

Chapter 2: Identities, Perceptions, and Communication

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. The “onion model” has persisted as what sort of approach to the study of identities, even though it is not supported by research?

- a. Horsensense
- b. Sensible
- c. No-nonsense
- d. Traditional

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Do People Have Core Selves?

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Individualized ways of understanding the world and its contents are known as _____ constructs.

- a. social
- b. symbolic
- c. talking dialectic
- d. personal

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Personal Constructs

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. To share narratives with others about our personal identity, we must have the ability to _____.

- a. adapt stories of our identities to a social context
- b. tell stories well to all our listeners
- c. tell new stories to each new listener we encounter
- d. tell stories with consistency despite having many listeners

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Performing your “self” requires having _____.
a. more money than your audience has
b. an audience
c. a positive self-image
d. material objects that support your performance

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Performative Self

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. What does the front region refer to?
a. A place where we perform identity
b. A place where we can perform our informal self
c. An occasion in which we perform our professional, proper self
d. An informal occasion of identity

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Front and Back Regions

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. The idea of the performative self indicates that we _____.
a. create narratives of our self according to social norms
b. are guided by social ideals in fulfilling our identity
c. use objects to represent our identity
d. enact different identities in different settings

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Performative Self

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. Which of the following can be considered a master identity?
a. Boss
b. Biological sex
c. Professor
d. Happy

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Transacting Identities: Self-Disclosure

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. The revelation of identity is _____.

- a. a simple declaration of facts
- b. a direct lead to intimacy
- c. rarely a simple progression
- d. not connected to intimacy

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Passing on the Onion

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. The idea of the symbolic self indicates that we _____.

- a. use objects to represent our identity
- b. enact different identities in different settings
- c. create our self partly in response to social interaction
- d. use our communicative behavior to express our inner self

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Symbolic Self

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. Facework has to do with people's sense of their _____.

- a. own master identity
- b. back region
- c. core self
- d. own dignity

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Facework

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. Culture affects our identity experience because cultural _____.

- a. norms can help to shape our identity
- b. norms destroy identity
- c. heritage is not a part of identity
- d. heritage determines identity

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Identities and Relationships

Difficulty Level: Hard

12. Narratives are important in establishing your identity because they reveal to others how _____.

- a. effective a storyteller you are
- b. interesting a speaker you are
- c. you think about the world
- d. others think about the world

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Stories We Tell

Difficulty Level: Medium

13. The earliest important influence on a person's sense of origin and identity is that person's _____.

- a. best friend
- b. spouse
- c. work supervisor
- d. family

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Origin Stories

Difficulty Level: Medium

14. The work someone's communication does to impose, support, or reject identities of others is which of the following?

- a. Forecasting
- b. Altercasting
- c. Spincasting
- d. Othercasting

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Altercasting

Difficulty Level: Easy

15. Which of the following calls into question the notion of having a core self?

- a. People's moods are stable, so they always act the same way.
- b. People often act differently in different situations.
- c. People tend to be evaluated in similar ways by other people.
- d. People tend not to care what other people think.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Do People Have a Core Self?

Difficulty Level: Easy

16. Performative self means that selves are _____.

- a. discovered in layers
- b. creative performances
- c. acting the same in all situations
- d. unchanged after we reach adulthood

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Performative Self

Difficulty Level: Easy

17. Self-disclosure is most likely to reveal information that is _____.

- a. private and confidential
- b. private and controversial
- c. public and controversial
- d. public and not sensitive

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Self-Description or Self-Disclosure

Difficulty Level: Medium

18. The openness–closedness dialectic is defined as occurring when people are unsure _____.

- a. how connected versus how independent they want to be
- b. how others will react to their disclosures
- c. how much information to keep public versus private
- d. of their own identity

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Dialectic Tensions

Difficulty Level: Hard

19. Stories you tell are generally organized according to Kenneth Burke's Pentad. The element pertaining to the situation or location of the act is the _____.

- a. agency
- b. agent

c. scene

d. act

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Easy

20. Stories you tell are generally organized according to Kenneth Burke's Pentad. The element pertaining to what happened is the _____.

a. agency

b. agent

c. scene

d. act

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Easy

21. Stories you tell are generally organized according to Kenneth Burke's Pentad. The element pertaining to how the act was accomplished is the _____.

a. agency

b. agent

c. scene

d. act

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Easy

22. Stories you tell are generally organized according to Kenneth Burke's Pentad. The element pertaining to who performed the act is the _____.

a. agency

b. agent

c. scene

d. act

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Easy

23. _____ are mental structures that are used to organize information partly by

clustering associated material.

