

## Practice Questions

Before providing a couple of sample questions I want to be clear about something. People have expressed to me a concern about the level of detail for exam questions, such as dates and names of people. As far as I am concerned that is too picky and where names and dates are relevant they will be entered into the question as aids to recall and will never be answers to questions. For example:

In classical conditioning a neutral stimulus eventually becomes a signal for the stimulus that always follows it, such as a bell followed closely by food powder. Aristotle's principle of association by \_\_\_\_\_ is most likely taking place.

- a. contiguity
- b. contrast
- c. verisimilitude
- d. causation

Francis Bacon's (not Roger Bacon from the 13th century) "Idols" referred to \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. beliefs in false prophets and assumptions
- b. errors that infect the mind
- c. an over-reliance on data collection
- d. an emphasis on mathematical order

I hope that is clear.

Here is an example of what a question for this chapter might look like (but not this one):

When hydrogen and oxygen (both gases) combine the result is water (a liquid). This could not be predicted from the properties or characteristics of the two gases. This is an example of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Evolution
- b. Reductionism
- c. Emergence
- d. Redintegration

The answer is C.

In this chapter, and especially in the next, you will be introduced to a lot of concepts that you will need to understand. It is not enough to memorize a definition if you do not fully comprehend what is intended. Over many years of teaching a course on theoretical psychology I came to realize that students only had a superficial understanding of the concepts (many of which are introduced herein). As a result, I developed some exercises that my students told me were very useful. I had them form into groups and analyze a statement in order to identify what concepts were represented within. Now, so as not to make it too difficult, I provided some possible options of what the statement could be categorized as. We would then discuss their selections afterwards and I would give feedback.

In this section and in the next chapter, I will include some of these and allow you the opportunity to try your hand at these. You might want to find some friends and do it together. Talking it over can itself be a learning experience as you give each other feedback. There will be three steps. First the statement and some options will be presented for you analyze. After you have struggled with it and arrived at a selection you can proceed on to step two. The statement and options will be provided but, this time, some key elements in the statement will be highlighted. See if this leads you confirm your selection or reconsider it. Finally, the correct response will be indicated with a brief explanation.

Think of this as intellectual detective work. You searching for the clues that will support determining "who done it?" or more correctly "which is it?"