

Answer Key: Clinical Phenotypes & Diagnostic Dilemmas: College Psychology Quiz

Differential diagnosis, etiology, and the biopsychosocial model. Rigorous analysis of psychopathology for advanced students pursuing clinical or research pathways.

1. A patient presents with 'la belle indifférence,' displaying a lack of concern regarding a sudden loss of motor function that lacks a neurological basis. Which DSM-5-TR diagnosis is most probable?

Answer: B) Conversion Disorder (Functional Neurological Symptom Disorder)

Conversion Disorder is characterized by neurological symptoms (like paralysis) without a physical cause; 'la belle indifférence' is a classic clinical marker of this condition.

2. The _____ hypothesis suggests that the symptoms of schizophrenia are related to overactive transmission of a specific neurotransmitter in the mesolimbic pathway.

Answer: C) Dopamine

The dopamine hypothesis remains a primary (though evolving) theoretical framework for understanding the positive symptoms of schizophrenia and the efficacy of antipsychotics.

3. True or False: In the Diathesis-Stress Model, a 'diathesis' refers exclusively to a genetic or biological predisposition toward a disorder.

Answer: B) False

False. While often biological, a diathesis can also include psychological factors like cognitive distortions or personality traits developed in early childhood.

4. Which personality disorder cluster is characterized by dramatic, emotional, or erratic behavior, including Borderline and Narcissistic Personality Disorders?

Answer: B) Cluster B

Cluster B includes disorders involving impulsivity and emotional dysregulation; Cluster A is 'odd/eccentric' and Cluster C is 'anxious/fearful'.

5. A researcher is studying 'negative symptoms' in a clinical population. Which of the following behavior patterns would they be observing?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer: B) Avolition, alogia, and anhedonia

Negative symptoms represent the 'absence' of normal function, such as reduced speech (alogia), lack of motivation (avolition), and lack of pleasure (anhedonia).

6. Beck's Cognitive Triad identifies that individuals with depression often hold persistent negative views about themselves, their world, and their _____.

Answer: C) Future

Aaron Beck's triad includes the self, the world (current experiences), and the future, which creates a cycle of hopelessness.

7. True or False: To meet the DSM-5 criteria for Cyclothymic Disorder, an individual must have experienced at least one full Manic Episode.

Answer: B) False

False. Cyclothymic disorder involves periods of hypomanic and depressive symptoms that do not meet full criteria for Manic or Major Depressive episodes.

8. According to Thomas Joiner's Interpersonal Theory of Suicide, which factor must be present for an individual to move from suicidal ideation to a lethal attempt?

Answer: C) Acquired capability for self-injury

While thwarted belonging and burdensomeness create the 'desire,' the 'acquired capability' (habituation to pain/fear) is necessary to act on that desire.

9. In the treatment of Borderline Personality Disorder, _____ combines standard cognitive-behavioral techniques with concepts of mindful awareness and distress tolerance.

Answer: B) Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT)

Developed by Marsha Linehan, DBT focuses on the dialectic between acceptance and change, significantly reducing self-harm in BPD patients.

10. True or False: The 'Rosenhan Study' (1973) notably demonstrated the high reliability and validity of psychiatric diagnosis in hospital settings using the DSM-II.

Answer: B) False

Name: _____

Date: _____

False. The study ('On Being Sane in Insanely Places') famously critiqued the validity of diagnosis at the time, as staff were unable to distinguish 'sane' pseudo-patients from 'insane' patients.