

*Test Bank for Psychology Major's
Companion 3rd Edition by Dunn,
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TB3 Chapter 1

1. What is one difference between a college and a university?
- Colleges are private, and universities are public.
 - Universities offer graduate degrees, and colleges tend not to do so.
 - Colleges are named after important people, and universities are named after locations.
 - Universities are typically smaller than colleges.

ANSWER: b

2. About how many high school graduates became first-time, full-time students enrolled in a 4-year college or university in the fall of 2019?
- Between 2.5 million and 3 million
 - Between 1.5 million and 2 million
 - Between 1 million and 1.5 million
 - Between 2 million and 2.5 million

ANSWER: b

3. Which of the following is the number one reason students report feeling that college is either “essential” or “very important”?
- to be able to get a better job
 - to become a famous person
 - to be able to make more money
 - to become a more cultured person

ANSWER: b

4. Which of the following objectives for going to college was endorsed by the lowest percentage of students before their first year of college?
- helping others who are experiencing difficulty
 - being very well off financially
 - becoming an authority in their field
 - developing a meaningful philosophy of life

ANSWER: d

5. Approximately how many students graduated with a psychology degree in the United States in 2018-2019?
- 56,000
 - 116,000
 - 356,000
 - 586,000

ANSWER: b

6. What percentage of students claimed to be satisfied after their first year of college?
- 75%
 - 90%

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- c. 45%
- d. 58%

ANSWER: a

7. In the fall of 2019, what percentage of new freshmen indicated that psychology was their likely major?
- a. about 5.6%
 - b. about 2.0%
 - c. about 8.0%
 - d. about 6.5%

ANSWER: a

8. Which is the *most* popular social science major?
- a. sociology
 - b. economics
 - c. political science
 - d. psychology

ANSWER: d

9. What is the *most* likely destiny of psychology graduates?
- a. becoming clinical psychologists
 - b. going to graduate school
 - c. getting a job in the workforce
 - d. going on welfare

ANSWER: c

10. By skipping college and entering the workforce immediately after high school, how much money does that decision cost across an average person's working life?
- a. about \$250,000
 - b. about \$500,000
 - c. about \$1,000,000
 - d. about \$1,500,000

ANSWER: b

11. In 2013, how much more per hour was earned by American college graduates compared with those who did not possess a degree?
- a. 50%
 - b. 25%
 - c. 83%
 - d. 98%

ANSWER: d

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12. What is the average debt load from student loans carried by college graduates from the class of 2020?

- a. \$29,927
- b. \$37,172
- c. \$10,500
- d. \$77,600

ANSWER: a

13. What is the definition of cocurricular activities?

- a. campus events that are scheduled at the same time as classes
- b. campus athletic obligations
- c. employment on campus
- d. activities that take place outside of formal classes

ANSWER: d

14. All of the following are examples of cocurricular activities except:

- a. joining a fraternity or sorority.
- b. participating in a Harry Potter Club.
- c. enrolling in a political science class.
- d. volunteering in a community organization.

ANSWER: c

15. About what percentage of first-year college students reported finding a balance between their academic work and their extracurricular activities?

- a. close to 80%
- b. close to 10%
- c. close to 35%
- d. close to 95%

ANSWER: a

16. What is the BEST rationale for pursuing extracurricular activities?

- a. to get every penny's worth of their tuition dollars
- b. to allocate more time to in-depth study in the major
- c. to have a constructive outlet to renew their energy and outlook
- d. to prove they are well rounded

ANSWER: c

17. Developing expertise in the subject area of psychology has been referred to as being which of the following?

- a. psychologically enriched
- b. psychologically literate
- c. psychologically autonomous

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d. psychologically immersed

ANSWER: b

18. Which of the following is the *best* description of psychological literacy?

- a. understanding psychological terms when reading
- b. being able to use psychological terms when speaking to others about a psychology major
- c. applying psychological knowledge and skills to various settings to improve everyday life
- d. being perfectionistic about psychological definitions

ANSWER: c

19. When a person is overconfident regarding the quality of his or her own performance, the individual is likely demonstrating which of the following?

- a. psychological reactance
- b. the Dunning-Kruger effect
- c. the anchoring effect
- d. loss aversion

ANSWER: b

20. An example of the Dunning-Kruger effect is observed when which of the following occurs?

- a. a person argues just to argue
- b. a person is overconfident of their knowledge or skills in a particular area
- c. a person searches only for evidence that confirms their beliefs
- d. a person procrastinates before beginning an assignment

ANSWER: b

21. What is a characteristic of psychologically literate students?

- a. They are quick to analyze the motives of others.
- b. They tend to act out of self-interest.
- c. They are skeptical when evaluating claims about behavior.
- d. They prefer associating with other psychology majors.

ANSWER: c

22. All of the following reflect psychological literacy except:

- a. an appreciation and respect for diversity and diverse groups and individuals.
- b. acting ethically, not out of self-interest.
- c. being reflective about their own thinking processes and those of others.
- d. being quick to assert themselves and their opinions about psychology in everyday discourse.

