

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer Key: Cognitive Quick Pick Memory Quiz for 10th Grade

Sensory encoding, retrieval cues, and the limitations of working memory — build foundational recall skills essential for mastering basic psychological principles.

1. When learning to play a new song on the guitar, which type of memory storage handles the physical 'how-to' of finger placement and movement?

Answer: C) Procedural memory

Procedural memory is a type of long-term memory responsible for knowing how to perform motor skills and physical actions.

2. The process of _____ involves organizing pieces of information into familiar, manageable units to increase the capacity of short-term memory.

Answer: B) Chunking

Chunking allows us to bypass the '7 plus or minus 2' limit of working memory by grouping individual items into meaningful patterns.

3. Sensory memory acts as a temporary buffer that holds an exact copy of incoming visual or auditory data for only a few seconds or less.

Answer: A) True

Sensory memory, including iconic (visual) and echoic (auditory) memory, preserves information just long enough for it to be processed into short-term memory.

4. If you struggle to remember a classmate's name until you see them sitting in the specific desk where you first met, you are experiencing:

Answer: B) Context-dependent memory

Context-dependent memory refers to the phenomenon where retrieval is more effective when the external environment matches the environment where the memory was encoded.

5. A(n) _____ is a mental shortcut or 'rule of thumb' that allows people to solve problems and make judgments quickly and efficiently.

Answer: C) Heuristic

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While algorithms guarantee a correct answer, heuristics are faster mental strategies used in day-to-day decision making.

6. The 'Serial Position Effect' suggests that people are most likely to forget the first and last items in a long list.

Answer: B) False

False. The effect actually states that we remember the first items (primacy) and last items (recency) best, while forgetting the middle items.

7. Which cognitive process is being used when a detective looks at various pieces of evidence to form a general theory about a crime?

Answer: A) Inductive reasoning

Inductive reasoning moves from specific observations (evidence) to broader generalizations (a theory).

8. Acronyms like 'ROY G. BIV' for the colors of the rainbow are examples of _____, which aid memory encoding.

Answer: B) Mnemonics

Mnemonics are memory aids or techniques that use associations to help store and retrieve information.

9. If you fail to see that a heavy textbook could be used as a doorstop because you only view it as a reading tool, you are demonstrating:

Answer: C) Functional fixedness

Functional fixedness is a cognitive bias that limits a person to using an object only in the way it is traditionally used.

10. Implicit memories are those that we consciously work to remember, such as facts for a history test.

Answer: B) False

False. Explicit (declarative) memories are conscious; implicit (non-declarative) memories are unconscious, such as habits or skills.