- a. Schemata
- b. Personal constructs
- c. Prototypes
- d. Selective retentions

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Schemata

Difficulty Level: Medium

24. _____ are the best-case example of something.

- a. Schemata
- b. Personal constructs
- c. Prototypes
- d. Selective retentions

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Schemata

Difficulty Level: Medium

25. _____ are individualized ways of construing or understanding the world and its contents.

- a. Schemata
- b. Personal constructs
- c. Prototypes
- d. Selective retentions

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Schemata

Difficulty Level: Medium

26. _____ explains how people manage the need to maintain privacy by negotiating boundaries of privacy with others.

- a. Standpoint Theory
- b. Communication Accommodation Theory
- c. Relational Dialectics Theory
- d. Communication Privacy Management Theory

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Disclosure and Privacy

Difficulty Level: Medium

Multiple Response

1. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. People can experience mood swings as a result of _____.

- a. bad hair days
- b. gluten intolerance
- c. hormonal imbalances
- d. lack of sunshine

Ans: A, B, C, D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Different Moods

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. Our beliefs, attitudes, and values impact the selection process, as explained by which of the following?

- a. Selective exposure
- b. Selective retention
- c. Selective disclosure
- d. Selective perception

Ans: A, B, D

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Selecting

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. Narratives can be _____.

- a. an epistemology
- b. an ontology
- c. an individual construction
- d. a relational process

Ans: A, B, C, D

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Stories We Tell

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. Master identities are one way people might argue that a core self exists because _____.

- a. a person is born male or female
- b. a person is born a particular race
- c. a person is born homosexual or heterosexual
- d. a person is born in a particular place

Ans: A, B, C, D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Transacting: Self-Disclosure

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. What are some of the ways in which we organize information?

- a. Personal constructs
- b. Front and back regions
- c. Schemata
- d. Prototype

Ans: A, C, D

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Organizing, Interpreting, and Evaluating

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. What are some examples of how multiple experiences in everyday life call into question having a core self or identity?

- a. Different evaluations
- b. Different situations
- c. Different relationships
- d. Different moods

Ans: A, B, C, D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Do People Have a Core Self?

Difficulty Level: Easy

True/False

1. Identity is exclusively self-determined.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Identities, Perceptions, and Communication

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Identity is variable, is complex, and can change over time.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Identities, Perceptions, and Communication

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Self-disclosure involves revealing details about yourself that are public and easily visible to others.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Self-Description or Self-Disclosure

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. It is possible to self-disclose too much information in given situations.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Good, Bad, or Nothing

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Selective exposure refers to people's likelihood of exposing themselves to what supports their values and attitudes.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Selective Exposure

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Schemata are the ways others reflect on how they view our identities.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Schemata

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Symbolic interactionism refers to how broad social forces affect an individual's view of self.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Symbolic Self

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Cultural heritage is often a part of establishing personal identity.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Identities and Relationships

Difficulty Level: Medium

9. We would never change our mind about someone who was a good and loyal friend.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Different Evaluations

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. Altercasting is an idea that is about the performance of one's identity in public, or a way of presenting one's self to others that is intended to make the self look good.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Altercasting

Difficulty Level: Medium

11. If not for symbols, there would be no need to talk about people being unique or enacting particular identities.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Symbolic Self

Difficulty Level: Hard

12. Stories about you must fit with what your societal audience believes to be coherent and acceptable.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Shaping the Stories

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. Receiving self-disclosures from another person might cause a listener to feel uncomfortable.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Good, Bad, or Nothing

Difficulty Level: Medium

14. Cultural groups to which you belong inform you about the proper ways to perform identities.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Easy

15. Personal and cultural preferences naturally play an important role in establishing and evaluating personal relationships.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Easy

16. Perceptions influence the development of identities and all meaning making.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Personal Constructs

Difficulty Level: Medium

17. Perceptions are not based on relational and cultural understandings.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Personal Constructs

Difficulty Level: Medium

18. Perceptions involve the process of actively selecting, organizing, and evaluating information, activities, situations, and people, and essentially naming and giving significance to all the things that make up your world.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Personal Constructs

Difficulty Level: Medium

19. A person's motives or needs at a particular moment in time will also influence our selection process.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Selecting

Difficulty Level: Easy

20. You are more likely to expose yourself to that which counters your beliefs, values,

and attitudes.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Selecting

Difficulty Level: Easy

21. Selective exposure also explains why people might be more likely to spend time with individuals whose beliefs, values, and attitudes are similar to their own.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Selecting

Difficulty Level: Easy

22. Selective exposure means you are more likely to recall things that support your beliefs, values, and attitudes.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Selecting

Difficulty Level: Easy

23. You are more likely to recall things that do not support your beliefs, values, and attitudes.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Selecting

Difficulty Level: Easy

24. Schemata are mental structures that are used to organize information partly by clustering associated material.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Schemata

Difficulty Level: Medium

25. Back region refers to a frame where a social interaction is regarded as under public scrutiny, so people have to be on their best behavior or acting out their professional roles or intended "faces."

