

# **Stress & Health Review Questions**

1. When John got a raise at work he felt a brief surge in well-being, but soon he felt about the same as before, supporting the concept of:

A. post-traumatic growth

- B. downward comparison
- C. the faith factor
- D. the hedonic treadmill
- E. social capital

2. This type of immune cell is able to engulf and then digest pathogens:

- A. T-cell
- B. macrophage
- C. natural killer cell
- D. Schwann cell
- E. B-cell
- 3. The HPA axis refers to the:
- A. hippocampus, pineal gland, amygdala
- B. hippocampus, putamen, appendix
- C. hardiness, persistence, appraisal
- D. hypothalamus, pancreas, arteries
- E. hypothalamus, pituitary, adrenal glands

4. The idea that the body must constantly

- anticipate and adapt energy use based on context is known as:
- A. psychoneuroimmunology
- B. homeostasis
- C. allostasis
- D. biofeedback
- E. reappraisal

5. Meyer Friedman & Ray Rosenman suggested that this trait was associated with greater risk of heart disease:

- A. Type A behavior pattern
- B. Type B behavior pattern
- C. commitment
- D. resilience
- E. hardiness

6. The pattern of adopting an external locus of control for our failures and an internal locus of control for our successes is known as:

- A. John Henryism
- B. self-serving bias
- C. illusory superiority
- D. Dunning-Kruger effect
- E. self-efficacy

7. This researcher drank a petri dish of Helicobacter Pylori bacteria in order to show it was a cause of the gastritis that leads to peptic ulcers:

- A. Susanne Kobasa
- B. Martin Seligman
- C. Barry Marshall
- D. Hans Selye
- E. Walter Cannon

8. Research has suggested a link between PTSD and:

- A. smaller adrenal glands
- B. larger hippocampal volume
- C. smaller hippocampal volume
- D. an enlarged thymus
- E. enlarged ventricles

9. Dogs given repeated unavoidable electric shocks later showed passivity in the face of shocks that they could escape, known as:

- A. invisible support
- B. learned helplessness
- C. transference
  - D. relative deprivation
  - E. learned optimism

10. Learning to control one's breathing and relax in the face of a stressor would be a way of applying:

- A. problem-focused coping
- B. appraisal-focused coping
- C. avoidance coping
- D. emotion-focused coping
- E. copium



## **Stress & Health Review Questions**

#### 1. D - hedonic treadmill

The *hedonic treadmill* or *adaptation-level phenomenon* refers to our continual adjustment to new positive experiences. New possessions or increases in income can boost happiness, but generally this increase is short-lived.

## 2. B - macrophage

*Macrophages* (Gr. "big eater") are *lymphocytes* which can surround and digest cells recognized as pathogens, a process known as *phagocytosis* 

## 3. E - hypothalamus, pituitary, adrenal glands

The *HPA-axis* is activated in a stress response and refers to the **hypothalamus** releasing *corticotropin-releasing hormone*, which causes the **pituitary** to release *adrenocorticotropic hormone*, which signals the **adrenal glands** to release catecholamines & glucocorticoids.

#### 4. C - allostasis

Allostasis (Gr."variable state") is the idea that the optimal state of functioning is constantly shifting depending on the situation and the body must constantly adjust across a broad range in order to maintain constant functioning.

#### 5. A - Type A behavior pattern

*Friedman & Rosenman* found that a pattern of ambition, competitiveness, time urgency, & hostility (which they labeled *Type A*) was associated with an increased incidence of heart disease compared to a laid-back *Type B pattern*.

#### 6. B - self-serving bias

*Self-serving bias* refers to a tendency to blame external forces for failures and take personal credit for successes and may help us to feel good about ourselves and maintain motivation.

#### 7. C - Barry Marshall

Robin Warren & Barry Marshall were awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 2005 for their 1982 research identifying a bacterial cause for *gastritis*, though stress still plays a role in the severity of symptoms and progression of peptic ulcers.

#### 8. A - smaller hippocampal volume

Research by *Mark Gilbertson et al* (2002) and *Douglas Bremner et al* (1995) suggests that smaller hippocampal volume may be a risk factor as well as a consequence of PTSD.

#### 9. B - learned helplessness

*Martin Seligman* & *Steven Maier* found that dogs given unavoidable shocks learned to be helpless and they later passively endured shocks that could be escaped, a pattern that has been replicated in other animals & humans and has implications for the role of perceived control in disorders like depression.

#### 10. D - emotion-focused coping

*Emotion-focused coping* refers to managing stress by focusing on emotional responses, rather than the stressor itself. One way this can be done is by learning to calm physiological reactions to stress.