AP Psychology – Chapter 10 Essay Questions

1. What does the psychodynamic perspective have to say about motivation? Explain your answer from Freud's perspective as well as from the neo-Freudian perspective. Also, how do psychodynamicists study motivation?

2. What is the difference between conscious and unconscious motives? How might they differentially influence behavior?

3. Discuss the behaviorist perspective regarding motivation, including an explanation of primary and secondary drives and of drive reduction theory.

4. What did Maslow mean when he discussed a “hierarchy of needs?” List all of the needs that comprise the hierarchy. Lastly, explain the relation of his theory to that of ERG theory.

5. What are the 6 steps to achieve maximum job performance, according to the cognitive perspective?

6. Discuss and provide examples of the biological, environmental, and psychological factors involved in causing obesity. Start with a definition of obesity.

7. It seems that there are many differences between men and women. Is this true in terms of sex? Answer that question by starting with a description of the sexual response cycle. Are men and women really that different sexually?

8. All too often I hear that sexual orientation is a matter of choice. What evidence is there to prove that sexual orientation is biologically constrained?

9. Motivation is believed to be based on needs. Do you think you have a greater need for agency and relatedness? Define those two terms first. Following that, pick one and present the relevant terms associated with your need. Be clear in your answer.


11. What are the three areas of the brain that seem most important for emotional processing? Describe the function of each of the three areas.