Do Males and Females Differ?

Question: What is meant by the following statement?

“Sigmund Freud declared, ‘Anatomy is destiny’.” (379)

Question: What are the causal, unscientific descriptions of women? (379-380)

“… (the) changing perspective on gender differences began at the same time that women gained more rights in society, during the 1970s.”

Examples: The women’s movement of the 1970’s. (380-381)
Do Males and Females Differ?
(Continued)

“There are a few areas in which reliable gender differences in psychological abilities have been found.”

Examples: Gender differences in psychology abilities.

“There is also some evidence for gender differences in the expression of two social characteristics: aggression and communication.”

Examples: Gender differences in the expression of aggression and communication.
A Brief History of Gender Difference in Personality

Evidence from Ancient Civilizations

“Archeological excavations … have unearthed early portrayals of women … ”

Examples: Early portrayals of women in ancient civilizations.

Nineteenth-Century Views

“… the functional school of psychology (in the late 1800s to the early 1900s) declared that behavior and thought evolve as a result of their functionality for survival.”

Examples: Functionalists view of women.
Nineteenth-Century Views (Continued)

“… psychoanalysis … addressed the etiology of gender differences … “

Examples: Psychoanalytic view of women. (382-383)

Biological Influences on Gender Differences

Sex Hormones in Normal Prenatal Development

“Genetic sex is determined at the moment of conception when the female’s egg with its X chromosome joins with the male sperm with its X or Y chromosome, resulting in a girl (XX) or a boy (XY).”

Evidence: Sex hormones in normal prenatal development. (383-384)
The Effects of Prenatal Sex Hormones on Gender Behavior

“the fact that androgen affects the physical development of the fetus suggests that prenatal androgen exposure might also affect personality in some gender-specific manner.”

Complete the following:

“Two kinds of evidence support the possibility of an effect of prenatal hormones on gender behavior:

(1) experimental data from …

(2) studies of humans who have experienced prenatal …

Question: What happens when developing animal fetuses are exposed to androgens?

“An analogous kind of natural experiment has occurred in humans who experience abnormal prenatal sexual development.”

Evidence: Humans who experience abnormal prenatal sexual development.
The Effects of Prenatal Sex Hormones on Gender Behavior
(Continued)

“On occasion, a child is born with a single X chromosome, an XO. This anomaly is known as Turner’s syndrome.”

Evidence: Turner’s syndrome. (385)

“The development of genetically female or male fetuses may be influenced by irregularities in prenatal hormonal exposure.”

Evidence: Irregularities in prenatal hormonal exposure. (385-386)
The Effects of Prenatal Sex Hormones on Gender Behavior
(Continued)

Complete the following:

“According to prenatal reports, … androgenized females show more tomboy behavior and are more active than other girls. It is unclear whether these so-called masculine personality traits and behaviors … “

Issues: Androgenized females. (386)

“(the effect) of prenatal exposure to sex hormones … is small …”

Evidence: Effect of prenatal exposure to sex hormones. (386-387)
The Influence of Hormones during and after Puberty

“Starting in puberty, there are major differences in the proportions of hormones produced by men versus women, and these hormonal differences may affect personality.”

Evidence: Influence of hormones during and after puberty. (387-388)

Sex Differences in the Human Brain

“… there has been much discussion … of whether significant physiological or structural differences distinguish the male from the female brain …”

Evidence: Sex differences in the human brain. (388-389)
Gender Differences in Personality from the Eight Perspectives

The Psychoanalytic Approach

Question: How are gender differences in personality explained by the psychoanalytic approach?

The Neo-Analytic Approaches

Question: How are gender differences in personality explained by the neo-analytic approaches?
Biological/Evolutionary Approaches

Question: What is the evolutionary explanation for gender differences? (392-395)

The Behaviorist Approach: Social Learning

Question: How are gender differences in personality explained by the social learning approach? (395)
The Cognitive Approach: Gender Schema Theory

Question: How are gender differences in personality explained by the cognitive learning approach? (396-397)

Trait Approaches to Masculinity and Femininity

Question: What are the trait approach explanations of gender differences? (397)

Aggression and Dominance

“In most (but not all) animal species, males are more dominant and more physically aggressive than are females …”

“… and in those species in which females are more aggressive than males, their aggression seems to be primarily limited to protection of their young.”
Aggression and Dominance
(Continued)

Evidence: Male and female traits with respect to aggression and dominance.

Emotionality

“Does the actual amount of emotion expressed by males and females differ?”

Evidence: Male and female traits with respect to emotionality.
Achievement Motivation

“Are there sex differences in ambition and ability, in the desire and capability, to achieve?”

Evidence: Male and female traits with respect to achievement motivation. (401)

Humanistic Approaches

“Abraham Maslow’s personality theory minimized the importance of masculine and feminine personality traits, highlighting instead the importance of self-actualization.

Question: How are gender differences in personality explained by Abraham Maslow’s humanistic approach? (401-402)
Interactionist Approaches: Social and Interpersonal Characteristics

“Careful examination reveals that many gender-relevant activities are not based solely on individual traits but rather are also heavily tied to the demands of social situations.”

**Helping**

Evidence: Characteristics of male and female helping behaviors. (402)

**Nurturance, Caring**

Evidence: Characteristics of male and female nurturance and caring behaviors. (402-403)
Sociability

Evidence: Characteristics of male and female sociability.

Nonverbal Behaviors

Evidence: Characteristics of male and female nonverbal behaviors.
**Influenceability**

Evidence: Characteristics of male and female influenceability.

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**Instrumentality versus Expressiveness**

Complete the following:

“**Instrumental behavior** involves being oriented to objects that are …

“ … whereas **expressive behavior** involves the emotional …

Evidence: Characteristics of male and female instrumental and expressive behaviors.
Cross-Cultural Studies of Gender Differences

“Anthropologists and others who have studied the roles of men and women across cultures argue that those gender differences that vary among cultures are produced by the culture through socialization.”

Evidence: Cross-cultural gender differences. (406-407)

Love and Sexual Behavior

“In American society, stereotypes of gender differences in love and in sexual approach and behavior abound.”

Evidence: American stereotypes of gender differences in love and in sexual behavior. (407)
"Culture provides the context in which our sexual behaviors are learned."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence:</th>
<th>Cultural stereotypes of gender differences in love and in sexual behavior.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

"Although sexual behavior is very similar for males and females before puberty, adolescence can change everything."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence:</th>
<th>Changes in cultural understanding of male-female sexual behavior.</th>
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