

*Psychology, Cdn 4e (Wade)*

**Chapter 2 How Psychologists Do Research**

Quick Quiz (1)

- 1) A/An \_\_\_\_\_ is an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena.
- A) theory
  - B) hypothesis
  - C) operational definition
  - D) experiment

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is the definition of a theory.

Type: MC

Skill: Factual

- 2) An ideal scientist should:
- A) not express skepticism of new ideas.
  - B) rely on scientific intuition.
  - C) not support falsifiable theories.
  - D) be willing to make "risky predictions."

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Scientists should be willing to make "risky predictions." All the other choices are the opposite of ideal characteristics of scientists.

Type: MC

Skill: Conceptual

- 3) An advantage of correlation is that:
- A) it shows whether two or more variables are related.
  - B) firm conclusions about cause and effect can be drawn.
  - C) it is often useful in the first stages of a research program.
  - D) it provides a large amount of information on large numbers of people.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Correlation is a technique used to measure the strength and direction of a relationship between two or more variables.

Type: MC

Skill: Conceptual

- 4) Which of the following methods would be most appropriate to study the effects of alcohol consumption on problem solving ability?
- A) correlation
  - B) experiments
  - C) case study
  - D) naturalistic observation

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Since this example is looking for a cause-and-effect relationship, experiment is the only appropriate method.

Type: MC

Skill: Applied

- 5) The variable manipulated by the researcher in an experiment is the:
- A) control variable.
  - B) independent variable.
  - C) dependent variable.
  - D) experimental variable.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) This is the definition of an independent variable.

Type: MC

Skill: Factual

- 6) The purpose of a double-blind study is:
- A) to eliminate experimenter effects.
  - B) to increase experimental effects.
  - C) to test the effects of a placebo.
  - D) to determine the visual ability of newborn infants.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Double-blind studies are used to eliminate possible bias and experimenter effects.

Type: MC

Skill: Factual

- 7) An advantage of naturalistic observation is that:
- A) it shows whether two or more variables are related.
  - B) firm conclusions about cause and effect can be drawn.
  - C) it is often useful in the first stages of a research program.
  - D) it provides a large amount of information on large numbers of people.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Naturalistic observation is important early in the research process to generate hypotheses, but it does not test hypotheses.

Type: MC

Skill: Conceptual

- 8) Descriptive statistics:
- A) organize and summarize research data.
  - B) allow determination of statistical significance.
  - C) allow researchers to draw inferences about their results.
  - D) show how likely it is that a study's results occurred merely by chance.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Descriptive statistics organize and summarize results, while inferential statistics help to determine whether results are significant.

Type: MC

Skill: Factual

- 9) Meta-analysis is used to:
- A) determine statistical significance.
  - B) combine results from several studies.
  - C) determine the probability of chance affecting the results.
  - D) maintain ethical standards in research.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Meta-analysis is a statistical technique for combining the results of multiple studies.  
Type: MC  
Skill: Factual

- 10) CPA ethical standards require researchers to:
- A) avoid double-blind studies.
  - B) avoid the use of deception.
  - C) limit the use of volunteers as subjects.
  - D) obtain informed consent from subjects.

Answer: D  
Explanation: D) CPA ethical guidelines require the use of informed consent to protect research subjects.

Type: MC  
Skill: Factual

#### Quick Quiz (2)

- 1) A/An \_\_\_\_\_ is a statement that attempts to predict or to account for a set of phenomena.
- A) theory
  - B) hypothesis
  - C) operational definition
  - D) experiment

Answer: B  
Explanation: B) This is the definition of a hypothesis.  
Type: MC  
Skill: Factual

- 2) An ideal scientist should:
- A) not express skepticism of new ideas.
  - B) rely on scientific intuition.
  - C) make sure theories are falsifiable.
  - D) not make "risky predictions."

Answer: C  
Explanation: C) A scientist should make sure theories are falsifiable. All the other choices are the opposite of ideal characteristics of scientists.

Type: MC  
Skill: Conceptual

- 3) An advantage of case studies is that:
- A) they can confirm hypotheses.
  - B) general behavioural principles can be derived from them.
  - C) they can help determine cause and effect.
  - D) they provide in-depth information about unusual cases.

Answer: D  
Explanation: D) Case studies provide in-depth information about an individual case and generate hypotheses, but they cannot be used to confirm hypotheses or determine cause and effect.

Type: MC

Skill: Conceptual

- 4) An advantage of a survey is that:
- A) it shows whether two or more variables are related.
  - B) firm conclusions about cause and effect can be drawn.
  - C) it is often useful in the first stages of a research program.
  - D) it provides a large amount of information on large numbers of people.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Surveys can provide a lot of information about attitudes, beliefs, opinions, and behaviours of large groups of people.

Type: MC

Skill: Conceptual

- 5) An advantage of an experiment is that:
- A) it shows whether two or more variables are related.
  - B) firm conclusions about cause and effect can be drawn.
  - C) it is often useful in the first stages of a research program.
  - D) it provides a large amount of information on large numbers of people.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) The primary advantage of an experiment is that it can be used to determine cause and effect.

