

PSYCHOLOGY
COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION
2020

2020 Questions

(Select **ONE** from the following three questions)

1. Nature versus nurture is a classic controversy in Psychology. Is our behavior determined more by what we are born with or more by our lived experience? Update your readers on this controversy by tracing current research on the forefront of this debate. Using three areas of Psychology, discuss how, in large or small ways, the controversy is still alive.
2. Psychologists have been studying learning and memory for decades, if not centuries. And yet, in educational systems, where such findings have an obvious utility, psychological principles that could improve learning and memory are either not used or they are applied ineffectively. Using evidence from at least three different areas of psychology, describe how college professors could employ psychological principles to help their students learn and demonstrate their knowledge/skills more effectively.
3. Currently in the United States, racist attitudes and racial discrimination go against prevailing cultural norms and are primarily viewed as inappropriate. And yet, racism and individual and social harms related to racism remain pervasive. Using evidence from at least three areas of psychology, explain why racism and its hardships persist.

List of AREAS of PSYCHOLOGY for Comps

(Select **THREE**)

abnormal behavior
cognitive psychology
community psychology
developmental psychology
diversity of human behavior (including race, ethnicity, gender & sexual behavior)
health psychology
industrial/organizational psychology
neuroscience
personality psychology
positive psychology
social psychology