Lesson 1 – The origins of psychology.

This information can be found in Chapter 1 – Introduction and Research Methods.

1)  Explain how the goals of the scientific method guide psychological research.

2)  Describe the contributions of great philosophers, including Aristotle and Réne Descartes, and physiologists to the eventual emergence of psychology.

3)  Discuss the contributions of Wundt, Titchener, James (and his students), Freud, Watson, Pavlov, Skinner, Maslowe, and Rogers to the evolving field of psychology.

4)  Contrast the major perspectives of contemporary psychology including the biological, psychodynamic, behavioral, humanistic, positive psychology, cognitive, cross-cultural, and evolutionary perspectives.

5)  Compare values, behaviors, and attitudes of individualistic and collectivistic cultures, as it relates to cross-cultural psychology.

6)  Differentiate cross-cultural differences in time perspective and communication, as well as the characteristics of “tight” and “loose” cultures.

7)  Identify the primary roles and functions of 13 different specialty areas in psychology.

8)  Identify the occupational settings and jobs where you would work for each of the specialty areas of psychology.

9)  Compare the educational and experiential requirements of a psychiatrist, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, social worker, and paraprofessional counselor.

10) Evaluate successful study techniques. [this information can be found at the end of the chapter]

11) Explain the testing and fluency effects, as well as distributed practice. [this information can be found at the end of the chapter]
Lesson 2 – Psychology is a science.
This information can be found in Chapter 1 – Introduction and Research Methods.

12) Explain why psychological researchers are guided by assumptions and open-mindedness.

13) Describe the each step of the scientific method, including the importance of statistical significance and replication.

14) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of descriptive research designs, including naturalistic observation, case studies, and surveys.

15) Evaluate the National Survey of Student Engagement’s sample in regards to its use of random selection to achieve a representative sample.

16) Differentiate between descriptive research and correlational research designs.

17) Explain the correlation coefficient.

18) Identify examples of positive and negative correlations.

19) Explain what makes the experimental research distinct from correlational and descriptive designs.

20) Identify the dependent variable, independent variable, control group, and experimental group by reading examples of actual experimental research.

21) Discuss random assignment, confounding variables, placebos, and the double-blind technique as important controls to increase the reliability of the experimental research.

22) Discuss limitations and variations of experimental research.

23) Differentiate positron emission tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and functional MRI.

24) Describe the limitations when drawing conclusions from the results of brain imaging studies.

25) Discuss the strict code of ethics developed by the American Psychological Association (APA).

26) Differentiate between concurrent, content, and predictive validity.

27) Differentiate between test-retest, parallel forms, and inter-rater reliability.