Willy Mora

1.) Why is the story of Hans the Wonder horse important?

Hans the Wonder Horse was considered to be the world's most intelligent horse in the early 1900's. He was able to count, add, and remember. The goal of the scientist who worked with Hans was to prove that animals could prove to be intelligent beings if they were taught.

2.) How did animal psychology influence the development of Behaviorism?

Psychologists hoped to find through researching animals, similarities between the behavior of animals and humans.

3.) Why was the work of Ivan Pavlov (1849-1936) so important to the development of psychology?

He was able to demonstrate that learning and responses could be conditioned through associations.

4.) What did John Watson (1878-1958) believe should be the subject matter of behaviorism?

He believed that objective and observable behavior should be the subject matter of behaviorism.

5.) What were Watson's beliefs about thought processes?

Watson believed that thinking had no physical point of reference, and could therefore not be observed objectively. He did believe however that talking to oneself silently could be viewed as thinking.

6.) What were the elements of Tolman's purposive behaviorism?

Tolman saw behavior as being goal-oriented. He felt that organisms behaved and learned in order to reach a goal. He saw environmental stimuli, physiological drives, heredity, previous training, and age as causes of behavior.

7.) How was Skinner's (1904-1990) behaviorism similar to Watson's behaviorism?

Skinner's behaviorism was very objective. It focused only on what could be observed from the outside. It became known as an "empty organism" approach, because it did not make any assumptions on what might be causing an organism's behavior other than what could be observed from the outside.

8.) How did Skinner's behaviorism differ from Pavlovian conditioning?

In Skinner's behaviorism, the organism learns a behavior because of the reward that it produces. In Pavlov's experiment, the behavior occurred as a result of direct stimulus that the experimenter used to condition a response in the animal.

9.) What did Bandura's (1925-) social cognitive theory focus on?

It focuses on the influence of the external environment, social relationships, and cognitive processes. He believed that before a person responded, they thought about the action that they would take.

10.) What does it mean to have high self-efficacy and what does it mean to have low self-efficacy? How does that affect how we interact with others and live our lives?

Self-efficacy refers to our confidence in our own ability to achieve a certain task. A higher level of self-efficacy has been associated with better grades, better job success, and better mental health.