

Exam Practice Questions - Memory

Processes of Memory

Encoding, Storage and Retrieval

1. Outline what we mean by the term *encoding*. [2 marks]
2. Using an example, outline what we mean by *visual encoding*.
[3 marks]
3. Using an example, outline what we mean by *acoustic encoding*. [3 marks]
4. Using an example, outline what we mean by *semantic encoding*. [3 marks]
5. Use your knowledge of psychology to explain how memories are encoded. Give an example in your answer. [2 marks]
6. Outline what we mean by storage. [2 marks]
7. Which one of the following terms is a description of storage?
 - i. Putting information into your memory.
 - ii. Recalling information.
 - iii. Learning information in terms of how it sounds.
 - iv. Holding information in your memory. [1 mark]
8. Explain what is meant by the term *retrieval*. [2 marks]
9. Explain the role of attention in taking in new memories. [2 marks]
10. Explain the role of repetition in the process of encoding things to long-term memory. [4 marks]
11. Using an example, explain how *recognition* can be used to retrieve memories. [3 marks]
12. Using an example, explain how *cued recall* can be used to retrieve memories. [3 marks]
13. Using an example, explain how *free recall* can be used to retrieve memories. [3 marks]
14. Name **two** things that can act as a cue to retrieving a memory. [2 marks]
15. Ezra finds that when he revises for his Psychology test, he remembers more information if he re-writes passages of the textbook into his own words as opposed to just staring at the textbook page or reading the page out loud.
A friend tests Ezra by asking him to recall what he learned the previous day. Ezra finds that he remembers most of the

information but not all of it. However, when he is given the opportunity to look at some key words from his notes he finds that he can remember the rest of the information.

- i. Identify the different ways in which Ezra learns. Refer to the different types of encoding in your answer. [3 marks]
- ii. Why couldn't Ezra remember all of his notes the following day? [2 marks]

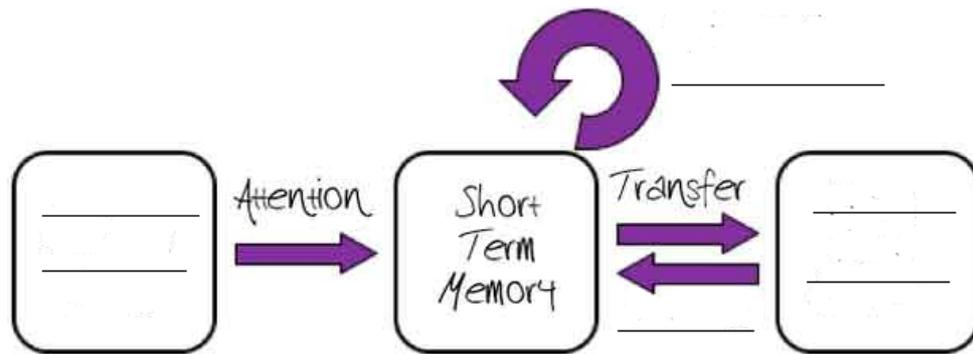
Long-Term Memory (LTM):

1. Using an example, explain what is meant by *episodic memory*. [3 marks]
2. Using an example, explain what is meant by *semantic memory*. [3 marks]
3. Using an example, explain what is meant by *procedural memory*. [3 marks]
4. Which one of these is a description of procedural memory? [1 mark]
 - i. Your memory for personal events.
 - ii. Your unconscious memory for skills.
 - iii. Your memory for knowledge and facts of the world.[1 mark]
5. Explain what is meant by the terms 'episodic memory', 'semantic memory' and 'procedural memory'. [6 marks]
6. Outline **one** criticism of research into different types of memory. [2 marks]
7. Outline **two** criticisms of research into different types of memory. [4 marks]

Structures of Memory

Multi-Store Model of Memory

1. Complete the diagram of the multi-store model with the missing key terms: [4 marks]



2. Identify **three** features of short-term memory (STM). Refer to encoding, capacity and duration in your answer. [3 marks]
3. Identify **three** features of long-term memory (LTM). Refer to encoding, capacity and duration in your answer. [3 marks]
4. How long can items be held in short-term memory without making an effort to rehearse them? [1 mark]
5. Is the short-term memory best described as a permanent store or a temporary store? Explain your answer. [1 mark + 2 marks]
6. How much information can long-term memory hold? [1 mark]
7. Explain how the multi-store model has increased our understanding of memory. [4 marks]
8. Explain **one** criticism of the multi-store model of memory/ [3 marks]
9. Outline and evaluate the multi-store model of memory. [9 marks]

