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VIDEO GUIDE · UNIT 1 · TOPIC 1.1

The Evolutionary Perspective

Watch the lesson

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

NOTES: FILL IN THE BLANKS WHILE YOU WATCH

Natural selection

1. The _____ explains behavior by how natural selection shaped traits that helped our ancestors survive and reproduce.
2. In _____, individuals vary, and inherited variations that help survival or reproduction are passed on more often, becoming more common over generations.
3. Traits that increased survival and _____ become more common only if they have a genetic component (e.g., a tendency to quickly detect danger).

A historical warning

4. _____ applied flawed ideas about inherited traits to justify discrimination and forced sterilization; unlike natural selection, which happens on its own over generations, it was people deciding who should reproduce. Modern psychology rejects it.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

1. A psychologist proposes that people spot angry faces in a crowd faster than happy ones because ancestors who quickly detected threats from others were more likely to survive and reproduce. This explanation reflects which perspective?

(A) Behavioral

(B) Cognitive

(C) Evolutionary

(D) Psychodynamic

2. A student says, "Eugenics was just natural selection applied to humans." Which response is most accurate?

(A) Correct: both are natural processes that happen on their own over generations

(B) Incorrect: natural selection happens on its own, while eugenics was people deciding who should reproduce based on flawed ideas

(C) Correct: modern psychology supports eugenics as an application of evolution

(D) Incorrect: natural selection involves scientists choosing traits, while eugenics did not

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3. In an animal population, some individuals tend to freeze when a predator is near, which helps them avoid being seen. What else must be true for this tendency to become more common over many generations?

(A) Individuals must learn to freeze by watching others

(B) Scientists must breed the animals that freeze

(C) Every individual must freeze equally often

(D) The tendency must be inherited, so it can be passed to offspring

NOTES

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