

Chapter 1: *The Study of Gender*

Test Questions

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Multiple Choice Questions

1. Those who believe that the differences between men and women have a biological basis hold the _____ view.

- a. nurturance
- b. naturalist
- c. minimalist
- d. essentialist

Answer: d

2. The minimalist view holds that

- a. the differences between the genders are large.
- b. the differences between the genders are due to biological factors.
- c. the differences between the genders are small.
- d. no gender-related differences exist.
- e. both a and b

Answer: c

3. The maximalist view holds that

- a. the differences between the sexes are large.
- b. male superiority is biologically based.
- c. the differences between the sexes are small.
- d. no differences exist between women and men.

Answer: a

4. Those who believe that the differences between the sexes are due to nature also tend to hold that

- a. differences between the sexes are biologically based.
- b. differences between the sexes are based on social and cultural factors.
- c. a mixture of biological and social factors creates differences.
- d. genetic but not hormonal factors are the source of the differences.

Answer: a

5. Those who believe that the differences between the sexes are due to nurture believe that

- a. differences between the sexes are biologically based.
- b. differences between the sexes are based on social and cultural factors.
- c. a mixture of biological and social factors creates differences.
- d. genetic but not hormonal factors are the source of the differences.

Answer: b

6. Those who believe that gender differences are due to biological factors advocate _____ as the basis for differences, whereas those who believe that these differences are due to social and cultural factors take the position that _____ is responsible.

- a. nature . . . nurture

- b. nature . . . hormonal inheritance
- c. nurture . . . nature
- d. nurture . . . individual learning

Answer: a

7. Which of the following pairs represents views that are most similar and compatible?

- a. nature: nurture
- b. maximalist: minimalist
- c. structuralism: behaviorism
- d. essentialism: maximalism

Answer: d

8. By placing gender into categories conceptualized as opposites,

- a. stereotypical thinking about gender decreases.
- b. people begin to consider the similarities between women and men.
- c. the differences between the genders are magnified.
- d. people begin to understand the underlying biological basis of gender-related differences.

Answer: c

9. Exaggerations in gender-related differences tend to occur

- a. in all cultures in very similar ways.
- b. regardless of personal experience.
- c. without forming stereotypes.
- d. when people think of the genders in terms of opposites.
- e. in all of the above situations.

Answer: d

10. If three sexes existed, then

- a. gender-identity confusion would increase.
- b. the tendency to think of women and men as opposites might decrease.
- c. gender stereotypes would be more influential than they are now.
- d. sexual relationships would not allow adequate matings for population maintenance.

Answer: b

11. Few early psychologists were women, mostly because

- a. women did not have the intellectual ability to do the experiments that were the main work of early psychology.
- b. few women of that era wanted to attend professional school.
- c. the programs that trained psychologists admitted few women.
- d. there were no programs in the United States that trained psychologists until the 1920s, and women were not allowed to travel to Europe.

Answer: c

12. The structuralist school of psychology

- a. emphasized gender as a factor in human thought.
- b. ignored gender as a factor in human thought.
- c. included both women and men as participants in psychological research.
- d. both a and c
- e. none of the above

Answer: b

13. Structuralist psychology concentrated on _____ and _____ individual differences, including differences between men's and women's mental processes.

- a. individual performance . . . emphasized
- b. species-specific behavior . . . ignored
- c. test performance . . . accepted
- d. thought processes in adults . . . ignored

Answer: d

14. Early psychology did not concentrate on sex differences,

- a. but many women were among the students and researchers.
- b. and the "generalized adult mind" that it studied was most often male.
- c. but female psychologists brought the issue to the attention of male psychologists, resulting in a growing hostility to women in psychology.
- d. and that trend continues in modern psychology.

Answer: b

15. Individual differences, including gender differences, were of interest to which group of early psychologists?

- a. structuralists
- b. mnemonists
- c. functionalists
- d. maximalists

Answer: c

16. The functionalist school of psychology was influenced by

- a. Darwin's theory of evolution and adaptation.
- b. Skinner's formulation of operant conditioning principles.
- c. Freud's theory of the unconscious.
- d. Gibson's formulation of structural boundaries.

Answer: a

17. Functionalist psychologists conducted research that

- a. showed that women were intellectually equal to men.
- b. showed that maternal instinct did not exist.
- c. confirmed the societal view that nonwhites were equal to Whites in intelligence.
- d. confirmed the societal view that women and nonwhites were inferior in terms of intelligence.