Type: MC

Skill: Conceptual

- 6) In a double-blind experiment:
- A) neither the subjects in the experimental group nor the subjects in the control group know the experimental hypothesis.
  - B) neither the subjects in the experimental group nor the subjects in the control group know which group they are in.
  - C) neither the subjects nor the researcher know which subjects are in which group.
  - D) neither the subjects in the experimental group nor the subjects in the control group know or can see the experimenter.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Double-blind experiments are conducted to eliminate experimenter effects by keeping both the subjects and the researcher "blind" to which group a particular subject is in.

Type: MC

Skill: Factual

- 7) Statistical significance means that:
- A) results are meaningful.
  - B) results are important.
  - C) results are unlikely to be due to chance.
  - D) results are typical.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Tests of statistical significance are used to determine the likelihood that a particular set of results are due to chance factors.

Type: MC

Skill: Factual

8) Cross-sectional studies allow one to determine the:

- A) statistical significance of results.
- B) effect size.
- C) experimenter effects.
- D) generational differences.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Cross-sectional studies are useful in studying generational differences, whereas longitudinal studies are more useful in studying changes in a person over a period of time.

Type: MC

Skill: Conceptual

9) Which of the following methods would be most appropriate to study maternal behaviour in chimpanzees?

- A) correlation
- B) experiments
- C) case study
- D) naturalistic observation

Answer: D

Explanation: D) In this case, naturalistic observation would be most appropriate because the researcher wants to know about the natural behaviours of chimpanzees.

Type: MC

Skill: Applied

10) Which of the following is NOT a reason psychologists study animals?

- A) to discover practical applications
- B) to improve human welfare
- C) to avoid use of deception
- D) to clarify theoretical questions

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Psychologists should use caution in experiments with humans that involve deception, but they do not need to avoid deception. The other choices are all reasons that psychologists study animals.

Type: MC

Skill: Conceptual

#### Test Questions

1) When psychologists learned that hopeful parents of autistic children were being drawn to a program of "facilitated communication," they:

- A) conducted a survey of all the facilitators working with autistic children.
- B) argued that it was not ethical to use this technique with children.
- C) conducted experiments involving autistic children and their facilitators.
- D) carefully analyzed the testimonials about the therapy before accepting it.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) The research involving autistic children and their facilitators demonstrated that the claims concerning "facilitated communication" were false.

Type: MC

Section: Chapter 2 Introduction

Skill: Factual

- 2) Research methods are important for all of the following reasons EXCEPT that they:
- A) are the basic foundation for psychology and other sciences.
  - B) can help a person make a wiser decision between alternatives.
  - C) provide the means for false claims to be verified.
  - D) allow researchers to separate reliable information from unfounded claims.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Research methods provide the means for false claims to be found out for what they are. All other choices are accurate.

Type: MC

Section: Chapter 2 Introduction

Skill: Conceptual

- 3) Which of the following is NOT one of the reasons why research methods matter so much to psychologists?
- A) These methods allow psychologists to separate truth from unfounded belief.
  - B) These methods allow psychologists to gain respect from the "hard" sciences.
  - C) These methods allow psychologists to correct false ideas that might cause people harm.
  - D) These methods allow psychologists to sort out conflicting views.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) While use of research methods may result in increased respect from the "hard" sciences, this is not the reason they are used. They are used because psychology is a science and, as such, its data must be based on empirical evidence.

Type: MC

Section: Chapter 2 Introduction

Skill: Conceptual

- 4) When the authors refer to psychologists as scientists, they mean that psychologists:
- A) wear white coats when they conduct animal research.
  - B) rely upon sophisticated brain-imaging machines.
  - C) work with complicated computers and laboratory equipment.
  - D) base their work on scientific attitudes and procedures.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) As a science, psychology trusts only evidence based on empirical data resulting from the use of the scientific method. Science is a way of asking and answering questions and has little to do with the equipment used or the clothing worn.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

- 5) An organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships is called a/an:
- A) theory.

- B) hypothesis.
- C) double-blind study.
- D) operational definition.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is the definition of a theory.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

6) A theory is:

- A) an organized system of assumptions and principles that attempts to explain some phenomenon.
- B) an opinion or idea about the causes of some phenomenon.
- C) a group of interrelated statements about cause and effect.
- D) a hunch about the causes of related phenomena.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) A theory is an organized system of assumptions and principles that attempts to explain some phenomenon.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

7) Theory is defined as:

- A) a statement that attempts to predict a set of phenomena, and specifies relationships among variables that can be empirically tested.
- B) the precise meaning of a term, which specifies the operations for observing and measuring the process or phenomenon being investigated.
- C) the principle that a scientific theory must make predications that are specific enough to expose the theory to the possibility of disconfirmation.
- D) an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) A theory is an organized system of assumptions and principles that attempts to explain some phenomenon.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

8) A scientific theory could be thought of as:

- A) an established truth.
- B) an organized system of assumptions.
- C) a measure of strength between two variables.
- D) a personal opinion.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) A theory is not a personal opinion, an established truth, or a measure of strength. It is an organized system of assumptions and principles that attempts to explain some phenomenon.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

9) Which of the following statements is true?

