

Psych Study Guide:

How old is the field of psychology?

Over 100 years

What is the definition of psychology?

The scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

What is included in the definition besides overt behavior?

Mental processes

What do we mean by the "scientific study"?

Standardized methods to collect data

What was Wundt's contribution to psychology?

Can you define structuralism?

Aimed to identify the most basic elements of psychological experience

Who developed it and when?

Titchener who studied under Wundt

What is introspection?

What is functionalism and how does it differ from structuralism?

Helped to understand the adaptive purpose of the psychological characteristics.

Structural- physical functional- mental

Who is the person most closely associated with functionalism?

William James

What is Gestalt psychology?

What are the contemporary perspectives of psychology?

Behaviorism, psychoanalytic, humanistic, biological, and cognitive

Recognize examples of each.

Can you apply them to specific examples.

What is a theory?

A broad explanation

What is a hypothesis?

A prediction derived from a theory, stated in a way that allows it to be tested.

What is an operational definition?

Turning abstract theories into observable ones.

Come up with examples of theories, hypotheses, and operational definitions.

Do you have a sense of the steps involved in doing research?

Perceiving a question, forming a hypothesis, testing the hypothesis, drawing conclusions, reporting your results.

Can you describe an experiment?

Examine the effect on one or more variable(s) on another variable(s) in a controlled setting.

What is the goal of experimental research?

To make a causal statement about the effects X has on Y

Can you define dependent and independent variables?

Dependent variable- the variable that is being measured to see the effect of the independent v.

Independent variable- variable the is being controlled /changed to see its effect on other variables.

Can I recognize them if given an example

Do you know what is meant by the experimental control?

Things we have control over.

Why is the control important?

What are the experimental and control conditions in an experiment?

Why is it important to randomly assign participants to groups?

What are major strengths of doing experimental research?

Why is it valuable to replicate a study?

What is a quasi-experiment?

Quasi "sort of", it's a sort of experiment and done outside of the lab.

How does it differ from experimental research?

What is correlational research?

Measures two or more variables and determines the strength and the direction of the relationship between the variables.

When might one use a correlational design?

Used when we cannot manipulate the variables of interest.

How does one measure the degree of relationship between two or more variables?

What information does a correlation coefficient give?

The relationship between the variables.

What is naturalistic observation?

Observes behavior naturally

What is the biggest drawback of naturalistic observation?
If people know you're observing them, they may not act naturally.

What is the goal of a survey?

What is a case study?

Do you think animals should be used in research?

Reasons for this^