Answer: d

18. Psychologist Leta Stetter Hollingworth argued that women's intellectual potential would not be understood until

- a. women had the freedom to choose a life including career, motherhood, or both.
- b. female psychologists studied maternal instinct in more objective ways than the male psychologists had done.
- c. women gained the right to vote.
- d. men began to participate equally in child care.
- e. all of the above

Answer: a

19. One of the early criticisms of sexist bias in psychology came from

- a. Wilhelm Wundt.

- b. William James.
- c. Leta Stetter Hollingworth.
- d. Karen Horney.

Answer: c

20. When behaviorism became the leading school of psychology,
- a. interest in gender-related behaviors increased sharply.
 - b. interest in gender-related behaviors declined.
 - c. interest in gender-related behaviors remained, but the research emphasis became female dominated.
 - d. more women started to become psychologists.

Answer: b

21. The main interest of behaviorist psychology was _____, and gender-related behaviors were _____.
- a. emotion . . . emphasized
 - b. motivation . . . ignored
 - c. memory . . . emphasized
 - d. learning . . . ignored

Answer: d

22. The era of “womanless” psychology existed when
- a. women left research psychology to pursue the more prestigious and lucrative private practices in clinical psychology.
 - b. women were not included as participants in psychology research.
 - c. gender-related differences were not among the topics researched by psychologists.
 - d. both b and c
 - e. all of the above

Answer: d

23. Women’s influence in psychology
- a. was strongest early in the history of psychology, when the structuralist school dominated.
 - b. increased when psychology made the transition from functionalism to behaviorism.
 - c. increased during the 1970s, when women began to enter psychology in large numbers.
 - d. has been low throughout the history of psychology and continues today.

Answer: c

24. Freud’s theory of personality development emphasized the importance of
- a. early childhood sexuality.
 - b. stages of development that extend into old age.
 - c. global factors in personality rather than specific events during childhood or adulthood.
 - d. conscious factors and defense mechanisms.

Answer: a

25. According to Freud’s theory, an important event in the development of gender differences is
- a. appropriate reinforcement for gender-typical behaviors.
 - b. perception of the differences in anatomy between the sexes.
 - c. initiation of sexuality by the parent of the other gender.
 - d. fantasies of sexual activity involving adults.

Answer: b

26. Freud hypothesized that boys have a more difficult course of personality development than girls, which results in
- boys having a stronger sense of morality and conscience.
 - girls having a stronger sense of morality and conscience.
 - boys developing resentment toward parents.
 - girls developing a lasting feeling of moral superiority but without an underlying sense of morality.

Answer: a

27. Although many elements of Freud's theory are negative concerning women, Freud
- spoke in complimentary terms about women.
 - argued that women have higher levels of mental health than men.
 - admitted women to training as psychoanalysts and accepted them as colleagues.
 - was involved in the feminist movement in 19th-century Vienna.

Answer: c

28. The feminist movement of the 1960s grew out of the
- civil rights movement.
 - worldwide movement for women's rights.
 - earlier women's rights movements.
 - political conservatism of the 1960s.

Answer: a

29. "The world would be a better place if women were in charge" is a statement consistent with
- liberal feminism.
 - radical feminism.
 - cultural feminism.
 - stereotypical feminism.

Answer: c

30. Many of the women who became involved in the women's movement in the 1960s and 1970s were interested in equal rights for women. This type of feminism is
- liberal feminism.
 - radical feminism.
 - cultural feminism.
 - stereotypical feminism.

Answer: a

31. The first wave of the feminist movement
- was a radical movement that originated in the 1970s.
 - originated with the feminist protest of the 1968 Miss America pageant.
 - campaigns for voting rights for women.
 - originated during the 1920s but was most active during World War II.

Answer: c

32. The image of feminists as "bra-burners"
- originated from the media coverage of the 1968 Miss American pageant, during which feminists burned bras as a protest.
 - originated with media publicity by Rush Limbaugh during the 1990s.
 - came from the first wave of feminism during the late 19th century.
 - was created by the media rather than by the actions of feminists.

Answer: d

33. Those who prefer the term *gender* rather than *sex* argue that use of the term *sex differences*
- a. fails to make important biological distinctions.
 - b. carries implications of biological differences when no such underlying basis has been found.
 - c. has been inappropriately applied to fields other than psychology.
 - d. has been too limited, with researchers failing to extend the research to sociology and anthropology.

Answer: b

34. Those who continue to use the term *sex differences* rather than the term *gender differences* have argued that
- a. these differences have a biological basis and that basis should be acknowledged.
 - b. changing the definition is pointless without changing the underlying conceptualization.
 - c. it is impossible to know what is biological and what is social.
 - d. the term *gender differences* is only a substitution of terms rather than a change of definition.