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Front and Back Regions
Difficulty Level: Easy

26. Front region refers to a frame where a social interaction is regarded as not under public scrutiny, so people do not have to present their public faces.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Front and Back Regions
Difficulty Level: Easy

27. When it comes to romantic relationships, for instance, sexual-related topics are met with privacy considerations.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Disclosure and Privacy
Difficulty Level: Medium

28. Boundary turbulence may also occur when boundaries are revised due to changes in how a person evaluates the need for privacy about particular topic.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Disclosure and Privacy
Difficulty Level: Medium

29. Traditional-aged college students often experience turbulence with their parents.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Disclosure and Privacy
Difficulty Level: Medium

Short Answer

1. What term explains why people might be more likely to spend time with individuals whose beliefs, values, and attitudes are similar to their own?

Ans: Selective exposure

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Selective Exposure

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. What is the term for when we create a rut by allowing certain ways of behaving and viewing the world to become deeply ingrained in our thinking?

Ans: Channelized

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Organizing, Interpreting, and Evaluating

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Self-disclosure is an important aspect of identity construction, but what is another way that people construct identities that involves stories?

Ans: Narratives

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Selective retention is also referred to as _____.

Ans: Selective memory

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Selective Retention

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. What is it called when people tell stories about themselves, taking special care with what they say, particularly for occasions such as job interviews or sales pitches?

Ans: Narratives

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. What kind of story is a person telling when saying "I'm Hispanic" or "I'm a true Southerner?"

Ans: An origin story

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Origin Stories

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. _____ refers to how language can give people an identity and then force them to live up to the description, whether positive or negative.

Ans: Altercasting

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other

people.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Altercasting

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Stories you tell are generally organized according to Kenneth Burke's _____.

Ans: Pentad

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Narratives

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. _____ means you are more likely to perceive and focus on things that support your beliefs, values, and attitudes.

Ans: Selective perception

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Selecting

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. _____ is the revelation of information that people could not know unless a person makes it known to them.

Ans: Self-disclosure

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Self-Description or Self-Disclosure

Difficulty Level: Medium

11. _____ enables people to influence how they might be seen by other people.

Ans: Self-disclosure

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Self-Description or Self-Disclosure

Difficulty Level: Medium

Essay

1. Discuss Baxter and Montgomery's concept of the openness–closedness dialectic as it applies to self-disclosure in relationships.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Depending on the nature of a given relationship and the parties involved, we experience tensions about what information should be public and how much should be private, which affects our self-disclosure.

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Dialectic Tensions

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Explain the concept of identity as the symbolic self.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Identity is shaped by the people you interact with, so it goes beyond you personally and becomes symbolic to others; you use symbolic terms shared by society to explain yourself and your behavior.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Symbolic Self

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. Explain the difference between self-description and self-disclosure.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Self-description refers to information about the self that is obvious to others through our appearance and behavior. Self-disclosure refers to revealing information that others cannot know unless we make it known to them.

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Self-Description or Self-Disclosure

Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Define what Erving Goffman meant by the “front region/back region” aspect of social performance.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: According to Goffman, the front region or “front stage” is where your professional, formal self is presented or performed. Your back region or “back stage” self is the one more familiar to your close friends and family, where you interact with others with fewer concerns about social expectations.

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Front and Back Regions

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Explain metacommunication.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Metacommunication is communication about communication. Communication is a matter of preference, and partners in a relationship communicate about the communication that will be part of the partnership.

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Identities and Relationships

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. Give one reason why a layered onion is not an accurate way to think about the transaction of identities in everyday life.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: A person does not have a fixed identity. People

transact multiple identities given different situations and different areas of their lives.
(Other reasons are different moods, different relationships, and different evaluations.)

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Different Situations

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. What is altercasting? Explain its relationship to identity.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Altercasting involves the work that someone's communication does to impose, support, or reject identities of others. *Altercasting* refers to how language can give people an identity and then force them to live up to the description, whether positive or negative. Altercasting may also refer to the rejection of someone's identity. Just because someone attempts to create an identity does not mean that it will be accepted. It could just as easily be rejected by other people.

