**Psychology Assignments: Thinking**

**Thinking Poster – 25 points Due : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Three important elements of thinking are *symbols*, *concepts*, and *prototypes*. For this assignment, you will create a poster that represents your thinking about one of these elements. First, look back at your notes and define the terms.

symbols -- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

concepts -- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

prototypes -- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Now, make a poster of the element you are assigned. Use your notes and textbook to help you. You will be graded on the following:

* Include the element and a clear and accurate definition (10 points)
* Provide at least 3 examples from your own life that illustrate the definition (10 points)
* Use words and images (2 points)
* Make your poster neat and visually appealing (3 points)

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**Thinking Log – 35 points Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

For the rest of the week, keep a log of the times and occasions where you *use convergent, divergent, metacognitive, and automatic* thinking. As you tackle a variety of mental tasks each day—in and out of school, during different classes, doing homework, during after-school activities, on the job, hanging out with friends, completing chores at home, etc.—take a few minutes to occasionally observe and log in what ways you are thinking. Again, let’s define our terms.

convergent -- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

divergent -- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

metacognitive -- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

automatic -- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Each day that you log your thinking will earn you up to **10 points**—that is, if you have several different records at different times and in different places with some detail.

Set up a chart for yourself with space to write the date, time, setting (be specific), task (be specific), and any comments you want to make. Oh! And don’t forget to log the *kind of thinking* you are doing. Each log in your entry should only take a minute or two. The more data you enter, the more you can learn about your thinking!

Finally, **reflect** on your Thinking Log (**5 points**). What does your log tell you about the kinds of thinking you do during the week? What kinds of thinking dominate your day? Where are you challenged to think divergently and why? When does automatic thinking come in handy and when does it become potentially harmful? When do you think about your thinking (hint: is your log itself metacognitive?)? When are just trying to find the right answer? Are you surprised by what you found? Why or why not?

P.S. You could do more than one kind of thinking during a task.