Answer: c

35. Some researchers use the terms *sex differences* and *gender differences* interchangeably;
- a. others use *gender* to refer to the social and *sex* to refer to the biological aspects of these differences.
 - b. others use *gender* to refer to the biological and *sex* to refer to the genetic aspects of these differences.
 - c. others fail to make these distinctions, arguing for androgyny at all levels.
 - d. these researchers have become dominant, and now almost all researchers believe that this distinction is not important.

Answer: a

36. The terms *sex differences* and *gender differences*
- a. may refer to biological versus social differences.
 - b. are used interchangeably by some researchers.
 - c. cannot be distinguished.
 - d. both a and b
 - e. all of the above

Answer: d

37. The National Council of Women Psychologists
- a. formed during World War I as an international effort to aid the war.
 - b. became Division 35 of the American Psychological Association after repeatedly petitioning for division status.
 - c. petitioned to the American Psychological Association to become a division but never succeeded.
 - d. excluded men from its membership, alienating male psychologists.

Answer: c

38. Naomi Weisstein's 1968 paper contended that psychology had discovered nothing about women because
- a. there were no women in the field of psychology.
 - b. male psychologists had approached the study of women with too many biases.

- c. women had not been the subjects of study for psychology research.
- d. men cannot understand women through research.

Answer: b

39. In her 1968 paper, Naomi Weisstein argued that some factor had been omitted from psychology's conceptualization of women and gender. This factor was

- a. individual differences.
- b. the biological basis of behavior.
- c. the context in which behavior occurs.
- d. the epistemological orientation that some psychologists have taken.

Answer: c

40. The group of female psychologists that gained divisional status in the American Psychological Association was the

- a. National Council of Women Psychologists.
- b. International Council of Women Psychologists.
- c. Women's Division of the Psychologists of America.
- d. Association of Women in Psychology.

Answer: d

41. Division 35 of the American Psychological Association has the goal of

- a. advancing women in the field of psychology.
- b. prompting research on issues relevant to women.
- c. restricting research on men.
- d. both a and b
- e. all of the above

Answer: d

42. The men's movement differs from the women's movement

- a. in questioning gender roles—the men's movement has not done so, and the women's movement has.
- b. the number of people involved in each—more women have been involved in the women's movement than men involved in the men's movement.
- c. the time course of the two movements—the women's movement began before the men's movement.
- d. both b and c
- e. all of the above

Answer: d

43. One difference between the men's movement and the women's movement is that

- a. women's groups are feminist in orientation, whereas men's groups are anti-feminist.
- b. men's groups concentrate on establishing masculinity through physical fitness.
- c. men's groups have not yet gained the political power that women's groups have.
- d. more men belong to men's groups than women belong to women's groups.

Answer: c

44. One similarity between the men's movement and the women's movement is

- a. their shared political goal of equal rights for all people.
- b. their emphasis on the individual rather than membership in any group.
- c. their proposal that oppression can be traced to society rather than to men.
- d. their questioning of male and female gender roles.

Answer: d

45. The men who belong to the Society for the Psychological Study of Men and Masculinity (Division 51 of APA) tend to be

- a. profeminist.
- b. anti-feminist
- c. radical masculinists.
- d. cultural feminists.

Answer: a

46. According to some men involved in the men's movement, fathers who are not involved with their sons

- a. fail to provide models of appropriate masculinity.
- b. provide the correct amount of separation to prevent their sons from becoming overly feminine.
- c. fail to overcome their fears of homosexuality.
- d. are now the norm and thus cannot be considered a problem.

Answer: a

47. Men such as Robert Bly and Sam Keen who are involved in the men's movement want

- a. to redefine masculinity.
- b. to "throw off the shackles of female oppression."
- c. for women to return to traditional gender roles.
- d. to unite the diverse branches of the men's movement so that the united movement can have more political power and influence.

Answer: a

48. Men involved in the straight edge (sXe)

- a. are also involved in punk music and drugs.
- b. are usually young and married, often with young children.
- c. are committed to forming a version of masculinity that does not involve violence.
- d. all of the above

Answer: c

49. The Promise Keepers believe that

- a. men should reappraise their status as breadwinners and heads of household to form more egalitarian relationships with wives.
- b. men should reclaim their role as heads of their households.
- c. men should honor their commitments to their families.
- d. both b and c
- e. all of the above

Answer: d

50. The factors (such as gender or race) that form the basis for discrimination tend to be _____ to those who have that factor and _____ to those who are privileged by that factor.

