AP Psychology – Chapter 9 Essay Questions

1. According to the authors of your textbook, what is consciousness and what is believed to be the purpose or function of consciousness?

2. Discuss Freud's view of consciousness.

3. Why do we have consciousness? What are the functions of consciousness?

4. What is the main difference between the Psychodynamic and Cognitive viewpoints on the issues of consciousness?

5. Some psychologists (and many biologists) argue that, to understand behavior, we have to understand the nervous system. What evidence is there that consciousness is related to the operations of the nervous system?

6. Describe a night's sleep in terms of EEG stages.

7. Why do we dream?

8. For fun, a student of mine decides to hypnotize people he knows. What does it mean to hypnotize someone? What evidence is there that hypnosis is real?

9. The authors of your textbook discuss a number of psychoactive substances. First, define psychoactive substance. Second, identify each of the three different types of psychoactive substances, provide at least one example of each, and briefly show the primary effect each has on mental activity.

10. I am sure you know many people who think illegal drugs are not all that bad. In what way(s), could LSD, marijuana, and alcohol alter your psychological state in a bad way?