- A) Hypotheses are derived from theories, which, in turn, lead to testable predictions.
- B) Testable predictions derive from theories based on a set of hypotheses.
- C) Predictions are derived from theories, which lead to a set of hypotheses.
- D) Theories derive from hypotheses based on a set of predictions.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) From a theory, a scientist derives a hypothesis. A hypothesis, in turn, leads to predictions.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

10) A statement that attempts to predict or to account for a set of phenomena is called a/an:

- A) hypothesis.
- B) theory.
- C) operational definition.
- D) double-blind study.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) A hypothesis is a prediction, usually derived from a theory.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

11) Which of the following statements is NOT true?

- A) A hypothesis is a statement that attempts to explain a specific behaviour.
- B) A hypothesis is a specific prediction derived from a theory.
- C) A hypothesis is a prediction about future events based on guesswork.
- D) A hypothesis is a statement about a relationship between variables that may be empirically tested.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Hypotheses are not based on guesswork, though they may be educated guesses based on empirical knowledge.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

12) A hypothesis is defined as:

- A) the principle that a scientific theory must make predications that are specific enough to expose the theory to the possibility of disconfirmation.
- B) an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships.
- C) a statement that attempts to predict a set of phenomena, and specifies relationships among variables that can be empirically tested.
- D) the precise meaning of a term, which specifies the operations for observing and measuring the process or phenomenon being investigated.



Answer: C  
Explanation: C) A hypothesis is a prediction, usually derived from a theory.  
Type: MC  
Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?  
Skill: Factual

- 13) Which of the following is NOT a key characteristic of scientists?
- A) openness
  - B) scepticism
  - C) precision
  - D) humanism

Answer: D  
Explanation: D) Precision, skepticism, openness to new ideas, and reliance on empirical evidence are the hallmarks of a scientist.

Type: MC  
Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?  
Skill: Conceptual

- 14) Which of the following is NOT one of the key characteristics of the ideal scientist?
- A) scepticism
  - B) avoidance of risky predictions
  - C) openness in regard to ideas and research
  - D) precision

Answer: B  
Explanation: B) Scientists are not afraid to make risky predictions.  
Type: MC  
Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?  
Skill: Conceptual

- 15) An operational definition is:
- A) a statement that attempts to predict a set of phenomena, and specifies relationships among variables that can be empirically tested.
  - B) an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships.
  - C) the principle that a scientific theory must make predications that are specific enough to expose the theory to the possibility of disconfirmation.
  - D) the precise meaning of a term, which specifies the operations for observing and measuring the process or phenomenon being investigated.

Answer: D  
Explanation: D) An operational definition states how a variable will be measured.  
Type: MC  
Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?  
Skill: Factual

- 16) An operational definition tells:
- A) how something is to be observed and measured.
  - B) what is expected to result from manipulation of a variable.
  - C) the meaning of a term in scientific language.

D) the meaning of a term in lay language.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) An operational definition states how a variable will be measured.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

17) Which of the following is an operational definition of depression?

A) a feeling of extreme sadness

B) the opposite of euphoria

C) a sense of futility and hopelessness

D) a score on the Beck Depression Inventory

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Only a score on the Beck Depression Inventory specifies how depression will be measured.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Applied

18) Which of the following is NOT a possible operational definition of intelligence?

A) a person's score on the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Test

B) the length of time a person takes to solve a complex maze

C) a student's cumulative GPA

D) a person's ability to reason and solve problems

Answer: D

Explanation: D) An operational definition must specify how a variable is to be measured.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Applied

19) The principle of falsifiability is defined as:

A) the precise meaning of a term, which specifies the principles for observing and measuring the process or phenomenon being investigated.

B) a statement that attempts to predict a set of phenomena, and specifies relationships among variables that can be empirically tested.

C) an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships.

D) the principle that a scientific theory must make predications that are specific enough to expose the theory to the possibility of disconfirmation.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) To be useful, a scientific theory must be specific enough that its predictions can be proven or disproven.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

20) A precise meaning of a term, which specifies the operations for observing and measuring the process or phenomenon being investigated, is called a/an:

- A) double-blind study.
- B) theory.
- C) hypothesis.
- D) operational definition.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) This is a definition of an operational definition.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

21) Marcy is trying to define "anxiety" in a way that can be empirically tested. She is attempting to find an appropriate:

- A) operational definition.
- B) double-blind study.
- C) hypothesis.
- D) theory.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Operational definitions specify how variables are to be observed or measured.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Applied

22) Hannah has always been drawn to the saying "Absence makes the heart grow fonder," and she decides to incorporate this saying into her research project. Hannah is trying to define "absence" in a way that can be empirically tested. She is attempting to find an appropriate:

- A) theory.
- B) double-blind study.
- C) hypothesis.
- D) operational definition.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Operational definitions specify how variables are to be observed or measured.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Applied

23) Which of the following is most characteristic of scientists?

