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Revision

Magic, deception and free will

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This quiz relates to the PSYCHOLOGY REVIEW Vol. 30, No. 4 article on free will and determinism. If you keep both the article and your answers to the questions, you will have a useful revision guide for relevant exam questions.

Part 1

True or false

1 According to the article, the philosopher John Searle kept raising his hand during a lecture in an attempt to demonstrate that his actions were controlled by external forces.

True [☐] False [☐]

2 Olson argues that the subjective 'feeling' of free will is not enough to reject the idea of determinism.

True [☐] False [☐]

3 In the 'pick a card any card' trick, people feel that they were influenced by the magician when they were not.

True [☐] False [☐]

4 'Layered trickery' or the 'Swiss cheese model of deception' reduces the internal validity of Olson's experiments.

True [☐] False [☐]

Part 2

Multiple choice

1 When a magician uses, 'forcing',

- a) they change their behaviour in response to audience members
- b) audience members recognise that their choice was determined by the magician
- c) audience members feel as though they have free will when they don't
- d) audience members choose a different card to the magician

2 In the sham brain scanner study, the participants

- a) felt a greater sense of agency (free will) in the mind reading task than the mind influencing task

- b) felt a greater sense of agency (free will) in the mind influencing task than the mind reading task
- c) felt no difference in sense of agency (free will) between the mind reading and mind influencing task
- d) felt that they had less agency (free will) in the mind reading task than the mind influencing task
- 3 Olson states that feeling of free will result from
- a) brain regions linked to voluntary actions
 - b) external forces or past experiences
 - c) internal factors such as genetic inheritance
 - d) expectations and context

Part 3

Know your terms

What do each of the following terms mean? For each term, try to create a sentence that uses the term correctly.

- **Forcing**
- **Free will**
- **Determinism**
- **Double dissociation**
- **Layered trickery**
- **Sham**
- **Placebo**

Pick out any other key terms or words in the article that you do not fully understand and find out what they mean. Remember, some of the specialist terms used in psychology may have different meanings when used in everyday conversation. Be careful about where you search for definitions – try to use credible psychology-specific sources, not just general dictionaries.

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