a state of biological deficit

16. Drive-according to Freud, an internal tension state that builds up until satisfied; according to behaviorist theory, an unpleasant tension state that motivates behavior, classified as either primary or secondary (aquired0
17. Emotion- a positive or negative state that typically included arousal, subjective experience, and behavioral expression; also called affect
18. Emotion regulation-efforts to control emotional states; also called affect regulation
19. Emotion expression-the variety of models through which people expresses feelings
20. ERG theory-a theory of worker motivation distinguishing existence, relatedness, and growth needs
21. Fasting phase-the second stage of metabolism, when the body converts glucose and fat into energy
22. Feedback mechanisms- processes that provide information regarding the state of a homeostatic system with regard to its set point or steady state
23. Goal-desired outcomes established through social learning
24. Goal-setting theory-the theory of motivation that suggests that conscious goals regulate much human action, particularly performance tasks
25. Hierarchy of needs-Maslow's theory that needs are arranged hierarchically, from physiological needs, safety needs, belongingness needs, and esteem needs, through self actualization needs
26. Homeostasis-the body's tendency to maintain a relatively constant state that permits cells to live and function
27. Implicit motives-motives that can be activated and expressed outside of awareness
28. Incentive-an external motivating stimulus (as apposed to an internal need state)
29. Instincts-a relatively fixed pattern of behavior that animals produce without learning
30. Intimacy-a kind of closeness characterized by self-disclosure, warmth, and mutual caring
31. Intrinsic motivation- motivation to perform a behavior for its own sake, rather than for some kind of external (or extrinsic) reward
32. James-Lange theory-a theory of emotion that asserts that emotion originates with peripheral arousal, which people then label as an emotional state
33. Mastery goals- motivates to increase one's competence, mastery, or skill
34. Metabolism-the process by which the body transforms food into energy

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

35. Moods-relatively extended emotional states that do not shift attention or disrupt ongoing activities
36. Motivation-the moving force that energizes behavior
37. Need for achievement- a motive to do well, to succeed, and to avoid failure
38. Negative effect-a general category of emotions related to feeling bad
39. Obesity-a condition characterized by a body weight over 15 percent above the ideal for one's height and age
40. Organizational effect- effects of hormones that influence the structure of the brain
41. Performance-approach goals- goals that center on approaching or attaining a standard
42. Performance-avoidance goals- goals that center on avoiding failure, particularly publicly observable failure
43. Performance goals- motives to achieve at a particular level, usually one that meet a socially defined standard
44. Positive affect- a general category of emotions related to feeling good
45. Primary drive-an innate drive such as hunger, thirsts, and sex
46. Psychological needs- personal and interpersonal motives that lead people to strive for such ends of mastery, achievement, power, self-esteem, affiliation, and intimacy with other people
47. Relatedness- interpersonal motives for connectedness with other people, also called communion motives
48. Satiety mechanisms- processes that turn off ingestive behavior
49. Schachter-Singer theory-theory that asserts that emotion involves cognitive interpretation of general physiological arousal
50. Set point- the value of some variable that the body is trying to maintain, such as temperature
51. Sexual orientation- the direction of the person's enduring sexual attraction to members of the same sex, the opposite sex, or both
52. Sexual response cycle- the pattern of physiological changes during sexual stimulation consisting of four phases: excitement, plateau, orgasm, and resolution
53. Thematic Apperception Test (TAT)- a projective test consisting of a series of ambiguous pictures about which subjects are asked to make up a story

Chapter 11
Health, Stress & Coping

1. Acculturative stress- the stress people experience while trying to adapt to a new culture.
2. Alcoholism- the tendency to use or abuse alcohol to a degree that leads to social or occupational dysfunction.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

3. Attitudes- an association between an action or object and an evaluation
4. Aversion therapy- the introduction of something aversive as a means of discouraging a negative habit
5. Barriers- costs of terminating a health behavior.
6. Benefits- beneficial consequences associated with terminating a negative health behavior.
7. Biomedical model- a reductionist view of illness reducing disease to biological causes at the level of individual cells
8. Biopsychosocial model- the idea that health and illness stem from a combination of biological, psychological, and social factors
9. Body mass index (BMI)- statistical index that reflects a person's weight in kilograms divided by the height in meters squared.
10. Cartesian dualism- the doctrine of dual spheres of mind and body
11. Catastrophes- rare, unexpected disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and other traumatic events that affect a group of people
12. Cellular theory of illness- the idea that illness and disease results from abnormalities within individual cells
13. Coping- the ways people deal with stressful situations; also called coping mechanisms.
14. Coping mechanisms- the ways people deal with stressful situations.
15. Cues to action- ancillary factors that influence whether or not a person is willing to begin a healthy behavior or terminate an unhealthy one.
16. Daily hassles- the small, but irritating demands that characterize daily life
17. Detoxification- the process during which an alcoholic dries out
18. Emotional forecasting- predicting emotional reactions to future events
19. General adaptation syndrome- Selye's model of stress that includes the three stages of alarm resistance, and exhaustion.
20. Health belief model- Theory that states that health behaviors are predicted by the perceived susceptibility to the health threat, the perceived seriousness of the health threat, the benefits and barriers of undertaking particular health behaviors, and cues to action.
21. Health psychology- field of psychology devoted to understanding psychological influences on how people stay healthy, why they become ill, and how they respond when they are ill.
22. Humoral theory of illness- theory asserting that disease is caused by an imbalance in the four fluids or humors of the body.
23. Immune system- a system of cells throughout the body that fights disease
24. Impression management- people's attempts to control the impressions that others form of them

