

# UNIT 7B: COGNITION – PROGRESS TEST 1

## MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

- The text defines cognition as:
  - silent speech
  - all mental activity
  - mental activity associated with processing, understanding, remembering, and communicating information
  - logical reasoning
- A mental grouping of similar things, events, or people is called a(n):
  - prototype
  - concept
  - algorithm
  - heuristic
- When forming a concept, people often develop a best example, or \_\_\_\_\_, of a category.
  - denoter
  - heuristic
  - prototype
  - algorithm
- Confirmation bias refers to the tendency to:
  - allow preexisting beliefs to distort logical reasoning.
  - cling to one's initial conceptions after the basis on which they were formed has been discredited.
  - search randomly through alternative solutions when problem solving.
  - look for information that is consistent with one's beliefs.
- The English language has approximately \_\_\_\_\_ phonemes.
  - 25
  - 30
  - 40
  - 45
- Which of the following is *not* true of babbling?
  - It is imitation of adult speech.
  - It is the same in all cultures.
  - It typically occurs from about age 4 months to 1 year.
  - Babbling increasingly comes to resemble a particular language.
- Mental set and functional fixedness are two types of:
  - algorithms
  - heuristics
  - fixation
  - insight
- Whorf's linguistic determinism hypothesis states that:
  - language is primarily a learned ability.
  - language is partially an innate ability.
  - the size of a person's vocabulary reflects his or her intelligence.
  - our language shapes our thinking.
- Which of the following *best* describes Chomsky's view of language development?
  - Language is an entirely learned ability.
  - Language is an innate ability.
  - Humans have a biological predisposition to acquire language.
  - There are no cultural influences on the development of language.
- Failing to solve a problem that requires using an object in an unusual way illustrates the phenomenon of:
  - mental set.
  - functional fixedness.
  - framing.
  - belief perseverance.
- Which of the following is an example of the use of heuristics?
  - trying every possible letter ordering when unscrambling a word
  - considering each possible move when playing chess
  - using the formula "area = length x width" to find the area of a rectangle
  - playing chess using a defensive strategy that has often been successful for you
- The chimpanzee Sultan used a short stick to pull a longer stick that was out of reach into his cage. He then used the longer stick to reach a piece of fruit. Researchers hypothesize that Sultan's discovery of the solution to his problem was the result of:
  - trial and error
  - heuristics
  - functional fixedness
  - insight

13. You hear that one of the Smith children is an outstanding Little League player and immediately conclude it's their one son rather than any of their four daughters. You reached your quite possibly erroneous conclusion as the result of:

- a. the confirmation bias.
- b. the availability heuristic.
- c. the representativeness heuristic.
- d. belief perseverance.

14. Deaf children who are not exposed to sign language until they are teenagers:

- a. are unable to master the basic words of sign language.
- b. learn the basic words but not how to order them.
- c. are unable to master either the basic words or syntax of sign language.
- d. never become as fluent as those who learned to sign at a younger age.

15. According to the text, language acquisition is best described as:

- a. the result of conditioning and reinforcement.
- b. a biological process of maturation.
- c. an interaction between biology and experience.
- d. a mystery of which researchers have no real understanding.

16. Infants as young as 6 months old display a remarkable ability to learn statistical aspects of speech. Specifically, research studies have shown that they:

- a. are quickly able to recognize syllable sequences that appear repeatedly.
- b. respond to changes in the pitch of a speaker's voice.
- c. pay less attention to a same-gender voice.
- d. do all of the above.

17. The linguistic determinism hypothesis is challenged by the finding that:

- a. chimps can learn to communicate spontaneously by using sign language.
- b. people with no word for a certain color can still perceive that color accurately.
- c. the Eskimo language contains a number of words for snow, whereas English only has one.
- d. infants' babbling contains many phonemes that do not occur in their own language and that they therefore cannot have heard.

## **MATCHING**

\_\_\_\_\_1. the basic units of sound in a language

\_\_\_\_\_2. the way an issue or question is posed

\_\_\_\_\_3. rules for combining words into sentences

\_\_\_\_\_4. the rules by which meaning is derived from sentences

\_\_\_\_\_5. presuming that something is likely if it comes readily to mind

\_\_\_\_\_6. the tendency to overestimate the accuracy of one's judgments

\_\_\_\_\_7. being unable to see a problem from a different angle

\_\_\_\_\_8. haphazard problem solving by trying one solution after another

\_\_\_\_\_9. the sudden realization of the solution to a problem

\_\_\_\_\_10. the tendency to repeat problem-solving techniques that worked in the past even though a fresh approach may be more appropriate

\_\_\_\_\_11. the basic units of meaning in a language

- a. syntax
- b. morphemes
- c. mental set
- d. trial and error
- e. availability heuristic
- f. phonemes
- g. semantics
- h. insight
- i. framing
- j. overconfidence
- k. fixation