- A) reliance on scientific authority
- B) intense conviction that a hypothesis is true
- C) creativity in developing new ideas to test
- D) reliance on empirical evidence

Answer: D

Explanation: D) The basis of all science is reliance on empirical evidence.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

24) The principle of falsifiability means that:

- A) scientists, as well as people in general, tend to accept false information when it is

- endorsed by an authority.
- B) a scientist must state an idea in such a way that it can be refuted or disproved by counterevidence.
  - C) scientists must be careful not to falsify their results.
  - D) theories that have not been proven are considered falsified.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) To be useful, a scientific theory must be specific enough that its predictions can be proven or disproven, that is, it is falsifiable.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

25) Which of the following statements is NOT true?

- A) Even though skepticism about new ideas is important, a scientist should accept older ideas that have been endorsed by authorities in the field.
- B) It is important to balance skepticism with openness to new ideas.
- C) Skepticism and caution go hand in hand.
- D) Skepticism in science is an unwillingness to accept an idea without empirical evidence.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) All ideas, both new and old, should be subjected to the test of empirical support and should not be accepted just because they are endorsed by an authority.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

26) In order to be taken seriously, a hypothesis must be:

- A) backed by empirical evidence.
- B) imaginative and appealing.
- C) plausible given the current theories.
- D) suggested by a credible authority.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Empirical evidence is the key to taking a theory or hypothesis seriously in science.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

27) Confirmation bias is a:

- A) tendency to accept replicated studies but not accept studies that have not been replicated.
- B) belief that bias exists in many studies that prevents them from being confirmed.
- C) tendency to believe theories that have been confirmed by empirical data.
- D) tendency to look for evidence that supports our theory and ignore evidence that contradicts it.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Confirmation bias is a tendency to look for evidence that supports our theory and ignore evidence that contradicts it.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

- 28) The tendency to look for information that supports one's own belief is called the:
- A) criterion validity.
  - B) volunteer bias.
  - C) principle of falsifiability.
  - D) confirmation bias.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) This is a definition of confirmation bias.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

- 29) According to the principle of falsifiability:
- A) false conclusions are reached in a scientific study when researchers make risky predictions.
  - B) researchers must conduct naturalistic observations in order to reach a causal explanation about a particular behaviour.
  - C) hypotheses should be considered false until scientific research proves, without a doubt, that they are true.
  - D) a scientific theory must make predictions that are specific enough to expose the theory to the possibility of disconfirmation.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) To be useful, a scientific theory must be specific enough that its predictions can be proven or disproven, that is, it is falsifiable.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

- 30) Descriptive methods, such as case studies, are useful when researchers are:
- A) not certain what it is they are studying.
  - B) not able to conduct an experiment.
  - C) not able to make appropriate observations.
  - D) not able to make predictions.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Case studies produce detailed descriptions of an individual and, like other descriptive methods, can generate more specific hypotheses.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

- 31) On the internet, reports of murderous satanic cults operating in Canada are widespread, but the RCMP has never been able to substantiate this claim. Some individuals continued to believe in the existence of the cults, saying that the RCMP has been part of the conspiracy. This is an example of a violation of \_\_\_\_\_ in everyday life.
- A) the volunteer bias
  - B) the principle of falsifiability
  - C) the coefficient of correlation
  - D) replication

Answer: B

Explanation: B) The belief in satanic cults could not be disproven; therefore, it was not a valid theory.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

32) Which of the following statements is true?

- A) Disclosure of the details of a study is important to allow for replication by others.
- B) Research procedures, once patented, should be shared openly.
- C) It is a waste of time and money to replicate a study that has already been done.
- D) Scientists should keep their research secret so others will not steal their ideas.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Science depends on the free flow of ideas and full disclosure of studies. Replication is an essential part of the scientific process.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

33) Scientists are expected to submit their results to professional journals, which send the findings to experts for evaluation before publication. This process is called:

- A) criterion validity.
- B) peer review.
- C) content validity.
- D) reliability.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) This is a definition of the peer review process.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

34) One purpose of peer review is to:

- A) make sure that the researchers did not deceive their subjects in any way.
- B) make sure that the research does not involve animals as subjects.
- C) scrutinize the evidence before any announcement to the public.
- D) choose which, among competing interpretations of a finding, is best.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) A major purpose of peer review is to make sure a study used valid methods in obtaining its results. Otherwise the results are not valid and could be misleading.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

35) What was wrong with Norman Cousins's claim that humour and vitamins could cure life-threatening diseases?

