Chap 1. Exploring Sex and Gender

Multiple choice questions

1. The Psychology of Women is considered interdisciplinary because:
   A) Professors that teach the psychology of women come from different subfields of psychology
   B) It is informed by research conducted in such fields as biology, sociology, anthropology, history, media studies, economics, education and linguistics
   C) It insists on a complex interconnected science of psychology
   D) It receives great attention from human rights committees and the feminist movement
   Answer B

2. Chapter 1 implies that
   A) psychology can not be considered a complete science if it ignores women’s and girl’s issues
   B) sex refers to both biological and social differences
   C) gender is determined purely by biology
   D) estrogen and progesterone are uniquely female hormones, while androgens are hormones that belong exclusively to males
   Answer A

3. After a lecture in the psychology of women, a friend comes up with a new explanation of why she was once refused employment. She is probably referring to:
   A) Racism
   B) Sexism
   C) ethnocentrism
   D) feminism
   Answer B

4. An example of sex is:
   A) Mother
   B) Teacher
   C) Female
   D) woman
   Answer C

5. A feminist is a woman or man who:
   A) discounts the contributions of men
   B) overemphasizes the contributions of women
   C) strives for justice and equal opportunities for all men and women
   D) wants less power
   Answer C
6. The cultural approach view explains the origin of gender stereotypes from
   A) The perspective that children are socialized to act in accordance with
      their society’s conventions
   B) the position that ongoing structural and social role requirements shape our
      experience in society
   C) the cultural injustices that surrounded women
   D) religious and spiritual ideologies
   Answer A

7. Stereotypes can be
   A) Positive
   B) Inaccurate
   C) negative
   D) all of the
   above Answer D

8. Blatant sexism is different than subtle sexism in that blatant sexism
   A) Is intentional, hidden, and frequently hostile
   B) Is less apparent than covert sexism
   C) occurs when women are treated in a transparently harmful and unequal
      way
   D) is less visible to others as well as to ourselves
   Answer C

9. Alia states: “the marriage institution is created to enslave women.” You can
   safely conclude that Alia is a
   A) radical feminist
   B) social feminist
   C) liberal feminist
   D) cultural feminist
   Answer A

10. Omar argues that women should be given similar opportunities as men in the
    work place. Omar is probably
    A) radical feminist
    B) social feminist
    C) liberal feminist
    D) cultural feminist
    Answer C

11. Which statement describes the views of a cultural feminist:
    A) women can create peace and harmony in our society due to their
       less aggressive nature
    B) men and women should have equal rights and opportunities
C) major changes are needed to stop the oppression of women
D) psychology of women classes must be more effective in producing social change
Answer A

12. If a researcher conducts a study looking for differences between women and men’s abilities, chances are she will find those differences. This is an example of
A) experimenter bias
B) bias theoretical model
C) biased in interpretation
D) bias in sampling
Answer A

13. A psychoanalyst is investigating “penis envy” in women. This is an example of:
A) experimenter bias
B) a biased theoretical model
C) bias in interpretation
D) bias in sampling
Answer B

14. Continuing to focus on differences between males and females may serve to
A) keep women down
B) keep men down
C) understand women’s issues in a new light
D) none of the above
Answer A

15. Feminist research encourages
A) exploring various research methods including qualitative methods
B) questioning the biases contained in the literature reviews
C) questioning the biases in sampling
D) all of the above
Answer D

16. Which theory argues that “psychological traits, like physical ones, are selected through an evolutionary process because they are adaptive?”
A) social constructionism
B) sociobiology
C) traditional feminism
D) structured fundamentalism
Answer B

17. Which view claims that behavior is not merely biological, rather is influenced by the particular situation, the environment, history, political conditions and society as a whole?
A) social constructionism  
B) sociobiology  
C) traditional feminism  
D) structured fundamentalism  
Answer A

18. “We can only understand behavior in light of the social context in which the behavior takes place.” This statement best explains the beliefs of:  
A) social constructionism  
B) sociobiology  
C) traditional feminism  
D) structured fundamentalism  
Answer A

19. A research study that questions the reasons a battered woman stays with her husband  
A) sheds very important light on the behavior of battered women  
B) helps guide women to effectively seek help  
C) implies that the problem is really with the woman since she chooses to stay in that relationship  
D) helps the abusers understand their victims  
Answer C

20. Feminist theorists value  
A) considering your own biases when doing research  
B) critically questioning traditional research methods and findings  
C) trying to understand the issue from the participants’ point of view  
D) all of the above  
Answer D

Essay test questions

1. Differentiate between the sociobiological and the social constructionist views of gender.
2. Explain and give examples of the cultural approach and the structural approach and how they conceptualize the process of socialization of men and women.
3. Discuss the four schools of feminism mentioned in the text (socialist, radical, cultural, and liberal) and give examples of each.
4. Describe three areas where feminist researchers criticize traditional research. What are the problems with research that focuses on gender differences?
5. What is feminism? How has feminism positively affected research in psychology?
References and suggested readings


Useful web links

American Psychological association
www.apa.org
American Psychological Society
www.psychologicalscience.org
Psychology of Women
http://apa.org/about/division/div35.html
Association for Women in Psychology
www.awpsycho.org
WWWomen
www.wwwomen.com