

College Admission

Life-Span-Developmental-Psychology

DSST Life-Span Developmental Psychology Exam (Dantes Subject Standardized Tests)

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Question: 1

Memory operates using three basic steps. Which of the following is the first step?

- A. encoding
- B. storage
- C. transfer
- D. retrieval

Answer: A

Explanation:

Encoding is the first step in how memory works, and is the process of putting information into some meaningful order. There are a number of ways to do this, such as encoding by sound or meaning, or making associations between new material and previously remembered information. The second step to memory is storage (to make sure the material stays in memory), and retrieval (the ability to get the material out of storage).

Question: 2

Which of the following is a type of sensory memory specifically involving vision?

- A. echoic memory
- B. long-term memory
- C. iconic memory
- D. short-term memory

Answer: C

Explanation:

The type of sensory memory that specifically involves vision is called iconic memory. Iconic memory, just as it sounds, is memory of what you see. It is not as enduring as echoic memory, which is a memory of information obtained through the sense of hearing.

Question: 3

Dyslexia is a.....

- A. developmental reading disorder.
- B. developmental writing disorder.
- C. developmental attention disorder.

D. developmental arithmetic disorder.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Dyslexia is a developmental reading disorder most often characterized by reading difficulties as well as trouble differentiating particular sounds in verbal language. A common symptom is the reversal of letters and numbers when writing. General disorganization and memory issues are among some of the other symptoms one might see with a dyslexia diagnosis.

Question: 4

If a child demonstrates impulsivity, inattention and hyperactivity, he may be diagnosed with which of the following?

- A. ADHD
- B. dyslexia
- C. dysgraphia
- D. dyscalculia

Answer: A

Explanation:

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is one of the more common of the childhood disorders. A child with ADHD may have difficulty focusing and maintaining attention, become easily confused, be late with school assignments, be impatient and constantly in motion, as well as exhibiting other possible symptoms.

Question: 5

In information processing, an individual uses a rule of thumb to reach a conclusion. To what does this type of problem solving refer?

- A. evaluation
- B. an algorithm
- C. a heuristic
- D. production

Answer: C

Explanation:

Unlike an algorithm, which is a strategy by which the individual tries every possible way to find the answer to a problem, the heuristic is far more limited. With a heuristic approach, a general rule of thumb is used to reach the solution. A heuristic approach may find an answer more quickly than the algorithm, but while quicker (when it's effective), it may not find the answer at all.

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