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

25. John Henryism- the tendency among members of minority groups to work hard and cope actively despite difficult circumstances.
26. Low-effort syndrome- the tendency to exert minimal effort to escape stressful social and economic circumstance
27. Obesity- a condition characterized by a body weight over 15 percent above the ideal for one's height and age.
28. Optimistic bias- unrealistic optimism
29. Overweight- a body mass index between 25 percent and 39 percent depending on age and gender
30. Perceived seriousness (severity)- an individual's perception of the impact a particular illness would have on his life.
31. Perceived susceptibility- a person's perception that he is likely to contract a particular illness.
32. Primary appraisal- the first stage of the process of stress and coping in which the person decides whether the situation is benign, stressful, or irrelevant.
33. Problem drinkers- people who are not physiologically addicted to alcohol but who still have a number of problems stemming from alcohol consumption.
34. Protection motivation theory of health- the health belief model plus self- efficacy
35. Psychoneuroimmunology -- The study of the interactions among behavior, the nervous system, the endocrine system, and the immune system.
36. Psychosomatic medicine- the idea that changes in physiology mediate the relationship between unconscious conflicts and illness.
37. Secondary appraisal- the second stage in the process of stress and coping during which the person evaluates the options and decides how to respond.
38. Self-efficacy- a person's conviction that he or she can perform the actions necessary to produce an intended behavior
39. Self-handicapping- a process by which people set themselves up to fail when success in uncertain to preserve their self esteem
40. Self-presentation- the process by which people attempt to control the impressions that others form of them
41. Set point- the value of some variable that the body is trying to maintain, such as temperature
42. Social support- relationships with others that provide resources for coping with stress
43. Spontaneous remission- when people quit drinking or greatly reduce their alcohol intake without any other method of intervention
44. Stress- a challenge to a person’s capacity to adapt to inner and outer demands, which may be physiologically arousing, emotionally taxing, and cognitively and behaviorally activating
45. Stressors- situations that often lead to stress, including life events, catastrophes, and daily hassles

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

46. Subjective norms- someone's perception of how significant other individuals will view a particular health behavior, and the motivation to comply with the desires of those others
47. Susceptible gene hypothesis- certain genes increase but do not guarantee the development of a particular trait or characteristic
48. Theory of planned behavior- the theory or reasoned action plus self-efficacy
49. Theory of reasoned action- behaviors stem from behavioral intentions, which are a function of a person's attitude toward the behavior, and his perception of the subjective norms surrounding the behavior
50. Trephination- the practice of drilling holes in the skulls of deceased individuals to allow evil spirits to escape
51. Type A behavior pattern- a pattern of behavior and emotions that includes ambition, competitiveness, impatience, and hostility

Chapter 12 Vocabulary Terms
Personality

1) Actualizing Tendency (448) – The primary motivation in humans, according to Carl Rogers, which includes a range of needs that humans experience, from the basic needs for food and drink to the needs to be open to experience and express ones true self.
2) Ambivalence (423) – Conflicting feelings or intentions.
3) Anal stage (426) – The psychosexual stage occurring roughly around ages 2 to 3, which is characterized by conflict with parents over compliance and defiance.
4) Behavior-Outcome Expectancy (436) – Belief that a certain behavior will lead to a particular outcome.
5) Castration Complex (427) – In Freud's theory, the fear the boy has in the phallic stage that his father will castrate him for his wishes towards his mother.
6) Competences (437) – Skills and abilities used for solving problems.
7) Compromise Formations (424) – A single behavior, or a complex pattern of thought and action, which typically reflects compromises among multiple (& often conflicting) forces.
8) Conditions Of Worth (448) – In Carl Rogers' theory, standards children internalize that they must meet in order to esteem themselves.
9) Conflict (424) – A battle between opposing motives
10) Conscious mental processes (423) – Processes that involve a subjective awareness of stimuli, feelings, or ideas.
11) Culture Pattern Approach (454) – An approach to personality and culture that views culture as an organized set of beliefs, rituals, and institutions that shape individuals to fit its pattern.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

