

A.P. Psychology

Free-Response Questions (FRQs)

Instructions:

The A.P. Psychology exam will contain *two Free-Response Questions (FRQs)*, to which you will be allotted *50 minutes* to respond (approximately 25 minutes each).

How to Approach FRQs:

- Identify the number of “points” that you think the question is worth. Usually, each aspect of the question is worth one “point.” Questions may range from approximately 4-12 points. Each “point” is usually (but not exclusively) identified by a “bullet.”
- Before responding to your FRQ, take brief pre-writing notes to organize your thoughts, and devise a strategy to best answer the question.
- Be direct. As you will be given a limited amount of time on the A.P. Test (50 minutes for two FRQs), you will need to practice answering all aspects of the question in a concise, timely manner. Avoid an introduction and conclusion, as this is not necessary. Simply, answer the questions at hand, in detail.
- Provide as much relevant detail as you are able to in your responses. Include names of psychological figures, concepts, terms, methods, theories, and examples, where applicable. If you provide ample accurate detail you to explain each part of the question, you are more likely to earn a point.
 - If you think you are unable to fully answer any part of a question, try to answer as much as you can. Do not give up on any part of a question. Try your best, and include as much about the topic as you are able to.
- Avoid abbreviations. If you feel that you need to abbreviate, first write the complete word, followed by an abbreviation (e.g. Independent Variable [IV]). Continue to use the abbreviation for the rest of your response.
- Write neatly. If you, or others, do not consider your handwriting neat or legible, practice better handwriting. Not only does neat handwriting project confidence in your writing, but the A.P. scorer is more likely to award you points if he/she is easily able to understand what you are communicating.
- Underline each “point” as you respond to each aspect of the question. While this is not required, this also makes it easier for the A.P. scorer to understand what you are communicating.