

PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN

This test deals with the psychology of women. Topics include: gender role development; achievement; women and work; relationships; sexuality; physical and mental health; violence against women; women and older adulthood. (3 s.h.) PSY-270-TE

This is a two-hour examination in which you must answer 100 multiple-choice questions (worth 1 point each). A passing score is **60** out of 100 points.

Here are the topics covered and their approximate importance on the test:

- I. HISTORY OF THE PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN AND RESEARCH ISSUES (10%)
- II. DEFINITIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF GENDER, GENDER ROLE DEVELOPMENT AND BEHAVIOR (25%)
- III. INFANCY, CHILDHOOD, ADOLESCENCE (10%)
- IV. WOMEN AND ACHIEVEMENT, ACHIEVEMENT MOTIVATION, COGNITIVE ABILITIES, COGNITIVE AND PERCEPTUAL STYLES (10%)
- V. WOMEN AND WORK (10%)
- VI. LOVE RELATIONSHIPS, SEXUALITY, LESBIANISM (10%)
- VII. PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, MOTHERHOOD (5%)
- VIII. FEMALE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH (10%)
- IX. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: RAPE AND BATTERING (5%)
- X. WOMEN AND OLDER ADULTHOOD (5%)

Textbooks to help you prepare:

We recommend using Matlin as your primary reference. The other text is useful supplementary reading, as are most college-level texts in this subject.

Matlin, Margaret W. *The Psychology of Women*.
Current edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth

Shibley Hyde, Janet. *Half the Human Experience: The Psychology of Women*.
Current edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. Sex role stereotypes are based on
 - a. culturally-bound beliefs about males and females
 - b. the physiological restrictions on males and females
 - c. the biological restrictions on females and males
 - d. the legal status of women

2. Traditional psychotherapy is based on a client-therapist relationship which is
 - a. mutually participative
 - b. hierarchical and unequal
 - c. collegial and equal
 - d. equal in nature
3. Gender schema theory uses
 - a. the cognitive developmental approach
 - b. the social learning approach
 - c. the biological approach
 - d. both (a) and (b)
4. One consequence of people's attributions for women's and men's performance is that
 - a. males are likely to have their successes attributed to cheating
 - b. males are likely to have their failures attributed to lack of ability
 - c. females are likely to have their successes attributed to high ability
 - d. females are likely to have their successes attributed to effort
5. Which of the following individuals demonstrates gender-role transcendence?
 - a. A person who is low on both masculinity and femininity scales
 - b. A person who shows gender inappropriate behavior, either masculine or feminine
 - c. A person who chooses behavior that is personally meaningful, rather than typically feminine or masculine
 - d. A person who chooses a set of gender characteristics and sticks to them
6. The social constructionist view is best supported by the finding that
 - a. we see feminine behavior in infants we believe are female and masculine behavior in infants we believe are male
 - b. atypical prenatal development can be corrected with hormonal treatment
 - c. strangers treat boys and girls the same
 - d. chromosomal patterns are the primary determinants of behavior
7. What are the children in Ms. Jenny's preschool class likely to believe about occupations?
 - a. Women can be anything they want to be.
 - b. There is no relationship between gender and occupation.
 - c. Women have jobs with the most prestige.
 - d. Teachers are women.
8. What is the technical term for the beginning of menstruation?
 - a. Menopause
 - b. Menarche
 - c. Menyanthes
 - d. Amenorrhea

9. What does recent research show us about grades in math courses?
- With some consistency, girls receive higher grades beginning in high school.
 - With some consistency, boys receive higher grades beginning in high school.
 - There is no gender difference in grades.
 - Gender differences in grades have stayed stable for decades.
10. A person who says, "I studied hard and therefore did well on the test," is high in
- fear of failure
 - attributions of success
 - fear of success
 - attributions of failure
11. Regarding gender differences in altruism, we find that
- when help is directly requested, there are generally no gender differences
 - males help more with personal problems
 - women help more with objective tasks
 - women are more likely to develop lists of pros and cons
12. Deliberate or repeated comments, gestures, or physical contacts of a sexual nature that are unwanted by the recipient are known as
- sexual innuendo
 - access discrimination
 - sexual harassment
 - heterosexism
13. Nina and Bill are married. Bill has a job, but Nina doesn't work outside the home. Bill makes all the decisions that are major and controls the money. This couple has a
- bipartisan marriage
 - modern marriage
 - traditional marriage
 - peer marriage
14. Which of the following is an example of heterosexist thinking in research on love relationships?
- Assuming that all couples who are interviewed for a study are sexually active
 - Interviewing women for a study and assuming that none of them is lesbian or bisexual
 - Interviewing husbands but not wives for a study of perceptions of marriage
 - Assuming that all people interviewed for a study are homophobic
15. Which of the following is true in North America?
- Women are more likely than men to have serious substance-abuse problems, and men are more likely to have depression.
 - Men are more likely than women to suffer from psychological problems.
 - Women are more likely than men to seek therapy for psychological problems.
 - Gender differences in the experience of psychological problems are minimal.

16. Biological explanations for the differences in gender include all of the following EXCEPT
- genetics
 - hormones
 - brain lateralization
 - cognitions
17. The psychology of women became an emerging field of study in the U.S. and Canada in the
- 1950's
 - 1960's
 - 1970's
 - 1980's
18. The dominant American culture considers dominance, assertiveness, ego strength and achievement-orientation to be attitudes of
- stereotypical femininity
 - stereotypical masculinity
 - androgyny
 - either sex
19. Gender role adoption is learned as a function of
- reinforcement, modeling, the development of concepts about what is appropriate for one's sex
 - heredity rather than environmental factors
 - rewards and punishment based on gender roles as perceived by significant others
 - discipline programs based on operant conditioning
20. Most batterers are men who were raised in families where
- violence was commonplace and they saw their mothers abused
 - violence was commonplace but their mothers were not abused
 - there was some violence and their mothers were not respected
 - violence was commonplace but their mothers were respected

ANSWERS TO SAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. **a** 2. **b** 3. **d** 4. **d** 5. **c** 6. **a** 7. **d** 8. **b** 9. **b** 10. **b**
11. **a** 12. **c** 13. **c** 14. **b** 15. **c** 16. **d** 17. **c** 18. **b** 19. **a** 20. **a**