

14. You were told that Taylor is an engineer and Alex is a kindergarten teacher. When you meet your new neighbors for the first time, you assume that Alex is the wife and Taylor is the husband, rather than the actual situation—Alex is the husband and Taylor is the wife. What does this situation illustrate?
- A. Availability bias
  - B. Confirmation bias
  - C. Representativeness bias
  - D. Anchoring bias
  - E. Problems with working memory
15. After a plane crashes, airlines notice a drop in reservation rates because people overestimate the frequency of these disasters. What does this illustrate?
- A. Availability bias
  - B. Confirmation bias
  - C. Representativeness bias
  - D. Anchoring bias
  - E. Social schemas

### **Sample Free Response Question**

*Respond to the following question using proper psychological terminology. Remember to define the selected terms and support your answer by referencing it to the situation posed.*

Marcy has just moved into her new college dorm. She is making adjustments moving to a new place and meeting new friends. Define each of the following terms and explain how each could apply to Marcy's new situation.

- a) Chunking
- b) Episodic memory
- c) Retroactive interference
- d) Prototype
- e) Representativeness bias

### **Sample Question Answers**

#### **Multiple Choice Answers**

1. C is the correct answer. The three stages of the Atkinson-Shiffron model are sensory memory, working (STM) memory, and long-term memory (LTM).
2. D is the correct answer. Episodic memory is long term memory for personal events.
3. D is the correct answer. According to the serial position effect we are most likely to forget non-novel items in the middle of a list.

4. C is the correct answer. Information is transferred from STM to LTM through rehearsal.
5. C is the correct answer. The hippocampus is the brain structure most associated with transferring memory from STM into LTM.
6. C is the correct answer. The innateness theory of language describes the LAD as the language acquisition mechanism for children as they develop.
7. A is the correct answer. Overgeneralization is applying a grammatical rule too widely which results in creating an incorrect form of the word.
8. A is the correct answer. The babbling stage is the foundation for language when young babies make almost all of the sounds heard in every language.
9. A is the correct answer. A recipe is an example of an algorithm as it is a foolproof step by step plan to get the correct desired outcome when followed properly.
10. C is the correct answer. Heuristics are mental shortcuts.
11. C is the correct answer. "Un" has meaning, "tie" has meaning, and "d" has meaning. Morphemes are meaningful units of the word "untied."
12. A is the correct answer. A rose is a best example of the concept of flower.
13. A is the correct answer. Functional fixedness is not being able to think about an object in a way that is different from how the object was intended to be used.
14. C is the correct answer. Your experience with kindergarten teachers is most likely with someone who is female.
15. A is the correct answer. The availability bias is misinformation based on facts that can be the most easily recalled.

#### Free Response Answer

This question would be scored using a rubric. The question has the following points:

*Terms- 5 points*

*Applications-5 point each*

1. Chunking is taking large pieces of information and breaking down that information into smaller units for storage in STM.
2. An example of this could be Marcy's student ID number – if it is 1123456, Marcy could remember 112-34-56.

3. Episodic memory is a type of LTM (declarative) that involves personal events and experiences.
4. Marcy may see a fellow student in the dorm who looks like her cousin.
5. Retroactive interference occurs when new information interferes with previously learned material.
6. This may happen to Marcy when she is trying to remember her new dorm address and can only remember her home address.
7. A prototype is a best example of a concept.
8. Marcy may be enrolled in Introduction to Psychology, a prototype of an introductory collegiate course.
9. Representativeness bias is a faulty heuristic strategy in which once something is categorized, it then shares all of the features of other members in that category
10. Marcy may see an older person wearing a suit and glasses and assume it is her professor, rather than a classmate.