ANSWER: d

23. As of 2021, what percentage of adults in the United States have earned a college degree?

- a. 25%

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- b. 32.8%
- c. 37.9%
- d. 48%

ANSWER: c

24. Attending college is considered which of the following?

- a. a privilege
- b. a right
- c. an obligation
- d. a burden

ANSWER: a

TB3 Chapter 1 Essay

1. What is the audience for this book, *The Psychology Major's Companion*? That is, who is this book designed to help?

ANSWER: Students who are taking introductory or general psychology, brand new psychology majors, transfer students, people who want a job immediately after college, students who want to go to graduate school in psychology or some other field, and adult learners.

2. Generally speaking, how does a college differ from a university?

ANSWER: Colleges tend to offer only undergraduate degrees while universities offer both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Community or two-year colleges offer a 2-year associate's degree while 4-year colleges and universities offer bachelor's degrees.

3. List four of the eight reasons that first-year students in 2019 reported as "very important" for going to college.

ANSWER: Any four of the following eight:

- to be able to get a better job
- to gain a general education and appreciation of ideas
- to become a more cultured person
- to be able to make more money
- to learn about things of personal interest
- to get training for a specific career
- to prepare myself for graduate or professional school
- to please my family

4. Is attending college worth the costs involved?

ANSWER: All signs continue to suggest that a college degree is a sound investment. College graduates make much more money during their careers than do high school graduates (college grads were found to make on average 98% more per hour compared to those without a degree), and the type of work they are eligible to do is often more interesting and engaging. Although the average debt load is over \$29,000, college graduates can anticipate earning at least half a million dollars more on average than nongraduates, so the risks involved are probably worth it.

5. How can students make the most out of their college experiences?

ANSWER: Besides studying and doing well in their classes, students are advised to take advantage of the extracurricular opportunities that are available to them. These include participating in sports teams, clubs, social organizations, volunteer efforts, student government, and other campus groups. Finding a good balance between course work and recreational pursuits is likely to provide a worthwhile experience.

6. What is psychological literacy? What does it mean to become psychologically literate?

ANSWER: Psychological literacy involves learning a great deal about psychology and using that knowledge to improve one's own and others' daily lives. Becoming psychologically literate entails qualities like these:

- Solving problems in creative, amiable, and skeptical ways

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- Having a well-defined vocabulary of psychological terms and concepts
- Appreciating and respecting diversity, diverse groups, and people
- Being reflective about one's own thought processes and those of others
- Becoming adept at evaluating information and using technology
- Being eager to apply psychology principles to understanding and improving personal relationships, work issues, and community events
- Being able to act ethically and not out of self-interest
- Being good at communicating and doing so in different ways (writing, speaking, public presentations) to different types of people and audiences

7. Chapter 1 introduced a variety of qualities demonstrating that a person who has some of them is psychologically literate. Of the qualities shared, which three do you think you have? Does their presence indicate you are psychologically literate? Why?

ANSWER: The response should include three of the following, which the student author should discuss in some detail tied to their own experiences. They should then indicate if the selected skills indicate they are (or are not) psychologically literate and explain their answer.

- Having a well-defined vocabulary of psychological terms and concepts
- Appreciating and respecting diversity, diverse groups, and people
- Being reflective about one's own thought processes and those of others
- Becoming adept at evaluating information and using technology
- Being eager to apply psychology principles to understanding and improving personal relationships, work issues, and community events
- Being able to act ethically and not out of self-interest
- Being good at communicating and doing so in different ways (writing, speaking, public presentations) to different types of people and audiences

8. List some personal qualities indicating that attending college is likely to be a good choice for a student.

ANSWER: Some reasons include any of the following:

- Has a clear understanding of motives for seeking a degree
- Previous academic record predicts a successful transition to college
- Can set aside the time it will take to secure a diploma
- Has determined eligibility for financial aid
- Has considered what kind of living arrangements will be affordable
- Has some reasonable idea about what major might be a good choice
- Possesses reasonable time-management strategies to keep up with course work
- Will be excited to learn with a wide variety of people
- Can live and function independently from family members
- Will be able to balance family and friends with school demands
- Should be able to cope with any debt load resulting from cost of education
- Is prepared to seek academic advice to clarify direction during college

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9. Describe how a typical student might demonstrate the *Dunning-Kruger effect* during their college years.

ANSWER: Students, like most people, are over-confident regarding what knowledge or skills they believe they possess so that they assume greater competence than is warranted. In other words, their thinking (metacognition) about their own thinking and abilities is biased. A student who is majoring in psychology, for example, may rate themselves as more psychologically knowledgeable than the typical psychology major without any objective criteria for doing so. Truly knowledgeable people realize what they do and do not know.

10. Why can having a college degree still be considered a form of privilege?

ANSWER: Few citizens (just shy of 38%) have a bachelor's degree. In addition, possessing a degree generally provides for greater earning power (about half a million dollars across one's career) when compared to the average high school graduate's earning potential.