Quick Study Guide

Topic: Learning

Related Course(s): Psych 1100, 2800, 3000, 3200

Key Terms – Thinking & Intelligence

Algorithm: problem-solving strategy characterized by a specific set of instructions

Analytical intelligence: aligned with academic problem solving and computations

Anchoring bias faulty heuristic in which you fixate on a single aspect of a problem to find a solution

Artificial concept concept that is defined by a very specific set of characteristics

Cognition thinking, including perception, learning, problem solving, judgment, and memory

Cognitive psychology field of psychology dedicated to studying every aspect of how people think

Cognitive script set of behaviors that are performed the same way each time; also referred to as an event schema

Concept category or grouping of linguistic information, objects, ideas, or life experiences

Confirmation bias faulty heuristic in which you focus on information that confirms your beliefs

Convergent thinking providing correct or established answers to problems

Creative intelligence ability to produce new products, ideas, or inventing a new, novel solution to a problem

Creativity ability to generate, create, or discover new ideas, solutions, and possibilities

Crystallized intelligence characterized by acquired knowledge and the ability to retrieve it

Cultural intelligence ability with which people can understand and relate to those in another culture

Divergent thinking ability to think "outside the box" to arrive at novel solutions to a problem

Dysgraphia learning disability that causes extreme difficulty in writing legibly

Dyslexia common learning disability in which letters are not processed properly by the brain

Emotional intelligence ability to understand emotions and motivations in yourself and others

Event schema set of behaviors that are performed the same way each time; also referred to as a cognitive script

Fluid intelligence ability to see complex relationships and solve problems

Flynn effect observation that each generation has a significantly higher IQ than the previous generation

Functional fixedness inability to see an object as useful for any other use other than the one for which it was intended

Grammar set of rules that are used to convey meaning through the use of a lexicon

Heuristic mental shortcut that saves time when solving a problem

Hindsight bias belief that the event just experienced was predictable, even though it really wasn't

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Key Terms – Thinking & Intelligence (continued)

Intelligence quotient (also, IQ) score on a test designed to measure intelligence

Language communication system that involves using words to transmit information from one individual to another

Lexicon the words of a given language

Mental set continually using an old solution to a problem without results

Morpheme smallest unit of language that conveys some type of meaning

Multiple Intelligences Theory Gardner's theory that each person possesses at least eight types of intelligence

Natural concept mental groupings that are created "naturally" through your experiences

Norming administering a test to a large population so data can be collected to reference the normal scores for a population and its groups

Overgeneralization extension of a rule that exists in a given language to an exception to the rule

Phoneme basic sound unit of a given language

Practical intelligence aka "street smarts"

Problem-solving strategy method for solving problems

Prototype best representation of a concept

Range of reaction each person's response to the environment is unique based on his or her genetic make-up

Representative bias faulty heuristic in which you stereotype someone or something without a valid basis for your judgement

Representative sample subset of the population that accurately represents the general population

Role schema set of expectations that define the behaviors of a person occupying a particular role

Schema (plural = schemata) mental construct consisting of a cluster or collection of related concepts

Semantics process by which we derive meaning from morphemes and words

Standard deviation measure of variability that describes the difference between a set of scores and their mean

Standardization method of testing in which administration, scoring, and interpretation of results are consistent

Syntax manner by which words are organized into sentences

Trial and error problem-solving strategy which multiple solutions are attempted until the correct one is found

Triarchic theory of intelligence Sternberg's theory of intelligence; three facets of intelligence: practical, creative and analytical

Working backwards heuristic in which you begin to solve a problem by focusing on the end result