Testing and Individual Differences Critical Thinking Questions

Answer in your OWN WORDS.

1. Which of the four early pioneers do you think was most important to the development of intelligence research? What did they do? Why do you think they’re the most important?

2. What is the difference between the main three intelligence theories—g, Gardner’s multiple intelligences, or Sternberg’s Triarchic theory? Which theory do you personally feel is the most viable and why?

3. Emma, a famous actress, is trying to decide what movie she wants to star in next. How could Emma use either CONVERGENT thinking or DIVERGENT thinking to come up with a solution? Pick one and create an example that demonstrates it in relation to her movie choice.

4. How does reliability differ from validity? Give an example of a test that would have high reliability and low validity as well as an example of a test that would have low reliability but high validity.
5. How would you evaluate the findings of the Flynn effect? What factors do you think may be causing the Flynn effect?

6. As an experienced student of Psychology, you know all about the self-fulfilling prophecy and its effects. How could the self-fulfilling prophecy potentially play a role in “tracking” programs (remedial or advanced)? Create a fictional example to justify your answer.

7. As a group, whites score considerably higher on intelligence tests than Blacks or Hispanics. Does this mean that whites are “smarter” than other racial groups? What may be causing the differences in scores?