

## TEST ITEM FILE

### Topic 1A: The Nature and Uses of Psychological Tests

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ test is a multivariate assessment of heart rate, respiration, muscle tone, reflex irritability, and color in newborns.
  - a. Reflex
  - b. Newborn
  - \*c. Apgar
  - d. Alpha
  
2. A specialist in psychology or education who develops and evaluates psychological tests:
  - a. clinician
  - \*b. psychometrician
  - c. psychometrist
  - d. counselor
  
3. Which of the following could be a test, according to the definition offered in the textbook?
  - a. a checklist for rating the social skills of an intellectually disabled youth
  - b. a non-timed measure of mastery in adding pairs of three-digit numbers
  - c. a microcomputer appraisal of reaction time
  - \*d. all of the above
  
4. Which of the following is NOT a typical characteristic of psychological tests?
  - \*a. standardization to a mean of 100
  - b. sampling of behavior
  - c. description of behavior with categories or scores
  - d. use of norms to predict other behaviors
  
5. Tests that use a well-defined population of persons for their interpretive framework are referred to as:
  - a. criterion-referenced
  - b. population-referenced
  - c. standard-referenced
  - \*d. norm-referenced
  
6. Criterion-referenced tests
  - \*a. measure what a person can do
  - b. compare results to the performance levels of others
  - c. are passed by everyone
  - d. all of the above
  
7. Uniformity of administration procedures is the definition of
  - a. criterion-referencing
  - \*b. standardization
  - c. norm-referencing
  - d. reliability

8. Which of the following is an essential step in the standardization of a test?
- a. use of identical stimuli with all examinees
  - b. precise specification of oral instructions for subtests
  - c. advice to the examiner as to how to handle queries from the examinee
  - \*d. all of the above
9. Where is the most reliable source to get directions and instructions for administering specific psychological tests?
- a. the American Psychological Association's volume on *Testing and Assessment*
  - b. continuing education seminars in psychological testing
  - \*c. the instruction manual that typically accompanies a test
  - d. a credentialed psychologist
10. Why are tests merely a sample of behavior?
- \*a. so that the time required for testing is not excessive
  - b. a sample is as good as the totality of behaviors
  - c. so that the examiner's influence is minimized
  - d. because the examiner has a special interest in that sample of behavior
11. Suppose that answering "true" to the question "I drink a lot of water" happens to help predict depression. Would it be wise to include this item on a test used to identify depression?
- \*a. yes, because the essential characteristic of a good test is that it predicts relevant behaviors
  - b. no, because there is no theoretical link between drinking water and being depressed
  - c. yes, because there is a theoretical link between drinking water and being depressed
  - d. maybe, depending upon the theoretical orientation of the test developer
12. Which of the following is NOT true in relation to psychological tests:
- a. they typically portray an abstraction that is shown useful in prediction
  - \*b. results represent a thing with physical reality
  - c. every test score will reflect some degree of measure error
  - d. they sum up performance in numbers of classifications
13. In the equation  $X = T + e$ , what is the best that a test developer can do?
- a. make T very large
  - b. make T very small
  - c. make e very large
  - \*d. make e very small
14. The norm group is referred to as the
- a. criterion sample
  - b. standardization sample
  - c. reference group
  - d. all of the above

15. The purpose of norms is to
- a. establish an average performance
  - b. indicate the prevalence of high and low scores
  - c. determine deviations from expectation
  - \*d. all of the above
16. In the selection and testing of a standardized sample, it is crucial that
- \*a. the sample is representative of the population for whom the test is intended
  - b. the sample is diverse in composition
  - c. the sample is uniform in composition
  - d. all members of the sample are literate
17. The ability of a test to predict non-test behavior is determined by
- \*a. an extensive body of postpublication validation research
  - b. the scores of the standardization sample
  - c. the reliability of the test
  - d. the prepublication validation research
18. In a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ test, the objective is to determine where the examinee stands with respect to very tightly defined educational objectives.
- a. norm-referenced
  - b. ability
  - \*c. criterion-referenced
  - d. aptitude
19. Which is the most comprehensive term?
- a. testing
  - b. scoring
  - c. norming
  - \*d. assessing
20. Psychological assessment is characterized by all of the following EXCEPT:
- a. comparing and combining data from different sources
  - b. utilizing and understanding a variety of different testing and observational measures
  - c. an inherently subjective process that makes predictions on a complex gestalt of data
  - \*d. an objective process based on a single source of information
21. The term \_\_\_\_\_ was invented during World War II to describe a program to select men for secret service assignment in the Office of Strategic Services.
- \*a. assessment
  - b. evaluation
  - c. classification
  - d. estimation
22. Which of the following was used as a situational test by the Office of Strategic Services during WWII?
- a. transporting equipment across a raging brook
  - b. scaling a ten foot high wall
  - c. surviving a realistic interrogation
  - \*d. all of the above

