

FULL NAME	FACULTY & SPECIALTY	DATE	SCORE

TEST OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Read the text below and do the tasks which follow.

BRIEF HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGY

1. While the subject of psychology in today's modern world does reflect the discipline's rich and colorful history, its origins however differ quite considerably from the contemporary notions of the field. In order to fully understand what psychology is all about, it is important to first go back into its history and explore its origins. How did this discipline originate? When did it originate?

Contemporary psychology deals with a vast range of topics; while at the same time looks into human behavioral patterns and mental processes from the cultural level to the neural level. Psychologists study all matters pertaining to human mental issues that begin right from birth and continue up until the death of the person. So, by gaining full understanding of the history of psychology, you will be able to better understand how the individual topics are studied and what has been learnt so far.

2. Right from the very beginning, the study of psychology has been faced with a number of difficult questions. The first question of how is psychology defined established it as a separate science, separate from philosophy and physiology. Other additional questions that psychologists were also faced with throughout the history of the subject were: What issues and topics should the subject of psychology deal with? Is psychology a science? While psychology did not really emerge as a separate science until the latter half of the 19th century, its initial history can be traced right back to the ancient Greeks. During the 1600's, the famous French philosopher, Rene Descartes, introduced the concept of dualism, which stressed on the fact that the body and the mind were basically two separate entities that interacted together to form the normal human experience. Many of the other issues that are still debated by psychologists today, like relative contributions of nature vs. nurture, are deep rooted in these early philosophical concepts.

3. So why is psychology different from philosophy? While many of the early philosophers relied heavily on methods like logic and observation, the psychologists of today tend to use methods to study and come to conclusions about the human behavior and thought. Physiology also made large contributions towards the eventual emergence of psychology as a science. Early physiology research on behavior and brain had a very dramatic impact on psychology as it is today, ultimately leading to the application of many scientific methodologies that study the human behavior and thought. During the mid 19th century, Wilhelm Wundt, a German physiologist started using scientific research methods to look into reaction times. His works outlined many of the most important connections between physiology and psychology.

I. READING COMPREHENSION

Task 1: Fill in the blanks with the appropriate information, based on Paragraph 1. (15 points)

- 1. One can notice a great _____ between the original and the contemporary ideas of psychology.
- 2. The history of psychology contributes to our _____ understanding of this discipline.
- 3. Nowadays psychology is involved in the study of a great _____ of subjects.
- 4. Contemporary psychology investigates the patterns of human _____ at different levels.
- 5. Psychologists deal with various _____ problems that occur during a person's life.

Task 2: Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F), based on Paragraph 2. (15 points)

- 1. The study of psychology encountered difficulties in its infancy. _____
- 2. The topics of psychology were clear from the very beginning. _____
- 3. Psychology emerged as a separate science in the time of the ancient Greeks. _____
- 4. The concept of dualism focuses on the mind - body dichotomy. _____
- 5. The nature vs. nurture debate does not concern contemporary psychologists. _____

Task 3: Process the information in the text and elaborate on the following. (20 points)

- 1. Why is the history of psychology important?
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- 2. The study of psychology and the questions it faced at the beginning:
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- 3. Rene Descartes:
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- 4. Psychology and philosophy:
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- 5. Wilhelm Wundt:
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II. WRITING: The history and origins of psychology play an important role in the understanding of this discipline. Examples; Comments (300 words) (50 points)