NOTE: This exam has been provided to you so that you can see what types of questions will be on the exam and how they might be worded. These are NOT the same questions that will be on the exam that you will take in class.

Please read each question carefully and then choose the response that BEST answers the question. Each question is worth 2 point.

1. Rather than take his word for it, Alicia insists that Dr. Phillip’s theory of aggression be checked against observable evidence. She is demonstrating the scientific attitude of:
   
   a. pride  
   b. enthusiasm  
   c. practicality  
   d. skepticism

2. Professor Smith thinks he is a really bad teacher. He pays a lot of attention to students’ negative comments, while ignoring their positive comments. Professor Smith is exhibiting the:
   
   a. hind-sight bias  
   b. illusory correlation  
   c. confirmation bias  
   d. the false consensus effect

3. Dr. Licciardi predicts that if people are observed while they perform a complex task then they will make more errors. Dr. Licciardi’s prediction is an example of:
   
   a. a hypothesis  
   b. an operational definition  
   c. a theory  
   d. inferential statistics

4. You are sitting with your friends. One of them says “people just aren't very nice”. Your friend has just offered a(n):
   
   a. observation  
   b. theory  
   c. hypothesis  
   d. fact

5. You are sitting on a park bench in a major metropolitan area from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and you note the number of people who walk by, whether or not they litter, and their gender. You are engaging in:
   
   a. casual observation  
   b. naturalistic observation  
   c. case study research  
   d. experimental research
6. If I was interested in dorm life, I could go to the dorms and ask people who live there questions about living in the dorm. I would be employing _____________ to conduct this research.

a. a survey
b. naturalistic observation
c. an experiment
d. a case study

7. A group of researchers wants to determine if people are more likely to follow directions if the person giving the directions is in a uniform. Half the participants are directed to a parking spot by a uniformed security guard, the other half are directed to a parking spot by an individual wearing blue jeans and a t-shirt. In this study the dependent variable would be:

a. the number of participants who park in the spot they are directed to
b. the type of clothing worn by the person giving the directions
c. the gender of the person driving into the parking lot
d. the distance between the parking spot and the entrance

8. Dr. Kincaid was interested in the topic of autistic savants (individuals with limited abilities in many areas, but with an exceptional talent in one specific area). In the initial part of the investigation Dr. Kincaid carefully observed and compiled detailed information on three individuals who were autistic savants. Dr. Kincaid is conducting:

a. case study research
b. survey research
c. correlational research
d. experimental research

9. Researchers use experiments rather than other research methods in order to determine:

a. fact from theory
b. cause and effect
c. case studies from surveys
d. random samples from representative samples

10. A researcher is measuring the heart rate of subjects as a measure of their anxiety. In this study heart rate is:

a. A confounded variable
b. negatively correlated with anxiety
c. an independent variable
d. an operational definition of anxiety
11. You are doing an experiment on the effects of stress on memory. You put people into two groups; one where they will be highly stressed and the other where they will be mildly stressed. Since you, the experimenter, are manipulating stress, it is the ______________.

a. independent variable
b. dependent variable
c. control variable
d. random variable

12. In computers, the keyboard receives input and passes that information along to the computer's central processing unit (CPU). In comparing a computer to a neuron, the keyboard would be equivalent to:

a. the soma
b. the axon
c. the dendrites
d. the terminal buttons

13. The speed of an action potential is increased when the axon is encased by a(n):

a. myelin sheath
b. association area
c. endocrine gland
d. neural network

14. Chemical messengers are released into spatial junctions (i.e., gaps) between neurons. These **junctions** or gaps are known as:

a. hormones
b. ions
c. synapses
d. neurotransmitters

15. The **chemical messengers** released into the spatial junctions (i.e., gaps) between neurons are called:

a. hormones
b. neurotransmitters
c. synapses
d. ions

16. The ______________ is a brief electrical charge that travels down the axon of the neuron in a wave-like fashion.

a. threshold
b. synapse
c. neurotransmitter
d. action potential
17. The two major divisions of the nervous system are the central and ______ nervous systems.
   a. autonomic
   b. sympathetic
   c. parasympathetic
   d. peripheral

18. The initial division of the peripheral nervous system breaks it up into the somatic and __________ systems.
   a. autonomic
   b. sympathetic
   c. parasympathetic
   d. central

19. The central nervous system consists of:
   a. the sympathetic and parasympathetic branches
   b. the reticular formation and brainstem
   c. the skeletal and autonomic subsystems
   d. the brain and the spinal cord

20. Internal bodily functions such as stomach contractions are controlled by the __________ nervous system.
   a. central
   b. autonomic
   c. somatic
   d. endocrine

21. When scared, your heart beats faster and your breathing is quicker. After a scare, your body returns to a calmer state. This __________ is controlled by the __________ nervous system.
   a. sympathetic
   b. parasympathetic
   c. central
   d. somatic

22. The primary somatosensory cortex is located in the __________ lobe.
   a. occipital
   b. temporal
   c. frontal
   d. parietal
23. The surgical removal of a large tumor from Allen’s occipital lobe resulted in extensive loss of brain tissue. Allen is most likely to suffer some loss of:

a. muscular coordination  
b. language comprehension  
c. speaking ability  
d. visual perception

24. If you do well on this test, you will be probably very happy. Which brain structure will be involved in feeling happy.

a. medulla  
b. hippocampus  
c. hypothalamus  
d. amygdala

25. Shot in the head, the victim died instantly because the bullet entered the ____________, that portion of the hindbrain that regulates breathing.