23. An important advantage of \_\_\_\_\_ tests is that the examiner can gauge the level of motivation of the examinee.
- a. group
  - \*c. individual
  - b. personality
  - d. intelligence
24. Most intelligence tests use a \_\_\_\_\_ assortment of test items.
- a. homogeneous
  - c. random
  - \*b. heterogeneous
  - d. culture-free
25. \_\_\_\_\_ tests are often used to predict success in an occupation, training course, or educational endeavor.
- a. Intelligence
  - \*c. Aptitude
  - b. Personality
  - d. Achievement
26. \_\_\_\_\_ tests are often used to measure a person's degree of learning, success or accomplishment in a subject matter.
- a. Intelligence
  - c. Aptitude
  - b. Personality
  - \*d. Achievement
27. Measures of \_\_\_\_\_ emphasize novelty and originality in the solution of fuzzy problems or the production of artistic works.
- a. personality
  - \*c. creativity
  - b. achievement
  - d. femininity
28. Putting forth a variety of answers to a complex or fuzzy problem is an example of \_\_\_\_\_ thinking.
- \*a. divergent
  - c. undisciplined
  - b. convergent
  - d. intelligent
29. Checklists, inventories, and projective techniques are all examples of \_\_\_\_\_ tests.
- a. creativity
  - \*c. personality
  - b. intelligence
  - d. vocational
30. \_\_\_\_\_ share a common assumption that behavior is best understood in terms of clearly defined characteristics such as frequency, duration, antecedents, and consequences.
- a. Intelligence tests
  - c. Creativity tests
  - b. Personality inventories
  - \*d. Behavioral procedures
31. What subspecialty of psychology uses specialized tests on people to make inferences about the locus, extent, and consequences of brain damage?
- a. Neurology
  - b. Cognitive Psychology
  - c. Physiological Psychology
  - \*d. Neuropsychology

32. By far the most common use of psychological tests is to
- \*a. make decisions about persons
  - b. diagnose mental and emotional disorders
  - c. determine personality functioning
  - d. evaluate learning disabilities
33. Placement, screening, certification, and selection are all examples of
- a. diagnosis
  - b. program evaluation
  - \*c. classification
  - d. research-based testing
34. A neuropsychologist investigating the hypothesis that low-level lead absorption causes behavior deficits in children would be an example of using psychological testing for \_\_\_\_\_.
- \*a. research
  - b. self-knowledge
  - c. program evaluation
  - d. diagnosis and treatment
35. In general, Head Start children show immediate gains in
- a. IQ
  - b. school readiness
  - c. academic achievement
  - \*d. all of the above
36. It is important that the standardization sample be representative of the population for whom the test is intended because
- \*a. this allows for the examinee's relative standing to be determined
  - b. minority groups must be represented in all samples
  - c. the high generalizability is no longer a confounding variable
  - d. test standards require a standardization sample
37. In a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ test, the performance of each examinee is interpreted in reference to a relevant standardization sample.
- a. individually-referenced
  - b. group-referenced
  - \*c. norm-referenced
  - d. criterion-referenced
38. A psychometrician is best understood as
- a. an expert administrator of personality tests
  - b. a psychologist who has been trained from the scientist-practitioner model
  - \*c. a developer and evaluator of psychological tests
  - d. any authorized user of assessment instruments