- a. reversed . . . straightforward
- b. invisible . . . visible
- c. visible . . . invisible
- d. irrelevant . . . relevant

Answer: c

51. In addition to promoting the view that men and women are very different, gender researcher Sandra Bem pointed out that much research has an *androcentric bias*, which means that
- men are the standard against which women are compared.
 - researchers try to reduce gender differences to biological factors such as androgen.
 - many topic areas of psychology are phalocentric.
 - original contributions become difficult because biology and sociology have also begun to do gender research.

Answer: a

52. When women began to enter psychology in large numbers,
- women from a variety of racial and ethnic groups came to psychology.
 - the women were mostly White and middle-class.
 - the younger women were feminists who found it difficult to get along with the women already in the field.
 - diversity and inclusiveness came rapidly to psychology.

Answer: b

53. Women of color have a long experience of discrimination,
- which led them to join feminist groups during the 1960s.
 - and younger African American and Hispanic American women are the most radical of feminists.
 - but they often concentrated on the struggle against racism rather than sexism.
 - but they did not organize or join feminist groups until the 1990s.

Answer: c

54. Hip-hop feminism
- focuses on feminism as practiced on college campuses by women of color.
 - draws energy from hip-hop culture and leads women to an analysis of both racism and sexism in society.
 - helps African American women reconcile themselves to the racism and sexism in the wider culture.
 - attempts to ignore the multiracial nature of discrimination and highlight the primacy of ethnicity.

Answer: b

55. When Latina women in the United States voice feminist values,
- they are likely to meet with the criticism that they are rejecting the values of their culture.
 - they find it easier to find a women's group to join than African American women do.
 - they are more likely to be recent immigrants and thus less acculturated than Latina women who were born in the United States.
 - they find it easier to join women's groups with Native American women than groups with other ethnicities.

Answer: a

56. The goal of diversity
- has been more prominent within the women's movement than within the men's movement.
 - was important to women's groups during the 1980s but became less important during the 1990s.
 - has focused on social class more than ethnicity.
 - all of the above.

Answer: a

Essay Questions

Q1. Trace the history of psychology's research on gender, beginning with the founding of psychology.

Look for the following points in students' answers:

- A1. A. Structuralist psychologists did not investigate gender and failed to include women in their studies.
- B. Functionalist psychologists had a great interest in sex differences as part of the area of individual differences.
1. Most psychologists were men who believed in the intellectual inferiority of women.
 2. Female psychologists, such as Leta Stetter Hollingworth, tried to refute the sexist assumptions of psychology and society.
- C. Psychoanalysis did not arise within psychology but became associated with it.
1. Freud's view of women was uncomplimentary.
 2. The psychoanalytic view became widely popular and influenced views about men and women.
- D. Behaviorist psychology, which became the dominant school of psychology in the United States from the 1930s until the 1960s, paid little attention to gender.
- E. The feminist movement of the 1960s prompted changes in psychology.
1. More women became psychologists and began to change the topics researched in the field.
 2. Gender remains a popular and a controversial topic.

Q2. Compare the women's and men's movements.

Look for the following points in students' answers:

- A2. A. The women's and men's movements differ in
1. Age—the women's movement developing in the 1960s and the men's movement in the 1980s.
 2. The number of people involved—a much larger number of people involved in the women's than men's movement.
 3. Philosophy—the women's movement has a feminist orientation, whereas the men's movement groups have taken a number of different philosophical positions.
- B. The women's and men's movements are similar in
1. Questioning the traditional roles that men and women have fulfilled.
 2. Providing groups in which members can discuss problems and receive support from people with similar concerns.
 3. Attempting to prompt changes in laws, such as reforming divorce laws and strengthening sexual harassment laws.

Q3. Evaluate the statement, "Women have helped to build a more inclusive psychology."

Look for the following points in students' answers:

- A3. A. Women's presence has made psychology more inclusive.
1. Psychology was originally dominated by men, and women were restricted in receiving training in psychology.

2. Women's increased participation in psychology as participants in research studies, as researchers, as professors, as clinicians, and as administrators has changed psychology.
- B. The women in psychology were initially more concerned with inclusion for women than for ethnicity.
1. The inclusion of ethnic groups other than Whites has come more slowly than the inclusion of women, and the percent of African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, and Asian Americans remains low.
 2. Division 35 of the American Psychological Association, the Society for the Psychology of Women, has the goal of building a more inclusive psychology.