

2023



AP[®] Psychology

Free-Response Questions

Set 2

PSYCHOLOGY

SECTION II

Time—50 minutes

2 Questions

Directions: You have 50 minutes to answer BOTH of the following questions. It is not enough to answer a question by merely listing facts. You should present a cogent argument based on your critical analysis of the questions posed, using appropriate psychological terminology. You may plan your answers in this orange booklet, but no credit will be given for anything written in this booklet. **You will only earn credit for what you write in the separate Free Response booklet.**

1. Part A

Jordan recently moved to a new school for her senior year of high school, and she has been adjusting to her new environment.

Explain how each of the following relates to Jordan’s adjustment to her new school.

- Spotlight effect
- Cognitive map
- Jordan’s low level of the Big Five trait of extraversion

Part B

Jordan tries out for and makes the debate team. Jordan has made friends with other members of the team, and she really enjoys sitting with them at lunch every day. The coach is impressed with Jordan’s debate skills, so he makes her captain of the team. When Jordan starts to help the coach plan for the next big debate, her friends stop sitting with her at lunch. She then stops helping the coach plan for the next debate but ends up winning it.

Explain how each of the following concepts relates to the scenario.

- Negative punishment
- Formal operational stage of cognitive development
- Actor-observer bias concerning Jordan’s debate performance
- Jordan’s high level of self-efficacy

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

2. Mobile Gamer Central (MGC) is preparing to launch a new game app. The advertisements for this new game are brightly colored, have lively music, and feature celebrities playing the game. To generate interest in the game, MGC pays to have these advertisements pop up multiple times while people are using other apps on their phone. The marketing director is pleased with the advertising campaign and thinks the game is really fun to play.

Part A

Explain how each of the following concepts relates to the scenario.

- Peripheral route to persuasion
- False consensus effect
- Mere-exposure effect

Part B

After a few weeks with moderate success, MGC’s marketing director decides to test the most effective ways to increase sales of the game. Marketing researchers recruit 100 people to play the new game. They randomly assign half of the people to observe someone demonstrating how the game is played and assign the other half of the people to play the video game themselves. Participants rate how likely they are to buy the game on a scale of 1 (not likely) through 10 (very likely). Results are presented in the table.

Participants’ Rating	Observed Game Demonstration (<i>n</i> = 50)	Personally Played Game (<i>n</i> = 50)	<i>p</i> value
Mean	6.31	2.04	< 0.001
Standard Deviation	1.25	0.80	

- Identify the operational definition of the dependent variable in the study.
- Explain what the difference between the standard deviations in the study indicates.
- Explain why random assignment is necessary for determining cause and effect in the study.
- Explain what the *p* value allows MGC to conclude about the study.

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

STOP

END OF EXAM