Chapter 1: Philosophical Roots of Psychology

Test Bank

# Multiple Choice

1. If you ask your professor a question, and she responds with a question, what style of Greek philosophical teaching is she using?

A. Platonic forms

B. Aristotelian inferences

C. Socratic method

D. Socratic ignorance

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Socrates

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. What is the important conclusion from Plato’s allegory of the cave?

A. Our soul contains three parts: the appetitive, emotional, and rational.

B. We learn from reason and logic, not our senses.

C. Innate knowledge can be drawn out using the Socratic method.

D. Our knowledge exists in our soul after death.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Plato

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. Which Ancient Greek philosopher thought knowledge came from experiences?

A. Aristotle

B. Plato

C. Socrates

D. Hypatia

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Aristotle

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. According to Aristotle, what separates humans from plants and animals?

A. the ability to describe our sensory experiences

B. The psyche is a unique component of the human soul.

C. The human soul continues after death.

D. The existence of the rational soul is unique to humans.

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Aristotle

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Based on Aristotle’s ideas about happiness, which one of these individuals would be experiencing the greatest happiness?

A. Mark who is enjoying a good meal at his favorite restaurant.

B. Laura who is a well-respected member of her church community.

C. Maria who takes time to reflect on her personal well-being.

D. Tim who enjoys good food, is well liked, and who engages in mindfulness.

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Aristotle

Difficulty Level: Hard

6. Aristotle’s ideas about eudaimonia inspired which group of modern psychologists?

A. positive psychologists

B. cognitive psychologists

C. psychiatrists

D. evolutionary psychologists

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Aristotle

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Which philosopher is responsible for introducing Greek philosophy to the Muslim world?

A. Averroes

B. Al-Kindi

C. Avicenna

D. Aristotle

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-2: Evaluate the psychological contributions of the Islamic philosophers Al-Kindi, Avicenna, and Averroes.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Al-Kindi

Difficulty Level: Easy

8. Which of Avicenna’s ideas became the basis of the American Behaviorist Movement in the 20th century?

A. Humans learn through reason and logic.

B. Human cognition is due to the movement of animal spirits in the ventricles.

C. Humans are born with no innate knowledge.

D. Humans have self-awareness outside of their body.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-2: Evaluate the psychological contributions of the Islamic philosophers Al-Kindi, Avicenna, and Averroes.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Avicenna

Difficulty Level: Medium

9. According to Avicenna, where in the brain do low-level cognitions occur?

A. frontal lobe

B. pineal gland

C. cerebellum

D. ventricles

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-2: Evaluate the psychological contributions of the Islamic philosophers Al-Kindi, Avicenna, and Averroes.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Avicenna

Difficulty Level: Easy

10. What is the main conclusion from Avicenna’s flying man argument?

A. The mind and body operate simultaneously but separately.

B. The existence of self-awareness is separate from the body.

C. The belief in free will comes from God.

D. The animal spirits are responsible for innate knowledge.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-2: Evaluate the psychological contributions of the Islamic philosophers Al-Kindi, Avicenna, and Averroes.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Avicenna

Difficulty Level: Medium

11. As you eat an ice cream cone, your senses register the cold temperature, the smooth texture of the ice cream, the flavor, and the crunch of the cone. According to Averroes, what faculty of the mind synthesizes these unique impressions into the total experience of eating the ice cream cone?

A. common sense

B. animal spirits

C. associationism

D. rational soul

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-2: Evaluate the psychological contributions of the Islamic philosophers Al-Kindi, Avicenna, and Averroes.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Averroes

Difficulty Level: Hard

12. Which philosopher was the first to describe the reflex arc?

A. Rene Descartes

B. Avicenna

C. John Locke

D. Thomas Hobbes

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-3: Contrast the various positions taken by the Continental Rationalists on the mind-body problem.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: René Descartes

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. \_\_\_\_\_\_ states that the mind and body are separate from each other but interact with one another in the pineal gland.

A. Materialism

B. Cartesian dualism

C. Double-aspect monism

D. Flying man argument

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-3: Contrast the various positions taken by the Continental Rationalists on the mind-body problem.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: René Descartes

Difficulty Level: Easy

14. Who argued that the mind and body are not separate entities but instead are two parts of the same substance?

A. René Descartes

B. Thomas Hobbes

C. Baruch Spinoza

D. Gottfried Leibniz

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-3: Contrast the various positions taken by the Continental Rationalists on the mind-body problem.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Baruch Spinoza

Difficulty Level: Easy

15. What would Leibniz say is happening when you are reflecting on your own perceptions?

A. transcendental idealism

B. deduction

C. associationism

D. apperception

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-3: Contrast the various positions taken by the Continental Rationalists on the mind-body problem.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Gottfried Leibniz

Difficulty Level: Medium

16. Why does Kant think we don’t experience the world as it really is?

A. Copernicus demonstrated the Earth moves around the sun.

B. Psychophysical parallelism prevents the mind and body from interacting.

C. The mind is designed to experience the world in a set way.

D. Perception is not a passive process.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-3: Contrast the various positions taken by the Continental Rationalists on the mind-body problem.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Immanuel Kant

Difficulty Level: Medium

17. In which method of thinking do we have to make an assumption that the premises we start with are true?

A. deductive reasoning

B. observational reasoning

C. inductive reasoning

D. empirical reasoning

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Francis Bacon

Difficulty Level: Medium

18. If Dr. Smith makes many observations about how couples behave in public and uses those observations to make a general statement about couple’s behavior in public, what type of reasoning is Dr. Smith using?

