

Preparation Guide 1

Nairne p 3-22

1. What is the mind-body problem? What was Descartes view and what is the current dominant view?
2. What is meant by the term construct? Give three examples of psychological constructs.
3. Describe the view known as empiricism, relating it to the idea of a "blank slate."
4. What are the major features of Darwin's theory of evolution? What is natural selection? Why did Darwin's theory have such a strong influence on psychologists?
5. Describe the basic ideas behind the school of structuralism. Who were the pioneers of this approach?
6. What is systematic introspection, and why did the structuralists use it as a method? What are the problems with systematic introspection?
7. What is the basic approach of functionalism, and how does this approach differ from structuralism? Why was the theory of evolution influential to this school? Who were the pioneers of this approach?
8. What effect did functionalism have on the development of psychology?
9. What were the basic problems that many psychologists saw with attempting to scientifically investigate consciousness?
10. What are the basic principles behind behaviorism, and who are its pioneering figures?
11. What are the basic assumptions in Freud's theory of psychoanalysis? What unique contributions did Freud make to the science of psychology?
12. What are the basic ideas behind humanistic psychology, and how is it a reaction against the Freudian approach? What is client-centered therapy?
13. Describe the cognitive revolution, how it differs from behaviorism, and some of the factors that led to it.
14. In what ways does the computer serve as a model for the mind?
15. Relate the strides made in technology and the understanding of brain chemistry to psychology; describe the biological approach.
16. What is the focus of evolutionary psychology?

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