12) Defense Mechanism (429) – Unconscious mental processes aimed at protecting a person from experiencing unpleasant emotions, especially anxiety.
13) Denial (429) – A defense mechanism in which the person refuses to acknowledge external realities or emotions.
14) Developmental Model (425) – Freud's model of how children develop, defined by his psychosexual stages.
15) Drive Model (ƒ425) – Freud's theory of motivation, which held that people are motivated by sexual and aggressive instincts or drives.
16) Ego (428) – The structure in Freud's model of the mind that must somehow balance desire, reality, and morality.
17) Empathy (448) – Feeling for another person who is hurting, which includes a cognitive component (understanding what the person is experiencing) and an emotional component (experiencing a feeling of empathic discomfort; in Roger's theory of personality, the capacity to understand another persons experience cognitively and emotionally.)
18) Existential Dread (449) – The recognition that life has no absolute value or meaning, that any meaning that does exist we create for ourselves, and that ultimately, we all face death.
19) Existentialism (448) – A school of modern philosophy that focuses on each individual's subjective existence phenomenology and on the way the individual comes to terms with basic issues such as meaning in life and mortality.
20) Expectancies (436) – Expectations relevant to desired outcomes.
21) Extroversion (441) – The tendency to be sociable, active, and willing to take risks.
22) False Self (448) – A condition in which people mold themselves to other people's expectations and to the demands of the roles they play.
23) Five factor Model (441) – A trait theory, which asserts that personality, consists of five traits (openness to experience, conscientiousness, extroversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism).
24) Fixations (426) – In psychoanalytic theory, prominent conflicts and concerns focused on wishes from a particular period.
25) Genital Stage (427) – In Freudian theory, psychosexual stage that occurs at approximately age twelve and beyond, when conscious sexuality resurfaces after years of repression.
26) Heritability (451) – The extent to which individual differences in phenotype are determined by genetic factors or genotype.
27) Humanistic Approaches (447) – Theories that focus on aspects of personality that are distinctly human, not shared by other animals, such as how to find meaning in life and how to be true to oneself.
28) Id (428) – In Freudian theory, the reservoir of sexual and aggressive energy, which is driven by impulses and is characterized by primary process thinking.
29) Ideal Self (448) – A person's view of what she/he would like to be.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

30) Identification (426) – Making another person part of oneself by imitating the person's behavior, changing the self-concept to see oneself as more like that person, and attempting to become more like the person by accepting his or her values and attitudes.
31) Individual Differences (421) – The way people resemble and differ from one another in personality or intelligence.
32) Instinct Model (425) – Freud's theory of motivation, which held that people are motivated by sexual and aggressive instincts or drives.
33) Interactionist Approaches (455) – Multidirectional view of personality that asserts that personality is shaped by economic and cultural demands but that cultural and economic processes themselves are in part created to fulfill psychological means.
34) Latency Stage (427) – The psychosexual phase that occurs roughly around ages 6 – 11, when children repress their sexual impulses.
35) Libido (425) – In Freudian theory, the human sexual drive, which refers as much to pleasure seeking and love as to sexual intercourse.
36) Life History Methods (431) – A method of personality assessment whose aim is to understand the whole person in the context of his or her life experience and environment.
37) Life Tasks (436) – A conscious, self-defined problems people attempt to solve.
38) Neuroticism (441) –A continuum from emotional stability to emotional instability.
39) Object Relations (430) – Behavioral patterns in intimate relationships and the motivational, cognitive, and effective processes that produce them.
40) Oedipus Complex (427) – In Freudian theory, process that occurs during the phallic stage of development when the child desires an exclusive, sensual/sexual relationship with the opposite sex parent.
41) Oral Stage (425) – In Freudian theory, the psychosexual phase occurring roughly in the first year of life, when children explore the world through their mouths.
42) Passive Aggression (429) – The indirect expression of anger towards others.
43) Penis Envy (427) – In Freudian theory, the feeling of envy that emerges in girls, who fell that because they lack a penis they are inferior to boys.
44) Personal Constructs (436) – Mental representations of the people, places, things, and events that are significant in a person's life.
45) Personality (421) – The enduring patterns of thoughts, feeling, and behavior that are expressed by individuals in different circumstances.
46) Personal Value (436) – The importance individuals attach to various stimuli and to the outcomes they expect as a result of their behavior.
47) Person by Situation Interactions (446) – Process by which some personality dispositions are activated only under certain circumstances.
48) Person Centered Approach (447) - Carl Rogers' theory of personality, which focuses on understanding the individual's phenomenal world.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