A. empirical reasoning

B. inductive reasoning

C. rational reasoning

D. deductive reasoning

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Francis Bacon

Difficulty Level: Hard

19. \_\_\_\_\_\_ is Francis Bacon’s idea that the mind is filled with biases that lead us to make errors in reasoning.

A. Falling man argument

B. Method of doubt

C. Doctrine of the idols

D. Socratic ignorance

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Francis Bacon

Difficulty Level: Easy

20. When you see a rose and smell its fragrance, which set of senses would John Locke say you are using?

A. reflection senses

B. outer senses

C. inner senses

D. associative senses

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: John Locke

Difficulty Level: Medium

21. What is the process through which simple ideas combine together to become complex ideas?

A. resemblance

B. contiguity

C. reflection

D. associationism

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: John Locke

Difficulty Level: Easy

22. How would George Berkeley say children learn the shape of a block is a cube?

A. through picking the block up and interacting with it

B. through associating the simple components of the block together

C. through an innate understanding of shape

D. through formal education

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: George Berkeley

Difficulty Level: Medium

23. Which British Empiricist tried to reconcile science with his religious faith?

A. John Locke

B. David Hume

C. George Berkeley

D. John Stuart Mill

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: George Berkeley

Difficulty Level: Easy

24. Why does Berkeley consider humans to be spirits?

A. They can perceive.

B. They have an immaterial soul.

C. They believe in God.

D. They are capable of making ideas.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: George Berkeley

Difficulty Level: Easy

25. Which of David Hume’s laws of association can explain why we frequently finish the phrase «peanut butter and \_\_\_\_\_\_» with the word «jelly»?

A. contiguity

B. causation

C. resemblance

D. inference

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: David Hume

Difficulty Level: Hard

26. Which British Empiricist argued that there are underlying regularities to human psychology that allow us to make tentative predictions about how humans will act?

A. John Locke

B. George Berkeley

C. David Hume

D. John Stuart Mill

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: John Stuart Mill

Difficulty Level: Easy

27. \_\_\_\_\_\_ suggests that complex ideas can have new features that aren’t present in any of the simple components.

A. Associationism

B. Idealism

C. Mental chemistry

D. Causation

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: John Stuart Mill

Difficulty Level: Easy

28. Which modern philosopher mentioned in the end of the chapter thinks machines will one day become as intelligent as humans?

A. Daniel Dennett

B. Marvin Minsky

C. John Searle

D. Patricia Churchland

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Looking Ahead

Difficulty Level: Easy

29. Mary believes that her soul will carry on after she dies. Philosophers would say Mary is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. dualist

B. idealist

C. monist

D. interactionist

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Looking Back

Difficulty Level: Hard

30. Mary believes that laws of the natural world will eventually be able to explain how the human mind functions. Philosophers would say Mary is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. dualist

B. idealist

C. monist

D. interactionist

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Looking Back

Difficulty Level: Hard

# Short Answer

1. What is similar between Avicenna’s “flying man” argument and Descartes’ “I think, therefore I am” argument?

Ans: Students should discuss how both arguments demonstrate that humans can be aware of our own thoughts and that this is how we know we are alive. They may also point out that Avicenna’s argument comes before Descartes’, although this is not necessary information.

Learning Objective: 1-2: Evaluate the psychological contributions of the Islamic philosophers Al-Kindi, Avicenna, and Averroes.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Avicenna

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Briefly explain Averroes’ contributions that are closely related to modern psychology.

Ans: Students should discuss his dream theory, which states that dreams are not supernatural but rather a random retelling of experiences and thoughts from the day before. Additionally, they should discuss his idea that humans are not entirely rational but instead are guided by emotions when making decisions. [Although the text mentions other ideas that are “firsts,” they aren’t closely related to what modern psychologists think and therefore should not be counted correct.]

Learning Objective: 1-2: Evaluate the psychological contributions of the Islamic philosophers Al-Kindi, Avicenna, and Averroes.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Averroes

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. What were the criticisms of Cartesian dualism?

Ans: The spiritual mind doesn’t fit with Descartes’ belief that humans are machines, but you can’t explain dualism without moving away from a mechanistic explanation. Additionally, Descartes argues that the mind is in the soul which means that animals can’t have minds or conscious experiences. This is because he viewed animals as mindless machines. Students might also mention that the pineal gland isn’t responsible for the communication between the mind and the body, although this isn’t explicitly mentioned in the text.

Learning Objective: 1-3: Contrast the various positions taken by the Continental Rationalists on the mind-body problem.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: René Descartes

Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Explain Gottfried Leibniz’s mill argument.