- A) It was not falsifiable.
- B) It was not based on empirical evidence.
- C) It resulted from confirmation bias.
- D) Its variables were not operationally defined.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Norman Cousins's claim was based on only one case, his own, and was therefore anecdotal evidence that had not been empirically tested.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

36) Replication relies upon a scientist's:

- A) openness.
- B) skepticism.
- C) reliance on empirical evidence.
- D) precision.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Replication is an essential part of the scientific process. This process ensures that other scientists can verify or challenge the findings.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

37) Science is meant to be a/an \_\_\_\_\_ activity.

- A) elite
- B) secret
- C) private
- D) communal

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Scientists are expected to share their evidence and procedures with others.

Type: MC

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

38) Descriptive methods allow a researcher to do all of the following EXCEPT:

- A) choose one explanation about behaviour over competing ones.
- B) predict behaviour.
- C) describe behaviour
- D) depict behaviour.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Descriptive methods allow researchers to describe and predict behaviour but not necessarily choose one explanation over another.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

39) Research methods that depict behaviour but are not necessarily causal explanations are called:

- A) significance tests.
- B) experimental methods.
- C) descriptive methods.
- D) single-blind studies.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) This is a definition of descriptive research techniques.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

40) A detailed description of a particular individual being studied or treated is called a:

- A) case study.
- B) single-blind study.
- C) representative sample.
- D) naturalistic observation.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is the definition of a case study.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

41) Which of the following is an advantage of case studies?

- A) Case studies produce a more detailed picture of an individual than do other methods.
- B) The observer may have biases that influence which facts are observed and which are ignored.
- C) An individual case may not be representative of others.
- D) Information is often missing or hard to interpret.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) All of the other choices are disadvantages, not advantages, of case studies.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

42) The case of Genie illustrated that:

- A) autistic children often have cold, rejecting mothers.
- B) there is an early critical period for language development.
- C) early severe deprivation can be overcome with later therapy.
- D) language acquisition is possible even if it is delayed until adolescence.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) The case study of Genie demonstrated that, in this individual, early severe deprivation could not be overcome. Therefore it appears that there is an early critical period for language development.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

43) In the 1970s, a 13-year-old girl was found locked up in a room, strapped to a potty chair. Since she had grown up in a world without human speech, researchers studied Genie's ability to acquire words, grammar, and pronunciation. This type of research is called a:

- A) representative sample.
- B) naturalistic observation.
- C) case study.
- D) single-blind study.

Answer: C



Explanation: C) This is an example of a case study, a detailed study of one individual.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

44) In the 1970s, Genie's difficulty acquiring words, grammar, and pronunciation led researchers to conclude that:

- A) Genie's linguistic deficits can be generalized to other abused children.
- B) Genie had suffered brain damage in the birth process.
- C) language depends on nurture rather than nature.
- D) a critical period exists for language development.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) The case study of Genie demonstrated that, in this individual, early severe deprivation could not be overcome. Therefore it appears that there is an early critical period for language development.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

45) \_\_\_\_\_ are usually sources of hypotheses, rather than tests of hypotheses.

- A) Single-blind studies
- B) Case studies
- C) Double-blind studies
- D) Field research studies

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Case studies do not test hypotheses, but may suggest them.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

46) Dr. Olson wants to know whether or not the first three years of life are critical for acquiring language. She decides to study children who have been deprived of human language. The appropriate method to use to explore this issue would be a/an:

- A) case study.
- B) observational study.
- C) survey.
- D) experiment.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) It would not be ethical to do an experiment in this case. The other methods listed would be possible, but one or several related case studies would be most useful.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

47) On the basis of case study research, psychoanalyst Bruno Bettelheim wrote that autism in children is caused by cold and rejecting mothers. Thousands of women blamed themselves for lacking warmth. The example is described in order to:

- A) demonstrate that nurture is more important than nature in psychological problems such

- as autism.
- B) illustrate the importance of motherhood so that other children don't suffer this type of tragedy.
- C) illustrate that drawing conclusions solely on the basis of case studies can have disastrous results.
- D) demonstrate that case studies are able to establish causal connections in some clinical cases.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Case studies may generate hypotheses, but it is not appropriate to generalize from case studies and draw conclusions about other people.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

- 48) A case study would be the most appropriate method to investigate which of these topics?
- A) the math skills of students in Japan as compared to those of Canadian students
  - B) the development of a male baby raised as a female after a surgical error destroyed his penis
  - C) physiological changes that occur when people watch violent movies
  - D) the ways in which the games of boys differ from the games of girls

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Case studies are most useful in unusual or rare cases.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

- 49) Over a period of 55 years, a British woman sniffed large amounts of cocaine, which she obtained legally under British regulations for the treatment of addicts. She appeared to show no negative effects, other than drug dependence. What does this case tell us about the dangers/safety of cocaine?
- A) It is safe when legally regulated.
  - B) Not much.
  - C) It is dangerous because it causes dependence.
  - D) It should be legalized in Canada.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) This is a case study and cannot be generalized to other people, therefore it tells us nothing.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

- 50) Which of the following is NOT a descriptive method?
- A) tests
  - B) case studies
  - C) surveys
  - D) correlation

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Correlation is a statistical technique, not a descriptive technique.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

51) Which descriptive method would be most appropriate for studying flirtation behaviour in college students?