49) Phallic Stage (426) – In Freudian theory, the psychosexual phase occurring roughly around ages 4 to 6, when children discover that they can get pleasure from touching their genitals.
50) Phenomenal Experience (448) – The way individuals conceive of reality and experience themselves and their world.
51) Preconscious Mental Processes (423) – Thoughts that are not conscious but could become conscious at any point, much like information stored in long-term semantic memory.
52) Primary Process Thinking (428) – Associative thinking described by Freud, in which ideas connected in people's minds through experience come to mind automatically when they think about related ideas; primary process thought is also wishful and unrealistic.
53) Principal of Aggregation (444) – Averaging across multiple situations to find evidence of particular personality traits.
54) Projection (429) – A defense mechanism in which a person attributes his own unacknowledged feelings or impulses to others.
55) Projective Tests (432) – A personality assessment method in which subjects are confronted with an ambiguous stimulus and asked to define it in some way; the assumption underlying these tests is that when people are faced with an unstructured, undefined stimulus, the will project their own thoughts, feelings, and wishes into their responses.
56) Psychodynamics (422) – A view analogous to dynamics among physical forces in which psychological forces such as wishes, fears, and intentions have a direction and an intensity.
57) Psychosexual Stages (425) – Freud's hypothesized stages in the development of personality, sexuality and motivation.
58) Psychoticism (441) – A dimension whose low end is defined by people who display empathy and impulse control and the high end is defined by people who are aggressive, egocentric, impulsive, and antisocial
59) Rationalization (429) – A defense mechanism that involves explaining away actions in a seemingly logical way to avoid uncomfortable feelings.
60) Reaction Formation (429) – A defense mechanism in which the person turns unacceptable feelings or impulses into their opposites.
61) Regression (426) – Reverting conflicts or modes of managing emotion characteristic of a particular stage.
62) Relational Theories (431) – Theories that propose the need for relatedness is a central motive in humans and that people will distort their personalities to maintain ties to important people in their lives.
63) Repression (429) – A defense mechanism in which thoughts that are too anxiety-provoking to acknowledge are kept from conscious awareness.
64) Rorschach Test (432) – A projective personality test in which a subject views a set of inkblots and tells the tester what each inkblot resembles.
65) Secondary Process Thinking (428) – Rational, logical, goal-directed thinking.
66) Self-Concept (448) – a person's view of him/herself.

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

67) Self-Efficiency Expectancy (436) – A person's conviction that he or she can perform the actions necessary to produce an intended behavior.
68) Self-Regulation (437) – Setting goals, evaluating one's own performance, and adjusting one's behaviors flexibly to achieve these goals on the context of ongoing feedback.
69) Situational Variables (443) – Aspects of the situation that interact with aspects of the person to produce behavior.
70) Structural Model (428) – Freud's model of conflict between desires and the dictates of conscience or the constraints of reality, which posits three sets of mental forces or structures: id, ego, superego.
71) Structure of Personality (421) – The way enduring patterns of thought, feeling, and behavior are organized within an individual.
72) Sublimation (429) – A defense mechanism that involved converting sexual or aggressive impulses into socially acceptable activities.
73) Superego (428) – In Freudian theory, the structure that acts as conscience and source of ideals, or the parental voice within the person, established through identification.
74) Temperament (444) – Basic personality dispositions heavily influenced by genes.
75) Topographic Model (423) – Freud's model of conscious, preconscious, and unconscious processes.
76) Traits (440) – Emotional, cognitive, and behavioral tendencies that constitute underlying dimensions of personality on which individuals vary.
77) True Self (448) – A core aspect of being, untainted by the demands of others.
78) Unconscious Mental Process (423) – In Freud's theory, mental processes that are accessible to consciousness, many which are repressed.

Chapter 13 Vocabulary
Physical and Cognitive Development

1. Accommodation- involves modifying schemas to fit reality
2. Ageism- stereotype that refers to the prejudice against old people
3. Alzheimer's Disease- a progressive and incurable illness that destroys neurons in the brain, severely impairing memory, reasoning, perception, language, and behavior.
4. Assimilation- means interpreting actions or events in terms of once present schemas, that is, fitting reality into once previous ways of thinking.
5. Automatization- processing their ability to use cognitive strategies and their metacognitive abilities (understanding their own thinking processes.)
6. Babbling-the stage of language development in the first year and produce one-word utterances toward the beginning of the second year

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

7. Cohort effects: differences among age groups associated with differences in the culture
8. Concrete operational stage-roughly between ages seven to twelve. At this point, children are capable of operating on, or mentally manipulating, internal representations of concrete objects in ways that reversible
9. Conservation- the basic properties of an object or situation remain stable even though superficial properties may be changed
10. Critical periods- they are periods of special sensitivity to specific types of learning and sensory stimulation that shape the capacity for future development
11. Cross-sectional studies- compares groups of subjects of different ages at a single time to see whether differences exist among them.
12. Dementia- a disorder marked by global disturbance of higher mental functions.
13. Developmental psychology- studies the way humans develop and change over time
14. Egocentric- thoroughly embedded in their own point of view.
15. Equilibration- balancing assimilation and accommodation to adapt to the world
16. Formal operational stage-characterized by the ability to manipulate abstract as well as concrete objects, events, and ideas mentally
17. Infantile amnesia- most people completely lack explicit memory for events before age 3 or 4
18. Intermodal processing- the ability to associate sensations of an object from different senses or to match their own actions to behaviors they have observed visually
19. Knowledge base- accumulated knowledge
20. Longitudinal studies- follow the same individuals over time and thus can directly assess age changes rather than age differences
21. Maturation- biologically based changes that follow an orderly sequence
22. Metacognition- thinking about thinking
23. Neo-Piagetian theorists- the attempt to integrate Piagetian and information processing theories
24. Object permanence- the recognition that objects exist in time and space independent on the child's actions on, or observation of, them
25. Operations-internalized actions the individual can use to manipulate, transform, and then return an object to its original state
26. Preoperational state-begins roughly around age 2 and lasts until ages 5 to 7. It is characterized by the emergence of symbolic thought
27. Pressbycusis- it is the inability to hear high-frequency sounds
28. Psychomotor slowing- an increase in the time required for processing and acting on information

