At least 2 scholarly references/in-text citation per discussion. APA format.

Minimum 300 words per discussion.

Discussion 1:

Compare and contrast the theories of memory that were created by Ebbinghaus and Bartlett.

* When comparing theorists, be sure to discuss the key concepts of each theory.
* Then discuss which elements of each theory that you find to be valid or lack validity.
* Be sure to support your assertions with references to scholarly sources, and be sure to cite your sources appropriately.

Discussion 2:

One of the topics that we are discussing this week is consciousness. Using the information from your courses resources and your own independent research, answer the following questions in your post for this week.  Please be thoughtful in this discussion and include your own experiences and perceptions as you ponder this information.

* Describe how consciousness has evolved.
* Presumably consciousness provides some beneficial capabilities for an organism beyond behaviors that are based only on automatic triggers or unconscious processing. What are the likely benefits of consciousness?
* When are you most conscious—while you’re calm, angry, happy, or moved; while absorbed in a movie, video game, or athletic activity; while engaged in a spirited conversation, making decisions, meditating, reflecting, trying to solve a difficult problem, day dreaming, or feeling creative?
* How do these considerations shed light on what consciousness is?

Discussion 3:

As discussed in the unit, working memory is used for much more than just the temporary storage of phone numbers. It allows you to hold in your mind facts that will assist you in performing any number of cognitive functions, such as planning for an event, or deciding on a course of action. You call on your working memory countless times throughout the average day. As an example, work out in your head (and not on paper) 14 x 6. Unless you had multiplication tables drilled into your head in elementary school, you will actually need to think through the equation by adding 10 x 6 and 4 x 6. The answers to these equations are held in your working memory, and allow you to think through the solution to 14 x 6.

* Discuss with us one instance in the day when you used your working memory, and how.
* Then discuss at least one technique to improve working memory and provide a scholarly article that supports the use of this technique.
* Be sure to cite your sources!

Discussion 4:

Please watch this video clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSzPn9rsPcY&feature=emb_logo>

 The video clip above demonstrates the malleability of eye witness testimony by showing a staged purse-snatching incident.  Each of the student witnesses were interviewed and there was great variability within their testimonies regarding the physical features of the suspect.  Despite research on fallibility of eyewitness testimony, courts still rely heavily on it as a source of evidence.  After viewing the video, please answer the following questions:

* After reading this week’s material and viewing the video, do you believe that eye witness testimony is faulty or reliable? Why or why not?
* What can be done to promote better accuracy of eye witness testimony?
* Have you had any personal experience with eye witness testimony that might contribute to our understanding of this phenomenon?

Discussion 5:

This week we learned about mnemonic devices, which are any learning technique that aids information retention in the human memory. Mnemonics make use of elaborative encoding, retrieval cues, and imagery as specific tools to encode any given information in a way that allows for efficient storage and retrieval. Mnemonics aid original information in becoming associated with something more meaningful, which in turn, allows the brain to have better retention of the information.

* Discuss the three memory processes associated with mnemonics.
* Provide an example of a mnemonic device that you have used. If you have not used a mnemonic device, then create one that could be useful to you.
* Your resources this week discussed several types of mnemonic devices. Which kind of mnemonic device was the example you provided?

Discussion 6:

The debate over whether language is an innate trait continues in cognitive science. Think about what this would mean on both sides of the argument and answer the following questions:

* In what sense is language use innate and in what sense is learned? Provide examples.
* When thinking about language use, is language a tool for thought or a tool for communication?
* Be sure to cite your sources!

Discussion 7:

This week we have learned about the cognitive processes involved with judgment and decision-making. Biases largely affect our ability to make rational decisions.  For this week’s discussion:

* Based on Tversky and Kahneman’s research, discuss the specific systematic, directional biases that affect human judgment. You may use this week’s resources but also feel free to pull in outside resources to support this discussion.
* Discuss a time when you feel that bias has interfered with your decision-making process.
* Discuss possible interventions to overcome faulty thinking. Be sure to relate at least one intervention to your personal example to illustrate how utilizing this intervention might have resulted in a different decision outcome.
* Be sure to cite your sources!

Discussion 8:

For the final discussion, discuss some of the different forms of dementia in old age.  Is dementia inevitable? What factors are currently thought to be protective?

* Be sure to cite your sources!