a. cerebellum  
b. medulla  
c. thalamus  
d. pons

26. While lecturing, I am using ____________ for speech production, which is located in the ____________ lobe.

a. Broca’s area / Frontal  
b. Broca’s area / Temporal  
c. Wernicke’s area / Frontal  
d. Wernicke’s area / Temporal

27. When you move your finger, the signal to do so was sent from your ____________, which is located in your ____________ lobe.

a. primary somatosensory cortex / parietal  
b. primary motor cortex / parietal  
c. primary motor cortex / frontal  
d. primary somatosensory cortex / frontal

28. While standing upright (with your eyes closed), the ____________ is responsible for you not falling over.

a. hypothalamus  
b. amygdala  
c. medulla  
d. cerebellum
29. Which of the following techniques allows you to depict brain functioning (as opposed to simply depicting structural elements of the brain)?

a. lesioning  
b. Positron Emission Tomography (PET)  
c. Computerized Axial Tomography (CAT)  
d. none of the above

30. Thresholds are assumed to be at a specific unchanging intensity, at which a stimulus becomes detectable. That is, adjusting the intensity even slightly below that value immediately results in not being able to detect the stimulus. Experimental data suggest that this conception of the threshold as a step-function is correct.

a. true  
b. false

31. Based on Weber's Law, if a 100-Hz tone had to be increased to 110 Hz for a subject to just notice the difference (i.e., to produce a difference threshold), you would predict that a 1000-Hz tone would have to be increased to:

a. 1010 to be noticed  
b. 1050 to be noticed  
c. 1100 to be noticed  
d. 1200 to be noticed

Questions 32 – 33 refer to the picture of the eye below:
32. The part of the eye labeled “A”, changes shape to focus light on the back of the eye. It is known as:

a. the lens
b. the iris
c. the retina
d. the pupil

33. The part of the eye labeled “F” covers the inside of the back of the eye. It is made up of photoreceptors (i.e., rods and cones) and is known as:

a. the lens
b. the iris
c. the retina
d. the pupil

34. There are cells that respond optimally to very complex stimuli like a spot moving in a particular direction. These cells are known as:

a. rods
b. cones
c. feature-detectors
d. all of the above

35. Two opposing theories of color vision exist. The trichromatic theory, however, has stood up to empirical tests better than the opponent-process theory. Therefore, the trichromatic theory is the sole theory used by modern psychologists to explain color vision.

a. true
b. false

36. Where does transduction occur in the eye?

a. cornea
b. lens
c. retina
d. iris

37. Which of the following depth cues would still be available if you were born with only one eye?

a. retinal disparity
b. convergence
c. relative motion
d. all of the above
e. none of the above
38. During a hearing test, one will be presented with either two tones of different frequencies or two tones of the same frequency. The person being tested is asked to say whether there are two different tones or does he/she hear only the same tone. This is an example of testing for a:

a. difference threshold  
b. absolute threshold  
c. discrimination threshold  
d. relative threshold

39. The Ames room, in which people are seen to get small or enlarge as they move about, demonstrates that our perception of the world depends strongly on:

a. the assumptions we make about it  
b. the actual, distal stimuli  
c. the proximal stimulus elements  
d. bottom-up processing

40. I discussed research, which suggested that there are photoreceptors in the retina that detect either red, green or blue light. This finding supports the ________________ theory of color vision.

a. opponent-process  
b. trichromatic  
c. both a & b  
d. none of the above

41. The Gestalt grouping principle of proximity refers to the idea that:

a. people tend to gravitate toward a common interaction distance  
b. center-surround cells are closer fire more often  
c. perception occurs in discrete time frames  
d. objects nearer to each other are seen as forming a unit

42. Blake was at a football game, and even though people wearing green jackets were spread fairly evenly throughout the stands, he still perceived all the people in green jackets as a single group of visiting fans. Blake's perception is most consistent with the Gestalt principle of:

a. proximity  
b. similarity  
c. closure  
d. simplicity

43. Timothy was painting a picture of a jet on a runway; however in his painting the sides of the runway are parallel to each other. Timothy's picture will seem to lack depth because he has failed to make use of the monocular depth cue of:

a. convergence  
b. motion parallax  
c. linear perspective  
d. height in plane
44. Gabriella was looking for shelter from the sudden cloud burst, and at first she had difficulty judging whether the old barn or the farmhouse was closer. However, when she noticed that the barn partially obscured the corner of the house she headed for the barn. She was able to judge which building was closer based on:

a. texture gradient  
b. interposition  
c. relative size  
d. linear perspective  

45. As the large butterfly flew toward Richard, he could tell it was getting closer because he could feel his eyes turning inward toward his nose as he watched it. In this instance, Richard was able to judge how far away the butterfly was using the depth cue of:

a. convergence  
b. binocular disparity  
c. accommodation  
d. relative size  

46. The results of the “visual cliff” experiments indicated that mobile infants do not perceive depth, thus depth perception is learned.

A. true  
B. false  

47. Which piece of the auditory system is the last to receive DIRECT stimulation by changes in air pressure.

A. the cochlea  
B. the pinna  
C. the anvil  
D. the eardrum  

48. If I froze the fluid in your cochlea (so that your basilar membrane cannot move at all), and then exposed you to a noise, would you hear it?

A. yes  
B. no  

49. An experimenter conducts a study and finds that pitch is encoded by how rapidly hair cells are producing action potentials. This data supports the ______________ theory of pitch perception.

A. frequency  
B. place  
C. both a and b  
D. none of the above
50. Sound localization is based on __________________ differences between what is received by the two ears.

A. intensity  
B. time  
C. both a and b  
D. none of the above
## Answer Key

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