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

29. Puberty- the time at which they become capable of reproduction
30. Schema- an organized, repeatedly exercised pattern of thought and behavior
31. Sensitive periods- times that are more important to subsequent development than others
32. Sensorimotor stage- in which infants think with their hands, mouths, and senses, last from birth to about 2 years of age.
33. Sequential studies- minimize cohort effects by studying multiple cohorts longitudinally
34. Stages- relatively discrete steps through which everyone processes in the same sequence
35. Structures of thought- to guide their thinking
36. Teratogens- environmental agents that harm the embryo or fetus
37. Telegraphic speech- utterances composed of only the most central words for meaning

Chapter 14 Vocabulary
Social Development

1. Adult attachment – patterns of mental representation, emotion, and proximity-seeking in adults related to childhood attachment patters
2. Ambivalent attachment style – response to separation in which infants who are angry and rejecting simultaneously indicate a clear desire to be close to the mother
3. Attachment – enduring affect ties that children form with their primary caregivers and that become the basis for later love relationships
4. Authoritarian – a way of parenting that places high value on obedience and respect for authority
5. Authoritative – a way of parenting that sets standards for children and firmly enforces them but also provides explanations for the parents' actions and encourages verbal give-and-take
6. Autonomy versus shame and doubt – in Eriksson's theory, the stage in which children begin to walk, talk, and get a sense of themselves as independent sources of will and power
7. Avoidant attachment style – response to separation in which infants ignore the mother when she returns
8. Basic trust versus mistrust – in Erikson's theory, the stage eon which infants come to trust others or to perceive the social world as unfriendly or unreliable
9. Conflict model - theoretical model of adolescence that hold that conflict and crisis are normal in adolescence
10. Continuity model - the theoretical model that holds that adolescence for most individuals is essentially continuous with childhood and adulthood and not distinguished by turbulence

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

11. Conventional morality – the level of morality in which individual s define what is right by the standards that they have learned form other people, particularly respect authorities
12. Developmental task - challenge that is normative for a particular period of life
13. Disorganized attachment style – response to separation in which infants behave in contradictory ways, indicating helpless efforts to elicit soothing responses from the attachment figure
14. Empathic distress - feeling upset for another persons
15. Empathy – feeling for another person who is hurting, which includes a cognitive component and an emotional component
16. Gender – the psychological meaning of being male or female
17. Gender constancy – the recognition that peoples gender cannot be altered by changes in appearance or activates
18. Gender identity – the categorization of oneself as either male or female
19. Gender roles - the range of behaviors considered appropriate by society for males and females
20. Gender schemas – representations that associate psychological characteristics with one sex or the other
21. Gender stability – the understanding that one's gender remains constant over time
22. Generativity - - a concern for the next generation s well as an interest in producing something of lasting value to society
23. Generativity versus stagnation – in Erikson's theory, the stage in which people in mid-adulthood experience concern for the next generation as an interest in producing something of lasting value to society
24. Identity – a stable sense of knowing who one is and what one's values and ideals are
25. Identity confusion – a condition in which the individual fails to develop a coherent and enduring sense of self, and has difficulty committing to roles, values, people, and occupational choices in his or her life
26. Identity versus identity confusion – in Erikson's theory, stage in which adolescents develop a stable sense of who they are and a stable set of values and ideals
27. Imprinting – the tendency of young animals of certain species to follow an animal to which they were exposed during a sensitive period early in their lives
28. Industry versus inferiority – in Erikson's theory, the stage in which children develop a sense of competence a they begin to practice skills they will use in productive work
29. Initiation rites – ceremonies such as the rites found in many cultures in adolescence, which initiate a person into a new social roles, such as adulthood