Murdock's serial position curve study

1. Outline what is meant by the following terms;
 - i. Primacy effect
 - ii. Recency effect
 [4 marks]
2. Outline Murdock's serial position curve study. [4 marks]
3. Describe the method used in Murdock's serial position study. [2 marks]
4. Outline **two** results from Murdock's serial position study. [4 marks]

5. Outline **one** conclusion of Murdock's serial position study. [2 marks]
6. Explain **one** criticism of Murdock's serial position curve study. [3 marks]
7. Describe and evaluate Murdock's serial position curve study. [9 marks]
8. Briefly describe a possible experiment that could be run to demonstrate the primacy and recency effect. [3 marks]

9. You have been asked to conduct an experiment to investigate the effects of serial position when learning a list of words. Describe how you would conduct this experiment. In your answer, you need to include:
 - The experimental design you would choose, and why this would be suitable.
 - The task participants would be required to do and the data you would collect.
 - The results you would expect to find from your experiment. [6 marks]

Bartlett's war of the ghosts study:

1. Describe the method used by Bartlett in the War of the Ghosts study. [2 marks]
2. Outline **two** results from Bartlett in the War of the Ghosts study. [4 marks]
3. Outline **one** conclusion of Bartlett in the War of the Ghosts study. [2 marks]
4. Outline Bartlett in the War of the Ghosts study. [4 marks]
5. Explain **one** criticism of Bartlett in the War of the Ghosts study. [3 marks]
6. Researchers have criticised Bartlett's War of the Ghosts study because the story used was unusual. Outline one more other criticism of Bartlett's study. [3 marks]
7. Explain what Bartlett's War of the Ghosts study shows about memory being reconstructed. [3 marks]
8. Describe and evaluate Bartlett's War of the Ghosts study. [9 marks]

The Theory of Reconstructive Memory

1. Explain what is meant by *reconstructive memory*. [2 marks]
 2. Explain how effort after meaning can be used to explain how people reconstruct their memories. [3 marks]
 3. Explain how social and cultural influences can affect memory. [4 marks]
 4. Outline **two** criticisms of the theory of reconstructive memory. [4 marks]
 5. Outline and describe the theory of reconstructive memory. [9 marks]
6. Ann and Martyn were at the bank when a person attempted to rob it. Later, when they were at the police station, they gave different accounts of the incident. Ann said the incident happened in a different order than Martyn recalled. She also remembered the robber wearing different clothes and saying different things to the people at the bank than Martyn recalled.
- Use your knowledge of the theory of reconstructive memory to explain why Ann and Martyn have different memories of the same event. [6 marks]

Accuracy of Memory

Interference

1. Explain what is meant by *interference*. [2 marks]
2. Explain how interference can be used to explain accuracy in memory. [4 marks]
3. Explain **one** criticism of studies into interference. [3 marks]
4. Explain why interference studies may lack validity. [3 marks]
5. Describe and evaluate a study that investigated how interference affects the accuracy of memory. [6 marks]
6. A teacher struggles to remember the names of her new students because she has taught so many students before. Use your knowledge of psychology to explain why this would occur. [3 marks]

Context

1. Explain what is meant by *context*. [2 marks]
2. Explain how context can be used to explain accuracy in memory. [4 marks]
3. Describe and evaluate a study that investigated how context affects the accuracy of memory. [6 marks]

4. A teacher has two history classes. She decides to do an experiment where she takes one of her classes into the exam hall to revise for their end of year exam and she revises in the classroom with her other class. She finds that the class she takes to the exam hall to revise do better in their exam than the class she revises with in their classroom.
Explain how being able to recall information can be affected by context. Refer to the example above in your answer. [4 marks]

5. Imagine that you are a psychologist and you are interested to see if changing the context of learning and recall affects a person's memory. Use your knowledge of psychology to describe:
 - How the study would be carried out.
 - How you would measure the effect of changing the context.
 - The results that you would expect to find in line with the results of past research into context. [5 marks]

False Memories

1. Explain what is meant by *false memories*. [2 marks]
2. Explain how false memories can be used to explain accuracy in memory. [4 marks]
3. Describe the results and conclusion of one study that investigated false memory. [4 marks]

4. Outline **one** criticism of research into how false memory affects the accuracy of memory. [3 marks]
5. Mark, a full-time clothes model, was arrested for stealing a woman's handbag from a café. The victim, called Debbie, identified him as stealing her handbag and picked him out from a line-up.

He had an alibi and couldn't have done it as he was out of the country working. The victim admitted she had seen a picture of Mark in a magazine she was reading before her handbag was stolen.

Outline what is meant by 'false memory' and how it affected the accuracy of Debbie's memory of the theft of her handbag. [4 marks]