Learning Objective: 2.5: Explain how identities are transacted in connection with other people.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Altercasting

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Explain the difference between symbolic self and symbolic interactionism.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Symbolic self is the self that is transacted in interaction with other people, that arises out of social interaction, not vice versa, and hence, that does not just "belong to you." Symbolic interactionism involves how broad social forces affect or even transact an individual person's view of who he or she is.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Symbolic Self

Difficulty Level: Medium

9. How are identities and perceptions related?

Ans: Answer would ideally include: The creation and maintenance of identities is guided partly through perceptions of oneself, other people, and situations. Perception involves how a person views the world, organizes what is perceived, interprets information, and evaluates information—all of which will influence symbolic activity.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Personal Constructs

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. Explain what is meant by the term *perception*.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Perception is the process of actively selecting, organizing, interpreting, and evaluating information, activities, situations, people, and essentially all the things that make up your world.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Personal Constructs
Difficulty Level: Medium

11. Explain how people transact multiple identities based on their different relationships.
Ans: Answer would ideally include: People also transact multiple identities given the many different relationships shared with others. You may act one way around your friends and an entirely different way around your relatives. Different relational identities are constructed based on the relationships being transacted. Once again, if people had an unchanging core self, there would be no change in communication and behavior around different people. However, this change takes place, occasionally in dramatic ways.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Do People Have a Core Self?
Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Explain how identities and personal relationships are interconnected in various ways.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: First, some identities are based on relationships themselves—the identity of parent, child, friend, romantic partner, and so on. Second, it is through personal relationships that identities are enacted. Personal relationships are also where identities are tested—if you went through a rebellious stage in a high school, it probably involved your friends and family. Third, we learn about cultural understandings and evaluations of identities mentioned previously through relationships.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Do People Have a Core Self?
Difficulty Level: Medium

13. Explain selective perception and provide an example.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Beyond exposing ourselves to some things and not others, we will also pick up on some parts of a message and not pick up on other parts. Selective perception means you are more likely to perceive and focus on things that support your beliefs, values, and attitudes. And, you are less likely to perceive and focus on things that do not support your beliefs, values, and attitudes. If you view yourself as a competent person, you will be more likely to pick up on compliments and less likely to focus on criticism. The opposite, of course, would happen if you view yourself as an incompetent person. Selective perception also explains why two different people might evaluate the same person in different ways.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Selecting
Difficulty Level: Medium

14. What is selective retention? Give an example of when you have experienced selective retention.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Once something is experienced, we are also likely to remember some parts and not remember other parts. Selective retention, also referred to as *selective memory*, means you are more likely to recall things that support your beliefs, values, and attitudes. And, you are less likely to recall things that do not support your beliefs, values, and attitudes.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Explain the processes of perceptions.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Selecting

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. Explain schemata and provide an example.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Schemata are mental structures that are used to organize information partly by clustering associated material. For example, information about relationships can be stored and connected in “relationship” schemata and drawn on when needed. This information is stored in a relatively accessible manner, so it can be used to make sense of what you are experiencing and to anticipate what might happen in a given situation.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Schemata

Difficulty Level: Medium

16. Explain prototype and provide an example.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: A prototype is the best-case example of something. For instance, we may have a prototype of a romantic partner based on an actual person or a composite of different people. You use your prototype of romantic partner or anything else as a guidepost for measuring how other examples measure up. Of course, no one is likely to measure up fully to the ideal version you have in your head.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Schemata

Difficulty Level: Medium

17. Explain personal constructs and provide an example.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: How evaluation actually takes place and how we perceive the world is the result of personal constructs, individualized ways of construing or understanding the world and its contents; they are bipolar dimensions we use to measure and evaluate things. Whereas prototypes tend to be broad categories, personal constructs are narrow and more specific characteristics. These personal constructs can be used in the development of prototypes and used to determine how close someone may come to meeting all the criteria.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Explain the basic assumptions of identity construction.

Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Schemata
Difficulty Level: Medium

18. Explain the major premises of Communication Privacy Management Theory.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Communication Privacy Management Theory explains how people manage the need to maintain privacy by negotiating boundaries of privacy with others. You possess information about yourself. Some of this information is stuff about which you would *not* care if other people know. Some of this information is stuff about which you *definitely would* care. Such information might make you feel quite vulnerable. People, therefore, tend to feel very strongly about controlling who has access to information about themselves and how that information might be shared.

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Disclosure and Privacy
Difficulty Level: Medium

19. Explain boundary turbulence as it relates to Communication Privacy Management Theory.

Ans: Answer would ideally include: Of course, just because boundaries exist, that does not mean that they will not be remain intact in their present form. These boundaries may experience turbulence, the term used within Communication Privacy Management. Turbulence is said to occur when boundaries are reshaped and revised in some way. Turbulence may occur when boundaries come under attack.

Learning Objective: 2.4: Explain how identities are transacted through self-disclosure.

Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Disclosure and Privacy
Difficulty Level: Medium