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

30. Initiative versus guilt – in Erikson's theory, the stage in which children develop a sense of playfulness and responsibility
31. Integrity versus despair – in Erikson's theory, stage in which older people look back on their lives with a sense of satisfaction that they lived it well, or with despair, regret, and loss for loves ones who have died
32. Internal working models – a mental representation of attachment relationship, which forms the basis for expectations in close relationships
33. Intimacy versus isolation – in Erikson's theory, the stage in which young adults establish enduring, committed friendships and romantic relationships
34. Morality of constraint – according to Piaget's theory of moral development, the first stage of moral judgment, in which children believe that morals are absolute
35. Morality of cooperation – according to Piaget's theory of moral development, the stage at which moral rules can be changed if they are not appropriate to the occasion as long as the people involved agree to do so
36. Negative identity – taking on a role that society defines as bad but that nevertheless provides on with a sense of being something
37. Neglected children – children who are ignored by their peers
38. Permissive – a way of parenting that imposes a few controls on children, allowing the children to make their own decisions whenever possible
39. Perspective-taking – the ability to understand other people's viewpoints or perspectives
40. Post conventional morality – in Kohlberg's theory the level of morality in which individuals follow abstract, self-defined principle which may or may not accord with the dominant mores or morals of the times
41. Preconventional morality – in Kohlberg's theory, the level of morality in which children follow moral rules either to avoid punishment or to obtain reward
42. Prosocial behavior – behavior that benefits either specific individuals or society as a whole
43. Psychosocial stages – in Erikson's theory, the stages in the development of the person as a social being
44. Rejected children – children who are dislike by their peers
45. Secure attachment style – response to separation in which infants welcome the mother's return and seek closeness to her
46. Self-concept a person's view of him/herself
47. Separation anxiety – distress at separation for attachment figures
48. Sex-role ideology- beliefs about appropriate behaviors of the sexes

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

49. Sex typing – the process by which children come to acquire personality traits, emotional responses, skills, behaviors, and preferences that are culturally considered to be appropriate
50. Social cognition – the processes by which people makes sense of others, themselves, social interactions, and relationships
51. Social development - predictable change in interpersonal thought, feeling, and behavior
52. Socialization – the process by which children and adults learn the rule, beliefs, values, skills, attitudes, and patters of behavior of their society
53. Stagnation – a feeling that the promise of youth has gone unfulfilled
54. Theory of mind – an implicit set of ideas about the existence of mental state, such as beliefs and feelings, in oneself and others that children begin to develop in toddler years
55. Uninvolved - parents who consistently place their own needs above the needs of their child

Chapter 15
Psychological Disorders

1. Psychopathology: problematic patterns of thought, feeling, or behavior that disrupt an individual's sense of well-being or social or occupational functioning.
2. Labeling theory: diagnosis is a way of stigmatizing individuals a society considers deviant.
3. Neuroses: problems in living, such as phobias, constant self-doubt, and repetitive interpersonal problems such as trouble with authority figures.
4. Psychoses: gross disturbances involving a loss of touch with reality.
5. Etiology: origins of psychological disturbance.
6. Psychodynamic formulation: a set of hypotheses about the patient's personality structure and the meaning of the symptom.
7. Cognitive: b3ehavioral, integrating an understanding of classical operant conditioning with a cognitive-social perspective.
8. Diathesis: stress model that proposes that people with an underlying vulnerability (called diathesis) may exhibit symptoms under stressful circumstances.
9. Systems approach: explains an individual's behavior in the context of a social group, such as a couple, family, or larger group.
10. System: a group with interdependent parts.
11. Family systems models: views an individual's symptoms as symptoms of dysfunction in the family.
12. Family homeostatic mechanisms: methods family members use to preserve equilibrium in a family

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

13. Family roles: the parts individuals play in repetitive family "dramas" typical interaction patterns among family members.
14. Family Boundaries: physical and psychological limits of the family system and its sub systems.
15. Family Alliances: who sides with whom in family conflicts.
16. Descriptive diagnosis: mental disorders are classified in terms of clinical syndromes, or constellations of symptoms that tend to occur together.
17. Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM): manual of clinical syndromes that researchers and clinicians use to make diagnoses.
18. Multiaxial System of diagnosis: places symptoms in their biological and social context by evaluating patients along five axes.
19. Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD): is characterized by inattention, impulsiveness, and hyperactivity inappropriate for the child's age.
20. Conduct Disorder: a child persistently violates societal norms and the right of others.
21. Substance related disorders: characterized by continued use of a substance (such as alcohol or cocaine) that negatively affects psychological and social functioning.
22. Alcoholism: abuse of alcohol.
23. Schizophrenia: an umbrella term for a number of psychotic disorders that involve disturbances in nearly every dimension of human psychology, including thought, perception, behavior, language, communication, and emotion.
24. Delusions: false beliefs firmly held despite evidence to the contrary.
25. Hallucinations: perceptual experiences that distort or occur without external stimulation.
26. Loosening of associations: the tendency of conscious thought to move along associative lines rather than to be controlled, logical, and purposeful.
27. Positive Symptoms: delusions, hallucinations, and loose associations.
28. Negative symptoms: relatively chronic symptoms of schizophrenia such as flat affect (

AP Psychology Chapter 16 Key Terms
Treatment of Psychological Disorders

1. ABC Theory of Psychopathology: Albert Ellis's theory of psychopathology, in which A refers to activating conditions, B to belief systems, and C to emotional consequences

