

Psychological Disorders Review Questions

1. This researcher sent pseudo-patients to gain

- admittance to institutions with a phony symptom.
- A. Aaron Beck
- B. David Rosenhan
- C. Thomas Szasz
- D. Robert Hare
- E. Kay Redfield Jamison

2. During a manic episode, Charles described his diet, business plans, political aspirations, & several new hobbies in only a few minutes. This is referred to as:

- A. word salad
- B. mixed states
- C. aphasia
- D. alogia
- E. flight of ideas

3. High impulsivity and instability of

- relationships & self-image is characteristic of:
- A. antisocial personality disorder
- B. borderline personality disorder
- C. schizotypal personality disorder
- D. histrionic personality disorder
- E. psychopathy

4. Susan hasn't left her apartment for several weeks and fears something terrible will happen if she does. This is most characteristic of:

- A. specific phobia
- B. generalized anxiety disorder
- C. agoraphobia
- D. separation anxiety
- E. adjustment disorder

5. Erika is very worried that she has developed a brain tumor, despite negative diagnostic scans and a lack of symptoms. According to the DSM-5,

Erika is likely suffering from:

A. somatic symptom disorder

B. hypochondriasis

- C. conversion disorder
- D. illness anxiety disorder
- E. dissociative identity disorder

- 6. Which of the following is a negative symptom
- of schizophrenia?
- A. catatonia
- B. auditory hallucinations
- C. anhedonia
- D. disorganized speech
- E. delusions of persecution

7. This suggests mental illnesses result from a combination of genetic predisposition & environmental factors:

- A. the medical model
- B. the axial system
- C. the eclectic approach
- D. the diathesis-stress model
- E. the chemical imbalance model

8. Regarding symptoms of depression or anxiety as resulting from "nerve weakness" could be an example of:

- A. avolition
- B. comorbidity
- C. labeling
- D. a cultural explanation of distress
- E. stigmatization

9. Kessler (2005) estimated that 7-12% of men & 20-25% of women will suffer from depression at some point, known as the:

- A. lifetime prevalence
- B. preparedness theory
- C. comorbidity
- D. point prevalence
- E. incidence

10. Jane shows a fear of gaining weight and a belief she is fat despite a BMI of 15. She rarely eats and occasionally attempts to vomit following food intake. Jane would likely be diagnosed with: A. binge-eating disorder

- B. bulimia nervosa
- C. pica
- D. body dysmorphic disorder
- E. anorexia nervosa



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1. B - David Rosenhan

In a controversial study, Rosenhan sent pseuodopatients claiming to hear a voice saying "thud" or "empty" to institutions, with nearly all being admitted with a diagnosis of schizophrenia.

2. E - flight of ideas

Flight of ideas is a common symptom of a manic episode, in which the sufferer is very talkative and rapidly changes topics, making conversation difficult to follow.

3. B - borderline personality disorder

Borderline personality disorder falls under Cluster B for dramatic, emotional, or erratic personalities, and involves potentially self-damaging impulsive behaviors & relationships that rapidly shift from idealizing to devaluing others.

4. C - agoraphobia

Agoraphobia is characterized by an intense fear of public spaces where escape may be difficult (transportation, parking lots, malls, theaters, crowds), causing the sufferer to actively avoid these environments.

5. D - illness anxiety disorder

Illness anxiety disorder refers to excessive worry or anxiety about an illness in the absence of related somatic symptoms.

6. C - anhedonia

Negative symptoms refers to behaviors common in healthy people but absent in sufferers (while positive symptoms are present in sufferers but absent in healthy people). Anhedonia refers to a decreased ability to experience pleasure and can occur in sufferers of schizophrenia.

7. D - the diathesis-stress model

The diathesis-stress model is a way of conceptualizing the occurrence of mental illness as a genetic predisposition (diathesis) combining with environmental experiences (stress) to reach a hypothetical threshold for a disorder.

8. D - cultural explanation of distress

神经衰弱 or "nerve weakness" in China is a way of interpreting the cause of some symptoms in a manner that fits with traditional Chinese medicine and would be an example of a cultural explanation of distress.

9. A - lifetime prevalence

Lifetime prevalence estimates the percentage of the population that will suffer from a disorder at some point over the course of their lives. Point prevalence refers to the % suffering over a given time period (often 12-months) and incidence refers to the # of new cases in a given time period.

10. E - anorexia nervosa

Jane's severely low body-mass index (kg/m²)would warrant a diagnosis of anorexia nervosa; with her purging suggesting the bingeeating/purging subtype (though she doesn't engage in binge-eating).