

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. In psychology, the term *sensation* formally refers to:
 - A) a vague feeling of excitement or pleasure.
 - B) the process of detecting a physical stimulus such as light, sound, heat, or pressure.
 - C) the transformation of physical energy into chemical energy.
 - D) the interpretation and organization of sensory stimuli.

2. In order to answer this test item, you must read the words on this page. Detecting the black marks on the page relies on the process of _____, and the ability to interpret these black lines and curves as letters and words involves the process of _____.
 - A) sensory adaptation; proprioception
 - B) sensation; perception
 - C) perception; sensation
 - D) proprioception; sensory adaptation

3. You catch the whiff of freshly popped popcorn as you enter the movie theater. The process by which the odor of popcorn is converted into neural signals that your brain can interpret as the smell of popcorn is called:
 - A) sensory adaptation.
 - B) proprioception
 - C) transduction.
 - D) accommodation.

4. A large group of students were tested for their ability to distinguish among different tones. Although tone A and tone B were slightly different, more than half of the group thought that they sounded exactly the same. The difference between tone A and tone B can be said to be less than the:
 - A) difference threshold, or just noticeable difference.
 - B) absolute threshold, or average absolute threshold.
 - C) subliminal threshold.
 - D) Weber's threshold.

5. John puts one toe into the swimming pool and shivers because the water is so cold. He grits his teeth and dives in anyway. After about ten minutes, the temperature of the water seems quite comfortable to him. This example illustrates the principle of:
 - A) sensory difference.
 - B) just noticeable difference, or jnd.
 - C) accommodation.
 - D) sensory adaptation.

6. What causes nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism?
- A) The blind spot is abnormally large or small.
 - B) Incoming light signals are not properly focused on the retina.
 - C) The iris and cornea do not function properly.
 - D) Accommodation does not take place.
7. Rods are used for vision in _____ light, and cones are used for vision in _____ light.
- A) bright; dim
 - B) black; white
 - C) dim; bright
 - D) colorful; black and white
8. Cones are most concentrated in the:
- A) periphery of the eye.
 - B) optic disk.
 - C) optic chiasm.
 - D) fovea.
9. The perceived color of an object is determined by the:
- A) wavelength of light that an object reflects.
 - B) activation of bipolar cells in the cornea.
 - C) activation of rods in the retina of the eye.
 - D) intensity of the light wave that strikes the pupil.
10. Which theory best explains color vision in humans?
- A) the trichromatic theory
 - B) the opponent-process theory
 - C) both the opponent-process theory and the trichromatic theory
 - D) both the place theory and the frequency theory

11. You're waiting to cross a busy city street as a city bus pulls up to the curb. As the driver stops the bus, the brakes squeal loudly. A few people get on, and then the bus pulls away from the curb. As the bus accelerates, the engine labors into gear and exhaust fumes spew out the back. The high-pitched squeal of the brakes was caused by _____ sound waves, and the equally loud but low-pitched roar of the engine was caused by _____ sound waves.
- A) low frequency; high frequency
 - B) high frequency; low frequency
 - C) low amplitude; high amplitude
 - D) high amplitude; low amplitude
12. Mrs. McGillicuddy is an active 80-year-old, but she has trouble hearing. Her hearing improves after she is fitted with a hearing aid. Mrs. McGillicuddy is suffering from _____ deafness, which was probably caused by _____.
- A) nerve; exposure to very loud noise
 - B) conduction; damage to the pinna, ear canal, and eardrum.
 - C) conduction; the hammer, anvil, and stirrup becoming brittle
 - D) nerve; deterioration of the auditory nerve
13. After many years of playing extremely loud rock music, Pete Townshend of the famous rock group The Who has suffered a significant hearing loss, which cannot be corrected with a hearing aid. Townshend is suffering from:
- A) nerve deafness.
 - B) conduction deafness.
 - C) a perforated eardrum.
 - D) damage to the auditory cortex in the brain.
14. At first, you can barely concentrate in your psychology class because the guy sitting behind you is wolfing down a hamburger smothered in onions for his lunch. After a minute, you no longer notice the smell of his sandwich because:
- A) the airborne molecules released by the onions have temporarily blocked your odor receptor cells.
 - B) your thalamus is no longer processing olfactory signals.
 - C) your odor receptor cells have increased in sensitivity.
 - D) sensory adaptation has taken place.
15. The flavor of a food is due to:
- A) the activation of specialized receptors in the taste buds.
 - B) the combination of aroma, taste, texture, and temperature.
 - C) the proportion of sweet, sour, salty, and bitter tastes in a particular food.
 - D) the relative responsiveness of different types of taste receptors.

16. Hiking in the woods, you keep swatting at the irritating mosquitoes that land on your face. Later, you're surprised to discover a number of itchy mosquito bites on the backs of your legs. The reason you noticed the mosquitoes landing on your face but did not notice the mosquitoes landing on your legs is probably that:
- A) there are more sensory receptors in your facial skin than in the skin on the backs of your legs.
 - B) there is no difference in sensitivity between the skin on your face and the skin on your legs, but you were able to hear the mosquitoes buzzing near your face, and you couldn't hear the mosquitoes that landed on your legs.
 - C) there are no Pacinian corpuscles in the skin on your legs.
 - D) heat from your leg muscles masked the sensation of biting mosquitoes.
17. According to the text, which body areas are the LEAST sensitive to pain?
- A) the tip of your nose, soles of your feet, and balls of your thumbs
 - B) your ankles, your wrists, and your earlobes
 - C) the back of your knee, your neck, and the bends of your elbows
 - D) your fingertips, your toes, and your upper arms
18. According to your textbook, factors that can decrease the perception of pain include:
- A) feelings of helplessness.
 - B) a sense of control.
 - C) anxiety.
 - D) focused attention on the pain area.
19. Changes in your body position are sensed by specialized receptors located in your muscles and joints that are called:
- A) kinesthetic receptors.
 - B) vestibular sacs.
 - C) proprioceptors.
 - D) semicircular canals.
20. We consider several sources of information, such as size, color, and texture, when we try to identify an object, but the most important source of information is the object's:
- A) size.
 - B) color.
 - C) shape.
 - D) distance.