Chapter 15 Quiz

Name: __________________________  Date: _____________

___ 1. A prosecuting attorney is uncertain whether her eyewitness will seem credible to the jury. The eyewitness's testimony could help win a conviction, but the witness might be discredited by the defense attorney. What advice should the prosecutor accept?
   A) Put the eyewitness on the stand but admit your reservations about the witness's credibility before the defense attorney raises the issue.
   B) Put the witness on the stand, since even a discredited eyewitness is more convincing than no eyewitness at all.
   C) Put the witness on the stand only if he or she is attractive and similar to the jurors.
   D) Don't put the witness on the stand, since a discredited eyewitness is worse than no eyewitness at all.

___ 2. Which of the following factors is NOT likely to lead to a lighter sentence for the person convicted?
   A) height
   B) high status
   C) physical attractiveness
   D) baby-faced features

___ 3. Young children's susceptibility to the misinformation effect raises the distinct possibility that
   A) many children are simply unable to experience empathy for dissimilar others.
   B) repression leads children to forget that they were physically abused.
   C) some people have been falsely accused in sex abuse cases.
   D) many educators overestimate the competence of their students.

___ 4. An attorney will be defending James S., who is accused of raping a 22-year-old woman. Who among the following jurors is likely to be least sympathetic to his client's case?
   A) John, a 40-year-old plumber who once served a sentence for burglary
   B) Todd, a 22-year-old college student who is a political liberal
   C) Wilma, a 42-year-old mother of two who tends to be authoritarian
   D) Rita, a 32-year-old television executive who opposes the death penalty
5. City police find that Mr. Caldwell, an eyewitness to a murder in a local bank, correctly remembers many trivial details of the crime scene, including the specific time on the clock and the paintings on the wall. Research findings suggest that Mr. Caldwell's recall of trivial details means
   A) it is more likely that he can also correctly identify the murderer, provided Mr. Caldwell is also highly educated.
   B) nothing in terms of his ability to correctly identify the murderer.
   C) it is more likely that he can also correctly identify the murderer.
   D) it is less likely that he can also correctly identify the murderer.

6. Whose eyewitness testimony is probably the most reliable?
   A) Sue's report given immediately after observing an attempted rape. She was asked very specific questions by the police, who had identified a suspect immediately after the assault.
   B) Millie's report given immediately after a grocery store robbery. She was simply asked to tell the police what she saw.
   C) Fred's report given in court about a bank robbery a month ago. He has been interviewed several times by the defense attorney before appearing in court.
   D) All of the above are equally reliable.

7. Wells, Ferguson, and Lindsay (1981) had eyewitnesses to a staged theft rehearse their answers to questions before taking the witness stand. Doing so
   A) decreased the confidence of those who were correct.
   B) increased the confidence of those who were wrong.
   C) increased the accuracy of the eyewitness testimony.
   D) none of the above.

8. Evidence from social science research clearly indicates that
   A) the death penalty undoubtedly is a significant deterrent to crime.
   B) death-qualified jurors are more sympathetic to defendants than non-death-qualified jurors.
   C) the death penalty is not a significant deterrent to crime.
   D) none of the above.

9. Research shows that when a judge rules evidence to be inadmissible and admonishes the jury to ignore it,
   A) jurors have a hard time ignoring the evidence and its influence on their deliberations.
   B) jurors do so if the evidence damages the defendant's case but not if it hurts the prosecution's case.
   C) the evidence typically becomes the focus of debate in jury deliberations.
   D) jurors are generally able to follow the judge's instructions.
10. After hearing evidence in a murder trial, 10 jurors tend to believe the evidence is insufficient to convict the 25-year-old Black defendant. According to the group polarization hypothesis, after the jurors deliberate,

A) they will be split, with a minority favoring acquittal and the majority favoring conviction.
B) they will be evenly split, with some convinced he is guilty and others convinced he is innocent.
C) they will be more convinced the defendant is guilty.
D) they will be more convinced the evidence is insufficient to convict.
Answer Key

1. B
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2. A
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3. C
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4. C
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5. D
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6. B
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7. B
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8. C
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9. A
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10. D
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