- A) test
- B) survey
- C) observation
- D) case study

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Because flirtation is often engaged in without awareness, observation would be most appropriate.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

52) Which descriptive method would be most appropriate for studying mathematics ability of incoming college students?

- A) case study
- B) test
- C) observation
- D) survey

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Tests are most useful in measuring ability of large groups of people.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

53) Which descriptive method would be most appropriate for studying changes in behaviour following a rare brain disorder?

- A) observation
- B) survey
- C) case study
- D) test

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Case studies are most useful in rare or unusual cases.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

54) An academic researcher would use the case study method in all of the following situations EXCEPT:

- A) when the purpose of the research is to track down a cause.
- B) when practical considerations prevent other methods of gathering information.
- C) when first beginning to study a research topic.
- D) when ethical considerations prevent other methods of gathering information.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) The case study method is not useful in determining causes, though it may result in hypotheses.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

55) In \_\_\_\_\_ the researcher carefully and systematically watches and records behaviour, without interfering with the behaviour.

- A) survey research
- B) double-blind research
- C) experimental research
- D) observational research

Answer: D

Explanation: D) This is a description of observational research.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

56) An advantage of observational studies is that:

- A) they can provide accurate descriptions of behaviour.
- B) they do not provide hypotheses to be tested.
- C) they can answer questions about cause and effect.
- D) the presence of observers can alter the behaviour being observed.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Observational studies provide good descriptive information but cannot answer questions about cause and effect, though they may provide some hypotheses to be tested. Observer effects are a disadvantage, not an advantage.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

57) Dawn is systematically recording behaviours at a nursery school, making sure that she doesn't interfere with the behaviours. Dawn is engaged in:

- A) double-blind research.
- B) observational research.
- C) survey research.
- D) experimental research.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) This is an example of observational research.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

58) For his adult development class, Barry is systematically recording behaviours at an assisted-care facility, making sure that he doesn't interfere with the behaviours. Barry is engaged in:

- A) observational research.
- B) statistically significant research.
- C) standardized testing.

D) experimental research.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is an example of observational research.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

59) Dr. Littman-Smith is conducting research in Kenya in order to determine the ways that mothers and their toddlers interact throughout the day. It is most likely that she is engaged in:

A) case study research.

B) experimental research.

C) laboratory observation.

D) naturalistic observation.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Naturalistic observation, or observation in a natural setting, would be most useful in this example.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

60) Dr. Nicod is conducting research in France in order to determine the ways that mothers and their toddlers interact throughout the day. It is most likely that she is engaged in:

A) meta-analysis research.

B) naturalistic observation.

C) survey research.

D) psychological testing.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Naturalistic observation, or observation in a natural setting, would be most useful in this example.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

61) Professor Gaggos wants to determine whether the needs for personal space are different in Greece than they are in Canada. His results will be used to train business executives in maintaining appropriate conversational distances. The research method appropriate to his purpose would be:

A) naturalistic observation.

B) a case study.

C) an objective inventory.

D) laboratory observation.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Naturalistic observation, or observation in a natural setting, would be most useful in this example.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

- 62) Professor Hardin wants to know if people consume greater quantities of alcohol during "happy hour" specials. It is most likely that she will use the \_\_\_\_\_ method to explore this topic.
- A) double-blind
  - B) experimental
  - C) naturalistic observation
  - D) case study

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Naturalistic observation, or observation in a natural setting, would be most useful and accurate in this example.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

- 63) When researchers visited 32 pubs in one city they ordered beers and recorded observations on napkins and pieces of newspaper. The reason they kept records in this way was:
- A) to be able to determine experimenter effects at a later point in time.
  - B) to make sure that their intentions were not obvious to those they were observing.
  - C) to conduct a double-blind study in each of the pubs.
  - D) to make sure the study had test-retest reliability.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) In observational research, it is important that the subjects not be aware that they are being observed. Otherwise their behaviour may be altered.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

- 64) Tess agrees to sleep in a laboratory for three nights so that researchers can obtain information about her brain and muscle activity during sleep. She is taking part in a \_\_\_\_\_ study.
- A) double-blind
  - B) single-blind
  - C) laboratory observation
  - D) naturalistic observation

Answer: C

Explanation: C) In this example, observation is being carried out in a specialized laboratory, not in a natural setting.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

- 65) Psychologists sometimes prefer to make observations in a laboratory setting rather than a naturalistic setting because:
- A) subjects take their participation seriously in a professional environment.
  - B) it is too time-consuming to have to drive from place to place to observe subjects.
  - C) a lab allows the researchers to have more control over the situation.
  - D) laboratory observation results generalize to everyday life.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) In some cases, it is important for researchers to have more control over the environment than they would have in a natural setting.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

