

► *Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions from 1 to 10.*

Learning means acquiring knowledge or developing the ability to perform new behaviors. It is common to think of learning as something that takes place in school, but much of human learning occurs outside the classroom, and people continue to learn throughout their lives.

Even before they enter school, young children learn to walk, to talk, and to use their hands to manipulate toys, food, and other objects. They use all of their senses to learn about the sights, sounds, tastes, and smells in their environments. They learn how to interact with their parents, siblings, friends, and other people important to their world. When they enter school, children learn basic academic subjects such as reading, writing, and mathematics. They also continue to learn a great deal outside the classroom. They learn which behaviors are likely to be rewarded and which are likely to be punished. They learn social skills for interacting with other children. After they finish school, people must learn to adapt to the many major changes that affect their lives, such as getting married, raising children, and finding and keeping a job.

Because learning continues throughout our lives and affects almost everything we do, the study of learning is important in many different fields. Teachers need to understand the best ways to educate children. Psychologists, social workers, criminologists, and other human-service workers need to understand how certain experiences change people's behaviors. Employers, politicians, and advertisers make use of the principles of learning to influence the behavior of workers, voters, and consumers.

Learning is closely related to memory, which is the storage of information in the brain. Psychologists who study memory are interested in how the brain stores knowledge, where this storage takes place, and how the brain later retrieves knowledge when we need it. In contrast, psychologists who study learning are more interested in behavior and how behavior changes as a result of a person's experiences.

There are many forms of learning, ranging from simple to complex. Simple forms of learning involve a single stimulus. A stimulus is anything perceptible to the senses, such as a sight, sound, smell, touch, or taste. In a form of learning known as classical conditioning, people learn to associate two stimuli that occur in sequence, such as lightning followed by thunder. In operant conditioning, people learn by forming an association between a behavior and its consequences (reward or punishment). People and animals can also learn by observation - that is, by watching others perform behaviors. More complex forms of learning include learning languages, concepts, and motor skills.

(Đề thi tuyển sinh đại học năm 2012)

**Question 1:** According to the passage, which of the following is learning in broad view comprised of?

- A. Acquisition of social and behavioural skills
- B. Knowledge acquisition and ability development
- C. Acquisition of academic knowledge
- D. Knowledge acquisition outside the classroom

**Question 2:** According to the passage, what are children NOT usually taught outside the classroom?

- A. literacy and calculation
- B. life skills
- C. interpersonal communication
- D. right from wrong

**Question 3:** Getting married, raising children, and finding and keeping a job are mentioned in paragraph 2 as examples of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the situations in which people cannot teach themselves
- B. the areas of learning which affect people's lives
- C. the changes to which people have to orient themselves
- D. the ways people's lives are influenced by education

**Question 4:** Which of the following can be inferred about the learning process from the passage?

- A. It is more interesting and effective in school than that in life.
- B. It becomes less challenging and complicated when people grow older.
- C. It plays a crucial part in improving the learner's motivation in school.
- D. It takes place more frequently in real life than in academic institutions.

**Question 5:** According to the passage, the study of learning is important in many fields due to \_\_\_\_\_ :

- A. the great influence of the on-going learning process
- B. the influence of various behaviours in the learning process
- C. the exploration of the best teaching methods
- D. the need for certain experiences in various areas

**Question 6:** It can be inferred from the passage that social workers, employers, and politicians concern themselves with the study of learning because they need to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. change the behaviours of the objects of their interest towards learning
- B. make the objects of their interest more aware of the importance of learning
- C. understand how a stimulus relates to the senses of the objects of their interest
- D. thoroughly understand the behaviours of the objects of their interest

**Question 7:** The word "retrieves" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. generates      B. recovers      C. creates      D. gains

**Question 8:** Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the passage?

- A. Psychologists studying memory are concerned with how the stored knowledge is used.
- B. Psychologists studying memory are concerned with the brain's storage of knowledge.
- C. Psychologists are all interested in memory as much as behaviours.
- D. Psychologists studying learning are interested in human behaviours.

**Question 9:** According to the passage, the stimulus in simple forms of learning \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. makes associations between behaviours      B. is created by the senses
- C. is associated with natural phenomena      D. bears relation to perception

**Question 10:** The passage mainly discusses \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. simple forms of learning
- B. practical examples of learning inside the classroom
- C. application of learning principles to formal education
- D. general principles of learning