

Psychopathology & Social Psychology: Stuff You Should Know

W. J. Wilson
Psychology 101 – Albion College

We discussed a number of important topics in class. This is a list of some questions that you ought to be able to address after you have read the text and thought about the material. There is no guarantee that this list is exhaustive; there might well be other things from the class that will appear on an exam.

Psychopathology

1. Define “psychopathology.”
2. What is the DSM-IV?
3. What is an obsession?
4. List some of the most common compulsions.
5. What neurotransmitter has been implicated in OCD?
6. List three anxiety disorders.
7. What is the most effective drug therapy for OCD?
8. What is a phobic disorder?
9. Why is it unlikely that Pavlovian conditioning is responsible for phobias?
10. Describe the processes of flooding and sensitization as they are used to treat phobias.
11. What is “agoraphobia?”
12. What is generalized anxiety disorder?
13. Why is generalized anxiety disorder harder than a phobia for people to manage themselves?
14. What type of drug is effective in treating generalized anxiety disorder, and what neurotransmitter is it thought to affect?
15. What was the name of the Rolling Stones’ song that glorified these anti-anxiety drugs?
16. Describe schizophrenia.
17. What evidence supports the dopamine hypothesis of schizophrenia (and what *is* the dopamine hypothesis)?
18. What is a hallucination? Describe the typical hallucinations of someone with schizophrenia?
19. What is a delusion? What are the two most common types of delusions experienced by people with schizophrenia?
20. Who is Crispin Glover, and why did David Letterman leave the set of his show when Glover was a guest?
21. What is the “Rule of Thirds” as applied to schizophrenia?

22. Discuss the differences between process and reactive schizophrenia.
23. What did Scheibel tell us about the hippocampus and schizophrenia?
24. What did Weinberger tell us about the hippocampus and schizophrenia?
25. Why are dissociative disorders given that name?
26. What is dissociative amnesia?
27. Describe dissociative fugue.
28. What is a more common name for dissociative identity disorder?
29. Discuss the role of neurotransmitters in unipolar affective disorder. What evidence suggests that these neurotransmitters are involved?
30. What does it mean to say that a psychological disorder is heritable?
31. What is the most effective form of drug therapy for unipolar depression?
32. What differentiates bipolar affective disorder from unipolar affective disorder?
33. What drug therapy is most effective against bipolar disorder?

Social Psychology

1. Discuss the difference between internal and external attributions.
2. What is the fundamental attribution error?
3. Relate the strange behavior of Bem’s hair (in the film *When Will People Help*) to the topic of the film.
4. What factors influence whether or not someone will help?
5. What is pluralistic ignorance?
6. How does diffusion of responsibility (or of guilt) affect helping behavior?
7. Discuss bystander calculus.
8. How does a model influence helping?

9. What does a learning theory approach suggest about helping?

10. Briefly describe Asch's methodology in his studies of conformity.

11. What happens to conformity as the size of the group increases?

12. How does the presence of an ally affect conformity?

13. What did Asch discover about the group's treatment of the deviant?

14. What might explain the high level of conformity in Sherif's study of the autokinetic effect?

15. What is Festinger's theory of cognitive dissonance?

16. Why is it more likely that you will praise a product that you bought than a product that you were given?

17. What confound caused psychologists to misinterpret the results of the "sweetbread study?"

18. Paying someone a small amount to do something she doesn't want to do is more likely to change her mind about it than paying her a lot of money. Why, according to cognitive dissonance theory?

19. According to cognitive dissonance theory, why does hazing cause a stronger allegiance to the fraternity?

20. What boring task did Festinger and Carlsmith (1959) use in their study of cognitive dissonance?

21. Describe Milgram's methodology in his study of obedience.

22. How was obedience affected by the salience of the victim?

23. How was obedience affected by the salience of the authority figure?