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

2. Antidepressant Medications: biological treatments of depression that increases the amount of norepinephrine and/or serotonin available in synapses
3. Antipsychotic Medications: medications used to treat schizophrenia and other psychotic states, which has sedating effects and reduces positive symptoms such as hallucinations and delusions
4. Automatic Thoughts: the things people say spontaneously to themselves, which can lead to irrational feelings and behaviors
5. Behavioral Analysis: in cognitive-behavior therapy, the process of assessing the symptom and the stimuli or thoughts associated with it.
6. Benzodiazepines: Antianxiety medications that indirectly affect the action of norepinephrine
7. Client-Centered Therapy: a therapeutic approach developed by Carl Rogers, based on the assumption that psychological difficulties result from incongruence between one's concept of self one's actual experience, and that empathy is curative.
8. Cognitive-Behavioral: approach in clinical psychology in which practitioners integrate an understanding of classical and operant conditioning with a cognitive-social perspective.
9. Cognitive Therapy: a psychological treatment that focuses on the thought processes that underlie psychological symptoms.
10. Common Factors: shared elements in psychotherapies that produce positive outcomes.
11. Effectiveness Studies: studies that assess the outcome of psychotherapy as it is practiced in the field rather that in the laboratory.
12. Efficacy Studies: studies that assess psychotherapy outcome under highly controlled conditions, such as random assignment of patients to different treatment or control groups, careful training of therapists to adhere to a manual, and standardized length of treatment
13. Electroconvulsive Therapy:
14. Empty-Chair Technique:
15. Exposure Techniques:
16. Family Therapy:
17. Flooding:
18. Free Association:
19. Genogram:
20. Gestalt Therapy:
21. Graded Exposure:
22. Group Process:
23. GroupTherapy:
24. Humanistic Therapies:
25. Insight:
26. Interpretation:
27. Lithium:

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

28. MAO Inhibitors:
29. Marital or Couples Therapy:
30. Meta-Analysis:
31. Negative Reciprocity:
32. Participatory Modeling:
33. Psychoanalysis:
34. Psychodynamic Psychotherapy:
35. Psychosurgery:
36. Psychotherapy Integration:
37. Psychotropic Medications:
38. Rational-emotive Behavior Therapy:
39. Resistance:
40. Response Prevention:
41. Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSIRs):
42. Self-Help Group:
43. Skills Training:
44. Social Skills Training:
45. Systematic Desensitization:
46. Tardive Dyskinesia:
47. Therapeutic Alliance:
48. Transference:
49. Tricyclic Antidepressants:
50. Unconditional Positive Regard:
51. Virtual Reality Exposure Therapy:

AP Psychology Chapter 17 Key Terms
Social Cognition

1. Actual Self: people's views on how they actually are.
2. Attitude: association between an action or object and an evaluation
3. Attitude Accessibility: the ease which an attitude comes to mind or is activated
4. Attitude Importance: the personal relevance of an attitude and the psychological significance of that attitude for an individual
5. Attitude Inoculation: building up a receivers resistance to an opposing attitude by presenting weak arguments for it or forewarning of a strong opposing persuasive appeal
6. Attitude Strength: the durability of an attitude (its persistence and resistance to change) and its impact on behavior
7. Attitudinal Ambivalence: a condition in which an attitude object is associated with conflicting evaluative responses
8. Attitudinal Coherence: the extent to which an attitude is internally consistent
9. Attribution: the process of making inferences about the cause of one's own and others thoughts, feelings, and behavior
10. Attributional Style: a person's habitual manner of assigning causes to behaviors or events

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

11. Augmentation: attributional phenomenon in which people emphasize an internal explanation for a behavior because it occurred despite situational pressures
12. Authoritarian Personality: a personality type that is prone to hate people who are different or downtrodden
13. Central Route: a method of persuasion that involves inducing the recipient of a message to think carefully and weigh the arguments
14. Cognitive Dissonance: a phenomenon in when a person experiences a discrepancy between an attitude and a behavior or between an attitude and a new piece of information incongruent with it, which leads to a state of tension and a subsequent change in attitude, behavior, or perception
15. Consensus: in attribution theory, a normative response in a social group
16. Consistency: in attribution theory, the extent to which a person always responds in the same way to the same stimulus
17. Correspondence Bias: the tendency to assume that people's behavior corresponds to their internal states rather than external situations
18. Discounting: the attributional phenomenon in which people downplay the role of one variable that might explain a behavior because they know another may be contributing
19. Discrimination: the behavioral component of prejudiced attitudes
20. Distinctiveness: in attribution theory, the extent to which an individual responds in a particular way to many different stimulus
21. Elaboration Likelihood Model: the model of persuasion that proposes that knowing how to appeal to a person requires figuring out the likelihood that he ort she will think much about (or elaborate on) the arguments
22. External Attributions: an explanation of behavior that attributes the behavior to the situation
23. First Impressions: initial perceptions of another person that can be powerful in shaping future beliefs about the person
24. Halo Effect: a tendency to attribute additional positive characteristics to someone who has one salient quality, such as physical attractiveness
25. Ideal Self: a person's view of what he/she would like to be
26. Implicit Attitudes: attitudes that regulate thought and behavior unconsciously and automatically
27. In-groups: people perceived as belonging to a valued group
28. Internal Attributions: an explanation of behavior that attributes it to the person rather than the situations
29. Intuitive Scientists: the conception of people as lay scientists who use intuitive theories, frame hypothesis, collect data about themselves and others, and examine the impact of various

experimental manipulation when trying to understand themselves and others; also called intuitive psychologist