- 66) Professor Steegel wants to know how infants of different ages respond when left with a stranger. The most efficient approach to explore this topic would be to conduct a:
- A) naturalistic observation.
  - B) series of case studies.
  - C) laboratory observation.
  - D) double-blind experiment.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) It would be unlikely that one would encounter this type of situation very often in a natural setting, but it can be set up in a laboratory.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

- 67) Professor Kribs wants to know how infants of different ages respond when left with a stranger. The most efficient approach to explore this topic would be to conduct a:
- A) laboratory observation.
  - B) double-blind experiment.
  - C) survey.
  - D) single-blind experiment.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) It would be unlikely that one would encounter this type of situation very often in a natural setting, but it can be set up in a laboratory.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

- 68) Professor Turner wants to know if physiological changes occur when people watch violent movies. The most appropriate method to study this would be:
- A) survey.
  - B) laboratory observation.
  - C) naturalistic observation.
  - D) case study.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Laboratory observation would be the most efficient method to use in this situation.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

- 69) A naturalistic observation would be the most appropriate method to investigate which of these topics?
- A) the math skills of students in Japan as compared to those of Canadian students
  - B) physiological changes that occur when people watch violent movies
  - C) the ways in which the games of boys differ from the games of girls
  - D) the development of a male baby raised as a female after a surgical error destroyed his

penis  
Answer: C  
Explanation: C) Naturalistic observation, which observes and describes behaviour in a natural setting, would be most useful for determining the types of games that boys and girls engage in.

Type: MC  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Applied

70) A laboratory observation would be the most appropriate method to investigate which of these topics?  
A) physiological changes that occur when people watch violent movies  
B) the math skills of students in Japan as compared to those of Canadian students  
C) the ways in which the games of boys differ from the games of girls  
D) the development of a male baby raised as a female after a surgical error destroyed his penis

Answer: A  
Explanation: A) Because of the need for specialized equipment to measure physiological changes, laboratory observation would be most efficient and therefore most appropriate.

Type: MC  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Conceptual

71) One shortcoming of laboratory observation is that:  
A) the presence of researchers and special equipment may cause subjects to act differently than they would in their natural surroundings.  
B) some subjects are given detailed instructions about how to behave, whereas others receive only vague instructions.  
C) the results often are inaccurate because many people have a distorted view of their own abilities and traits.  
D) teachers and parents do not usually question the results from a laboratory observation since the results are summarized in a single, precise-sounding number.

Answer: A  
Explanation: A) When people know they are being observed and when they are not in their normal environment, their behaviour may differ from what it would be in a more natural setting without the presence of observers.

Type: MC  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Factual

72) Procedures used to measure and evaluate personality traits, emotional states, aptitudes, and values are called:  
A) field research.  
B) laboratory observations.  
C) control conditions.  
D) psychological tests.

Answer: D



Explanation: D) Tests are used to measure personality traits, emotional states, aptitudes, opinions, values, and other characteristics.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

- 73) Assessment instruments that are designed to tap unconscious feelings or motives are called:
- A) inventories.
  - B) objective tests.
  - C) alternate forms.
  - D) projective tests.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Projective tests are used to try to determine a person's unconscious feelings and motives.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

- 74) Tessa agrees to an evaluation designed to tap her unconscious feelings and motives. Tessa will be given a/an:
- A) projective test.
  - B) alternate form exam.
  - C) inventory.
  - D) objective test.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is an example of a situation in which a projective test would be used.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

- 75) Assessment instruments that are designed to measure beliefs, feelings, or behaviours of which an individual is aware are called:
- A) inferential statistics.
  - B) projective tests.
  - C) norms.
  - D) objective tests.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) This is a description of objective tests, as distinguished from projective tests.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

- 76) Harvey is being assessed in order to measure his beliefs and feelings regarding the next election. It is most likely that the assessment instrument will be a/an:
- A) projective test.
  - B) norm.
  - C) inferential statistic.
  - D) objective test.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) An objective test would be most appropriate in this situation because Harvey is aware of his beliefs and feelings regarding the upcoming election.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

77) A researcher decides that a psychological test is the most efficient means of testing his hypothesis. A test would NOT be appropriate if the researcher wanted to:

- A) make a conclusion regarding cause and effect.
- B) promote self-understanding among his participants.
- C) draw generalizations about human behaviour.
- D) clarify the reactions of the same person at different stages of life.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Tests are descriptive and cannot be used to determine cause and effect.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

78) One test of a good test is whether it is standardized, that is, whether:

- A) the test specifies the operations for observing and measuring the process being tested.
- B) uniform procedures exist for giving and scoring the test.
- C) the test yields consistent scores from one time and place to another time and place.
- D) the test specifies relationships between events or variables and yields an empirical evaluation.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Standardization involves uniformity in giving and scoring tests.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

79) When Haylee takes a personality test, the researcher gives her detailed instructions and plenty of time to complete it. But Tyler takes the same test and is given only vague instructions and a limited amount of time. This procedural difference shows a problem in regard to:

