

Chapter 2 Evolutionary Theory

Test Bank

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which of the following best describes the process of adaptation in evolutionary theory?: (a)
 - (a) the development of structures and problem-solving mechanisms that allow the species to survive in a specific environment
 - (b) the ability to attract a mate of equal or superior education and social class
 - (c) the motivation to ensure the reproductive success of those who share one's genetic ancestry
 - (d) the willingness to share resources with those who are unable to contribute on their own
2. Which of the following terms focuses on describing the unique adaptive behaviors of specific species, such as mating, caregiving, play, and strategies for obtaining resources?: (c)
 - (a) chemistry
 - (b) education
 - (c) ethology
 - (d) teratology
3. The continuation of a species depends on the capacity of its individual members to survive, mate, reproduce, and _____.: (a)
 - (a) rear their offspring
 - (b) have reflexes
 - (c) use spoken language
 - (d) express emotion
4. Which of the following statements is considered a major implication of evolutionary theory related to the study of human development?: (b)
 - (a) the importance of similarities among all humans allows for the scientific study of continuity over time
 - (b) factors that influence reproductive success of a group have implications for the survival of the species
 - (c) the early years of childhood are most critical in shaping the structure of adult personality

- (d) the course of human development is shaped by entries into and exits from key life roles
- 5. According to evolutionary theory, the following mechanism accounts for species change from the beginning of life to the present: (c)
 - (a) climate
 - (b) variability
 - (c) natural selection
 - (d) genetics
- 6. The reason that natural selection can contribute to species change is that species exhibit ____: (b)
 - (a) habits
 - (b) variability
 - (c) social behavior
 - (d) courting rituals
- 7. Natural selection operates at the genetic level as a result of varying degrees of _____ among the species: (a)
 - (a) reproductive success
 - (b) ethology
 - (c) maturity
 - (d) defensive behavior
- 8. Because of its concern with reproductive success, evolutionary theory directs our attention to the study of which of the following aspects of human behavior?: (d)
 - (a) mating and reproductive behavior
 - (b) parenting
 - (c) growth and development from infancy up to reproductive age
 - (d) all of these
- 9. According to evolutionary theory, what is the adaptive consequence of variability for the species?: (b)
 - (a) it promotes cognitive complexity
 - (b) it ensures species survival under varying environmental conditions
 - (c) it encourages responsive parenting
 - (d) it promotes helping behavior and cooperation among group members

10. What is the basic survival function served by the attachment behavioral system?: (c)
 - (a) mating
 - (b) feeding efficiency
 - (c) safety
 - (d) emotional regulation
11. Which of the following terms refers to the process through which hominids separated from homo erectus to homo sapiens?: (d)
 - (a) extinction
 - (b) inclusive fitness
 - (c) reproductive success
 - (d) speciation
12. Which of the following characteristics are common to all members of the human species?: (d)
 - (a) common body shape and specific organs
 - (b) humans can mate and reproduce human children
 - (c) bipedalism which leaves the hands free for tool use
 - (d) all of these
13. Dr. Fredrich Watchitall studies mating and parenting behaviors of marmosets in the natural environment that contribute to species survival . What is his likely scientific discipline?: (b)
 - (a) psychiatry
 - (b) ethology
 - (c) demography
 - (d) proctology
14. Whereas ethology focuses on adaptive behavior patterns, the goal of evolutionary psychology is the study of _____: (a)
 - (a) the human mind
 - (b) the optimal environment for human productivity
 - (c) differences between men and women
 - (d) factors that account for successful aging
15. According to evolutionary psychology, what are the likely origins of adaptive problems?: (d)
 - (a) they help explain how modern inventions are derived from earlier tools

- (b) they are problems, the solution to which contributed to reproductive success
 - (c) they are likely to have occurred repeatedly over the course of human history
 - (d) both (b) and (c)
16. At about what age do infants form an internal mental representation of the object of attachment?: (a)
- (a) 9 to 12 months
 - (b) 6 to 9 months
 - (c) 3 to 6 months
 - (d) birth to 3 months
17. Attachment patterns differ. Mallory cries a lot, is not readily soothed by her caregiver, but is clearly distressed when separated from her caregiver. Which attachment style is this?: (b)
- (a) secure attachment
 - (b) anxious-avoidant attachment
 - (c) anxious-resistant attachment
 - (d) disorganized attachment
18. What are some long-term adaptive benefits of a secure attachment?: (d)
- (a) enjoyment in close peer friendships during the preschool years
 - (b) greater resilience and self-control
 - (c) increased disclosure and responsiveness in adult love relationships
 - (d) all of these
19. What is the free-rider problem?: (c)
- (a) a lack of public transportation in urban areas
 - (b) a concern about insects that attach to plants and infect large agricultural areas
 - (c) people who share equally in the benefits of resources but do not use any effort or energy to contribute to their production
 - (d) people who get angry when they do not get any credit for their efforts and work
20. What strategies allow cooperative individuals to flourish in a group and overcome the negative impact of free-riders?: (d)
- (a) there must be a mental structure that allows people to recognize and categorize people as free-riders

- (b) when free-riders are identified, cooperators need to use strategies to punish them or create incentives to foster their cooperation
- (c) cooperators learn to "turn the other cheek," accept the free-riders, and share resources with them
- (d) both (a) and (b)

Essay Questions

1. Define natural selection and adaptation. What is the relationship between these two concepts? How do they account for the emergence of new or altered species over generations?
2. Explain the concept of attachment and its connection to evolutionary theory. What aspects of the attachment process could be considered to be innate? How is attachment related to species survival?
3. Evolutionary psychology focuses on a specific set of adaptive problems. Explain the idea of adaptive problems and give three examples. How does the concept of natural selection apply to the evolution of the brain and the capacity to solve adaptive problems?
4. Define the free-rider problem from an evolutionary theory perspective. Explain why the free-rider problem is likely to undermine educational efforts to foster group work. Give three suggestions for ways to reduce the likelihood of encountering free riders in group assignments.