30. Ought Self: the duties, obligations, and responsibilities that define the way the person should be
31. Out-groups: people perceived as not belonging to a valued group
32. Peripheral Route: a method of persuasion that appeals less to rational and thoughtful processes than to automatic or emotional ones
33. Persuasion: deliberate efforts to induce attitude change
34. Prejudice: judging people based on negative stereotypes
35. Self: The person, including mental processes, body, and attributes.
36. Self-Concept: A person's view of him/herself
37. Self-Consistency: The motivation to interpret information to fit the self-concept and you prefer people who verify rather than challenge
38. Self-Esteem: the degree to which a person likes, respects, or esteems the self
39. Self-Handicapping: a process by which people set themselves up to fail when success is uncertain to preserve their self-esteem
40. Self-Monitoring: individual differences in the degree to which people manage their impressions
41. Self-Perception Theory: Alternative explanation of cognitive dissonance phenomena which holds that individuals become aware of their attitudes, emotions, and other internal states by observing their own behavior
42. Self-Presentation: the presentations by which people attempt to control the impressions that others form of them
43. Self-Presentational Predicaments: instances in which our desires to influence the impressions other people form of us fail
44. Self-Serving Bias: a phenomenon in which people tend to see themselves in a more positive light that they deserve
45. Social Cognition: the process by which people make sense of others, themselves, social interactions, and reactions
46. Social Identity Theory: theory suggesting that people derive part of their identity rom groups to which they belong
47. Social Psychology: a subdiscipline that examines the influence of social processes on the way people think, feel, and behave
48. Stereotypes: schemas about characteristics ascribed to a group of people based on qualities such as race, ethnicity, or gender rather than achievements or actions
49. Superordinate Goals: goals requiring groups to cooperate fore the benefit of all

Chapter 18 Vocabulary Words
Interpersonal Processes

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

1. Aggression – verbal or physical behavior aimed at harming another person or living being
2. Altruism - helping another person with no apparent gain, and even potential cost, to oneself
3. Bystander intervention – a form of altruism involving helping a person in need
4. Compassionate love – love that involves deep affection, friendship, and emotional intimacy
5. Conformity – the process of changing attitudes or behavior to accommodate the standards of a group
6. Diffusion of responsibility – the phenomenon in which the presence of other people leads to a diminished sense of personal responsibility to act
7. Dispositional variables – personalities and attitudes
8. Door-in-the-face technique – when we intentionally make a request that we know will be turned down, so that when we back down from one request, the other individual should reciprocate our concession
9. Ethical hedonism –the school of philosophical thought that asserts that all behavior, no matter how apparently altruistic, is and should be designed to increase one's own pleasure or reduce one's own pain
10. Foot-in-the-door technique – refers to this process by which people who get us to commit to a small request are much more likely to get us to commit to a larger request
11. Frustration aggression hypothesis – the hypothesis that when people are frustrated in achieving a gal, they may become aggressive
12. Group – a collection of people whose actions affect the other group members
13. Hostile aggression – aggression that is elicited by anger
14. Instrumental aggression – calm, pragmatic aggression that may or may not be accompanied by anger
15. Instrumental leaders – the group members who takes responsibility for seeing that the group completes its tasks
16. Interpersonal attraction – the factors that lead people to choose to spend time with other people
17. Leaders – people who exercise greater influence than the average member of a group
18. Low-balling – method of persuasion by which people get a commitment to a request and then change the conditions
19. Matching hypothesis – phenomenon whereby people tend to choose as partners people they perceive to be equally attractive to themselves
20. Need to belong –strong, possibly innate, need to be involved in relationships with obedience
21. Norms –standards for the behavior of group members
22. Obedience – overt compliance with authority

AP Psychology Terms & Definitions

23. Passionate love –a highly emotional form of love marked by intense physiological arousal and absorption in another person
24. Reciprocal altruism – the theory that natural selection favors animals that behave altruistically if the likely benefit to each individual over time exceeds the likely cost to each individual's reproductive success
25. Reference groups – the group to which a person refers when taking a particular action
26. Role – a position within group that defines appropriate behavior for the person occupying it
27. Self-fulfilling prophecies –false impressions of a situation that evoke behavior that, in turn, makes impressions become true
28. Sexual strategies – tactics used in selecting mates
29. Situational variables – aspects of the situation that interact with aspects of the person to produce behavior
30. Social emotional leaders – a role that may emerge in a group in which that member seeks to maximize group cohesion and minimize hostility
31. Social exchange theories – theories based on behaviorist principles that suggest the foundation of relationship is reciprocal reward
32. Social facilitation – the phenomenon in which the presence of other people facilitates performance
33. Social influence – the ways in which the presence of other peop0le influences a person's thought, feeling, or behavior
34. Social loafing – a reduction in individual effort when in a group
35. Task leaders - the group members who takes responsibility for seeing that the group completes its tasks