

2006 AP PSYCHOLOGY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

PSYCHOLOGY

SECTION II

Time - 50 minutes

Percent of total grade - 33 1/3

Directions: You have 50 minutes to answer BOTH of the following questions. It is not enough to answer a question by merely listing facts. You should present a cogent argument based on your critical analysis of the questions posed, using appropriate psychological terminology.

1. Psychologists use a variety of research methods to study behavior. Three of the main research methods used are
 - Case study
 - Correlational study, and
 - Experiment
 - A. Discuss one advantage of each research method listed above.
 - B. Discuss one disadvantage of each research method listed above.

Pretend you are a psychologist who will use each of the three research methods - case study, correlational study, and experiment - to determine the effect of taking vitamin J on improving memory.

- C. For each method listed above, explain a key characteristic of the basic approach you could use to reach a scientific conclusion about the relationship between taking vitamin J and improving memory. You need not design a complete study.