

1.1 Levels of explanation and evidence: supported rehearsal

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 6 marks

Objective

Supported preparation: Link a psychological explanation to research evidence; Distinguish association, causation and levels of explanation. This is original rehearsal, not completion of the assessed task.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

Biological explanations concern physiological processes; cognitive explanations concern processing; sociocultural explanations concern social context. They may interact. A study needs a bounded claim, method, sample, measure and limits; an approach label is not evidence.

Original source / task evidence

Task: fictional sleep duration correlates with recall. Explain a cognitive hypothesis, a competing factor and a better comparison.

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
Levels of explanation and evidence

Task: fictional sleep duration correlates with recall. Explain a cognitive hypothesis, a competing factor and a better comparison.

Sleep may relate to encoding or retrieval, while stress or study time could influence both. Correlation alone cannot establish direction or mechanism. An ethically approved design with controlled task conditions and appropriate allocation can improve inference, but sample and task still limit transfer.

2 Practice

2.1 For the worked case, identify the evidence and a conclusion it can support. Explain one material limit. [3]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A region is active during recall. Does this show it alone stores the memory? Give a reasoned answer, evidence or method, and a relevant qualification. [3]

Solutions

2.1 Sleep may relate to encoding or retrieval, while stress or study time could influence both. Correlation alone cannot establish direction or mechanism. An ethically approved design with controlled task conditions and appropriate allocation can improve inference, but sample and task still limit transfer. Authored points for identifying relevant evidence, explaining a supported inference and a material limit.

3.1 Activity is associated with the task under the measurement conditions. Other regions and processes may contribute, and activity may accompany retrieval rather than exclusively store memory. Converging methods and suitable comparisons can refine the claim, but the scan alone cannot establish exclusive function. Authored points for a relevant judgement, reason tied to the case and justified qualification or method. Accept a supported alternative.