

Psych CE

Introduction to Forensic Psychology

1. What is the primary purpose of a forensic evaluation?

- A. To answer a legally defined referral question
 - B. To provide ongoing psychotherapy
 - C. To advocate for the defendant
 - D. To establish guilt or innocence
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2. In child custody evaluations, the primary legal standard is typically:

- A. Parental preference
 - B. Financial stability only
 - C. Past criminal history
 - D. Best interests of the child
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3. Which best defines forensic psychology?

- A. Application of psychological science to legal questions
 - B. Provision of therapy in prisons only
 - C. Criminal profiling as primary practice
 - D. Law enforcement investigation training
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4. Structured professional judgment tools are primarily used for:

- A. IQ assessment
 - B. Personality diagnosis only
 - C. Violence risk assessment
 - D. Career counseling
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5. Which is essential in forensic report writing?

- A. Clear linkage between findings and legal criteria
 - B. Use of clinical jargon without explanation
 - C. Omission of conflicting data
 - D. Advocacy language supporting retaining party
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6. Assessment of intellectual disability in forensic contexts requires evaluation of:

- A. IQ score only

- B. Criminal history
 - C. Educational attainment
 - D. Intellectual and adaptive functioning
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7. Which is a key responsibility under the APA Ethics Code?

- A. Practicing within one's boundaries of competence
 - B. Guaranteeing client outcomes
 - C. Providing testimony for any requesting attorney
 - D. Avoiding documentation to reduce liability
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8. Which is a major ethical risk in forensic psychology?

- A. Using structured assessment tools
 - B. Providing detailed documentation
 - C. Seeking consultation
 - D. Advocacy that compromises objectivity
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9. Which is appropriate during cross-examination?

- A. Arguing with opposing counsel
 - B. Answering clearly and acknowledging limitations
 - C. Refusing to answer difficult questions
 - D. Changing conclusions to appear confident
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10. When test data are insufficient, a forensic psychologist should:

- A. Offer a definitive opinion anyway
 - B. Rely on intuition
 - C. State that limitations preclude definitive conclusions
 - D. Adopt the retaining attorney's theory
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11. Continuing education in forensic psychology is necessary because:

- A. It eliminates malpractice risk entirely
 - B. It guarantees board certification
 - C. It replaces supervision
 - D. Legal standards and research evolve over time
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12. Which standard applies in most civil cases?

- A. Preponderance of the evidence
- B. Beyond a reasonable doubt
- C. Clear and convincing evidence

D. Probable cause

13. A dual role conflict most often occurs when a psychologist:

- A. Administers multiple assessments
 - B. Serves as both therapist and forensic evaluator for the same person
 - C. Provides supervision
 - D. Reviews collateral documents
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14. In forensic contexts, who is typically the primary client?

- A. The examinee
 - B. The court or retaining party
 - C. The examinee's family
 - D. The treatment team
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15. The highest standard of proof in criminal cases is:

- A. Clear and convincing evidence
 - B. Preponderance of the evidence
 - C. Beyond a reasonable doubt
 - D. Reasonable suspicion
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16. A psychologist is retained by defense counsel to conduct a competency to stand trial evaluation. During the interview, the defendant begins discussing confidential details of alleged offenses and requests therapeutic advice. What is the most appropriate response?

- A. Provide therapeutic guidance to build rapport
 - B. Clarify the forensic role and explain that treatment advice cannot be provided
 - C. Refuse to continue the evaluation
 - D. Advise the defendant on how to present well in court
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17. During testimony, opposing counsel presents a research article suggesting that the risk assessment tool you used has limitations in predictive validity. What is the most appropriate response?

- A. Dismiss the article as irrelevant
 - B. Defend the tool as flawless
 - C. Refuse to answer
 - D. Acknowledge known limitations while explaining why the tool remains appropriate
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18. A psychologist is asked to evaluate a juvenile's competence to stand trial. The youth demonstrates limited understanding of legal terminology but average intellectual functioning.

What is the most important consideration?

- A. Developmental maturity and functional legal abilities
 - B. Academic achievement level
 - C. Parental opinion of competence
 - D. Severity of the alleged offense
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19. A psychologist conducting a violence risk assessment becomes aware that their hiring attorney expects a particular outcome. The psychologist notices subtle pressure to align conclusions accordingly. What is the most appropriate course of action?

- A. Modify conclusions to maintain referral relationships
 - B. Decline to complete the evaluation
 - C. Maintain independence and document objective reasoning
 - D. Request that the attorney draft the conclusion
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20. During a forensic evaluation, test results are inconsistent with behavioral observations and collateral records. What is the most appropriate action?

- A. Base conclusions solely on test scores
 - B. Integrate multiple data sources and discuss inconsistencies in the report
 - C. Exclude collateral data
 - D. Provide no opinion
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