

PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN

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

This is a 2 hour examination.

It consists of **100 multiple-choice** questions worth 1 point each.
The passing score is **60** out of 100 points.

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

- I. INTRODUCTION: HISTORY AND RESEARCH ISSUES (10%)
- II. GENDER STEREOTYPES, GENDER BIASES, GENDER COMPARISONS (25%)
- III. INFANCY, CHILDHOOD, ADOLESCENCE (10%)
- IV. COGNITIVE ABILITIES AND ACHIEVEMENT MOTIVATION (10%)
- V. WOMEN AND WORK (10%)
- VI. LOVE RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY (10%)
- VII. PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, MOTHERHOOD (5%)
- VIII. PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH (10%)
- IX. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (5%)
- X. OLDER ADULTHOOD (5%)

A textbook to help you prepare:

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

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. Which of the following statements describes an important bias in the research on achievement motivation?
 - a. Almost all of the researchers are male.
 - b. The studies typically measure achievement in traditionally masculine areas.
 - c. The operational definition of the term *motivation* is not well-defined.
 - d. The current research seldom includes many women participants.

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?
 - a. With some consistency, girls receive higher grades beginning in high school.
 - b. With some consistency, boys receive higher grades beginning in high school.
 - c. There is no gender difference in grades.
 - d. 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
 - a. fear of failure
 - b. attributions of success
 - c. fear of success
 - d. attributions of failure

11. Regarding gender differences in altruism, we find that
 - a. when help is directly requested, there are generally no gender differences
 - b. males help more with personal problems
 - c. women help more with objective tasks
 - d. 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
 - a. sexual innuendo
 - b. access discrimination
 - c. sexual harassment
 - d. 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
 - a. bipartisan marriage
 - b. modern marriage
 - c. traditional marriage
 - d. peer marriage

14. Which of the following is an example of heterosexist thinking in research on love relationships?
 - a. Assuming that all couples who are interviewed for a study are sexually active
 - b. Interviewing women for a study and assuming that none of them is lesbian or bisexual
 - c. Interviewing husbands but not wives for a study of perceptions of marriage
 - d. Assuming that all people interviewed for a study are homophobic

15. Which of the following is true in North America?
 - a. Women are more likely than men to have serious substance-abuse problems, and men are more likely to have depression.
 - b. Men are more likely than women to suffer from psychological problems.
 - c. Women are more likely than men to seek therapy for psychological problems.
 - d. Gender differences in the experience of psychological problems are minimal.

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