Ans: Students should explain that nothing mechanical in nature can produce consciousness. He claims that the material world lacks a mind and consciousness comes from the soul.

Learning Objective: 1-3: Contrast the various positions taken by the Continental Rationalists on the mind-body problem.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Gottfried Leibniz

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Why did Francis Bacon think induction was a better way of learning about the world than deduction?

Ans: Because we must assume the premises we start within deductive reasoning are true, deduction allows scientists to just prove their ideas are true without any real evidence to support their point. On the other hand, induction allows scientists to collect many observations together to make a general statement about the world.

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Francis Bacon

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. Explain what John Locke means by sensation and reflection.

Ans: Sensation refers to information brought to the mind by outer senses and reflection refers to information brought into the mind by the inner senses.

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: John Locke

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. Explain how simple ideas combine together to become complex ideas.

Ans: Students should explain how simple ideas become associated together to give us one complex idea. They could use the example of the apple that is in the text to help explain their answer.

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: John Locke

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. What are the three laws of association created by David Hume? Briefly explain each one.

Ans:

1. Resemblance which is when two ideas are similar to one another.
2. Contiguity which is when two ideas occur at the same time or in the same space.
3. Causation which is when one idea comes directly after the other.

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: David Hume

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. How does John Stuart Mill’s compatibilism explain the existence of free will?

Ans: There are many reasons for any one of our decisions. If we can identify at least one other reason for why we did what we did, then we can say there is free will.

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: John Stuart Mill

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. What is the difference between rationalism and empiricism?

Ans: Rationalism argues that we learn about the world by using reason and logic. We can’t rely on our senses because they aren’t always accurate. Therefore to learn about the world, we must rely on our mind. Empiricism argues that we learn about the world through observation. Empiricists also believe our senses can be deceiving, but they firmly believe that careful observation is the only way to know the world.

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Looking Back

Difficulty Level: Medium

# Essay

1. Explain Descartes’ dualism and Hobbes’ monism. Contrast their perspectives.

Ans: Descartes argues that the mind and body are separate entities that interact with one another. He believes the body is physical and takes in all sensory information and the mind is spiritual. Hobbes is a materialist and argues that there is no separate essence for the mind. He argues that mental processes are mechanical just as physical processes are. Therefore, Hobbes is a monist. Answer should clearly explain these two perspectives and then clearly explain the differences between them.

Learning Objective: 1-3: Contrast the various positions taken by the Continental Rationalists on the mind-body problem.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: René Descartes | Thomas Hobbes

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Compare Cartesian dualism and psychophysical parallelism.

Ans: Cartesian dualism is the idea that the mind and body are separate entities but interact with one another in the pineal gland. Information from one can cross to the other. Psychophysical parallelism states that the mind and body are separate entities but they never interact. This mimics the relationship between the physical and spiritual worlds. Something can happen that causes a reaction in both, but one does not cause the other.

Learning Objective: 1-3: Contrast the various positions taken by the Continental Rationalists on the mind-body problem.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: René Descartes | Gottfried Leibniz

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. How did George Berkeley’s idealism reconcile science and religion?

Ans: Students should describe that there are ideas, which is what we perceive and that there are agents (spirits) who are the active perceivers. Humans are spirits because they have an immaterial soul that comes from God who also gives us the ideas to perceive. There is no material world, instead our perceptual experience is created by God. Laws of nature just describe that perceptual experience instead of the function of matter.

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: George Berkeley

Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Compare Thomas Hobbes and George Berkeley’s perspective on free will. Whose perspective better reflects how modern psychologists think about free will?

Ans: Hobbes argues for materialism, which is the idea that there is no separate substance that accounts for the existence of the mind. Because of this, the mind can be explained with the same mechanical laws that are used for the body (and the rest of the natural world). Hobbes says people believe in free will because they do not understand the external reasons for their actions. Berkeley rejects materialism and instead argues for idealism. In Berkeley’s view, there is no matter to the world. Instead what we perceive in the world comes from God’s mind. Humans are active perceivers of God’s world and can choose what they perceive and how they act on that information. Therefore, Berkeley’s idealism argues for the existence of free will in humans. Hobbes’ materialism is more in line with modern psychology, because modern psychologists believe we will ultimately discover all the explanations for why we think, feel, behave (etc.) the way we do.

Learning Objective: 1-4: Survey the development of thinking on the nature of the mind by the British Empiricists.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Thomas Hobbes | George Berkeley

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. What are the two main types of philosophy that were covered in this chapter? What types of questions are answered in each type of philosophy?

Ans: Students should describe epistemology and metaphysics. In their discussion of epistemology, students should discuss rationalism and empiricism as two ways of knowing the world. Questions answered by epistemologists center on how we know the world or how we know things to be true. In metaphysics, students should discuss the mind–body problem and the two main poles: monism and dualism. Questions from metaphysics center on what consciousness is and where it is located.

Learning Objective: 1-1: Outline the major philosophical trends of the Classical Period, particularly the ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Looking Back

Difficulty Level: Medium