

Exercise walk-through

15.1

Theorists, schools and their claims: evidence and transfer

GRE · GRE Subject Test · GRE Psychology

Concepts 1 (2)

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Freud's psychoanalysis centred on unconscious conflict and early experience, with defence mechanisms and stages of psychosexual development; its claims are debated as science but shaped clinical practice. Watson's 1913 behaviourism rejected introspection for observable behaviour, and Skinner's radical behaviourism explained action by operant consequences. Horney analysed coping as moving toward, away from or against people.

Check the transfer argument

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If a consequence follows a target action and increases its later frequency, the account predicts more of that action under the contingency than without it. Define the action, consequence, schedule and observation period. A name alone provides no mechanism or discriminating prediction. Randomized ethical comparisons can strengthen inference. Accept a different explanation when its evidence and limits are justified.

Check yourself

Independent retrieval

Two schools predict the same observed response. What additional evidence could discriminate their mechanisms?

Write your reasoning before comparing it with the methods and limits taught in this lesson.

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 Psychology's founding laboratories of the 1870s are credited to: [1]

A. Mary Calkins and Wilhelm Wundt B. Ernst Weber and Gustav Fechner C. Gustav Fechner and E. B. Titchener D. Wilhelm Wundt and William James E. William James and Sigmund Freud

2.2 Analysing coping as moving toward, away from or against people is associated with:[1]

A. Aaron Beck B. Carl Rogers C. Karen Horney D. Erik Erikson E. Erich Fromm

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 Psychology's founding laboratories of the 1870s are credited to: [1]

A. Mary Calkins and Wilhelm Wundt B. Ernst Weber and Gustav Fechner C. Gustav Fechner and E. B. Titchener D. Wilhelm Wundt and William James E. William James and Sigmund Freud

2.1 Answer: D. Wundt (Leipzig, 1879) and James (Harvard) founded the 1870s laboratory tradition. The other options do not satisfy the stated defining conditions.

2.2 Analysing coping as moving toward, away from or against people is associated with:[1]

A. Aaron Beck B. Carl Rogers C. Karen Horney D. Erik Erikson E. Erich Fromm

2.2 Answer: C. The three movement patterns are Horney's; Beck is cognitive therapy, Rogers person-centred. Compare the exact process, design or evidence, rather than an associated keyword.

Exercises 2.3·3.1

2.3 Revisit the worked case. State one conclusion its evidence supports and one stronger conclusion it does not support. Explain the difference. [2]

3.1 An answer names a famous theorist but gives no account of the observation. Rewrite it as an explanation that could be checked, using the reinforcement case. Give the interpretation, supporting reasoning, a relevant alternative or limitation, and an appropriate check. [4]

Exercises 2.3-3.1

2.3 Revisit the worked case. State one conclusion its evidence supports and one stronger conclusion it does not support. Explain the difference. [2]

2.3 Use the worked case evidence to support a bounded claim and explain why a causal, universal or stronger claim needs additional evidence. The claim must fit the specific design and observed process.

3.1 An answer names a famous theorist but gives no account of the observation. Rewrite it as an explanation that could be checked, using the reinforcement case. Give the interpretation, supporting reasoning, a relevant alternative or limitation, and an appropriate check. [4]

3.1 If a consequence follows a target action and increases its later frequency, the account predicts more of that action under the contingency than without it. Define the action, consequence, schedule and observation period. A name alone provides no mechanism or discriminating prediction. Randomized ethical comparisons can strengthen inference. Award B1 each (authored) for the interpretation, its reasoning, a relevant limitation/alternative and an appropriate check, up to four points. Accept a different justified answer satisfying these demands.