

Holism and Reductionism – Questions by Topic (MCQ)

Q1.

Cultural relativism, ethnocentrism, holism and universality are four concepts relevant to issues and debates in psychology.

Definition
A Appreciating that behaviour varies between cultures
B Believing that some behaviours are the same for all cultures
C Considering all aspects of experience, including culture
D Emphasising the importance of the behaviour of one's own culture
E Understanding that whole cultures have the same experience

Look at the table above.

- Which definition (**A-E**) best describes cultural relativism?
- Which definition (**A-E**) best describes ethnocentrism?
- Which definition (**A-E**) best describes holism?
- Which definition (**A-E**) best describes universality?

In your answer book, list the four concepts and write the appropriate letter (A-E) next to each one. A letter may only be used once.

(Total 4 marks)

Q2.

Which of the following best describes a reductionist approach in psychology?
Write **A**, **B**, **C**, or **D** in your answer book.

- A** Explaining behaviour in a complicated way in terms of complex mechanisms.
- B** Explaining behaviour in a simple way in terms of basic units.
- C** Explaining behaviour in one way and ignoring all other explanations.
- D** Explaining behaviour in several different ways at the same time.

(Total 1 mark)