- A) reliability.
- B) validity.
- C) standardization.
- D) norms.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Standardization means that the test is always given under the same circumstances and with the same instructions.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

80) Hadley is told that the achievement test that he is taking is a standardized test. This means that:

- A) the test will be measuring what is it intended to measure.
- B) the score he receives is likely to be similar to the score he would receive at a later test

- session.
- C) similar scores occur when the test is given in a standard laboratory setting or in a naturalistic setting.
  - D) uniform procedures exist for giving and scoring the test.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Standardization involves uniformity in giving and scoring tests.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

81) When Hoshi asks about the test she is taking, she is told that the achievement test does use established standards of performance. Hoshi's question was about the test's:

- A) content validity.
- B) norms.
- C) test-retest reliability.
- D) criterion validity.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Norms are standards of achievement that have been determined from a representative sample of people.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

82) Reliability in tests means that the test:

- A) is unbiased.
- B) is fair.
- C) actually measures what it is supposed to measure.
- D) produces the same results from one time and place to the next.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Reliable tests are consistent.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

83) An established standard of performance defines:

- A) content validity.
- B) a standard score.
- C) reliability.
- D) a norm.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) This is a definition of a norm.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

84) In order to be useful, a test must be reliable, that is, it must:

- A) produce the same results from one time to the next.
- B) measure what it is designed to measure.

- C) compare results against established standards of performance.
- D) predict other criteria of the trait in question.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) To be reliable, a test must produce consistent results.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

85) When Joyce takes a personality test, she is told that the test is reliable, that is, it:

- A) predicts other criteria of the personality trait in question.
- B) compares its results against established standards of performance.
- C) produces the same results from one time to the next.
- D) measures what it is designed to measure.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) To be reliable, a test must produce consistent results.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

86) You have developed a personality "inventory" and are ready to administer this new test to a group of participants. Your test would be considered a/an \_\_\_\_\_ test.

- A) naturalistic
- B) projective
- C) objective
- D) subjective

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Objective tests are also called "inventories," and they measure beliefs, feelings, or behaviours of which an individual is aware.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

87) The advantage of a psychological test, assuming it is well constructed, rests on the fact that:

- A) most people are highly accurate in evaluating themselves.
- B) many people do not have an accurate view of themselves.
- C) they permit greater control over the situation than do laboratory observations.
- D) psychological tests allow researchers to make cause-and-effect statements.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Many people have a distorted view of their own abilities and traits; hence, well-constructed psychological tests are a great improvement over simple self-evaluation.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

88) When Sandee takes a personality test she is told that the resulting score is compared to norms, that is, the test:

- A) predicts other criteria of the personality trait in question.
- B) measures what it is designed to measure.

- C) produces the same results from one time to the next.
- D) results are compared to established standards of performance.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Norms are established standards of performance to which an individual's test score can be compared.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

89) Greg is given a vocational-interest test and then retakes the same test a week later. The psychologist is measuring the \_\_\_\_\_ of the test.

- A) alternate-forms reliability
- B) content validity
- C) test-retest reliability
- D) criterion validity

Answer: C

Explanation: C) This is a description of how test-retest reliability is established.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

90) Ken is given a vocational-interest test and then takes a similar test a week later. The psychologist is measuring the \_\_\_\_\_ of the test.

- A) alternate-forms reliability
- B) criterion validity
- C) content validity
- D) test-retest reliability

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is a description of how alternate-forms reliability is established.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

91) Anastasia is given a vocational-interest test in November and then retakes the test in January. The psychologist is \_\_\_\_\_ of the test.

- A) standardizing the norms
- B) measuring the alternate-forms reliability
- C) establishing the criterion validity
- D) measuring the test-retest reliability

Answer: D

Explanation: D) This is a description of how test-retest reliability is established.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

92) A team of psychologists is studying changes in attitudes toward nuclear disarmament after a TV movie about nuclear holocaust. It is most likely that they are conducting a/an:

- A) test.

- B) experiment.
- C) observational study.
- D) case study.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Tests can be used to measure attitudes both before and after viewing the movie.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

93) Professor Tearlach gives her new test of psychological aptitude to her psychology students at the start of the year. At the end of the year, she finds out that those students who did poorly on her test averaged an A in her courses. A shortcoming of the test is that it lacks:

- A) reliability.
- B) a representative sample.
- C) criterion validity.
- D) double-blind procedures.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) In this example, criterion validity is clearly lacking since the test does not predict performance.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

94) A test would be the most appropriate method to investigate which of these topics?

- A) the development of a male baby raised as a female after a surgical error destroyed his penis
- B) physiological changes that occur when people watch violent movies
- C) the math skills of students in Korea as compared to those of Canadian students
- D) the ways in which the games of boys differ from the games of girls

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Tests are most appropriate for measuring characteristics of large groups of people.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

95) Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of a good test?

- A) It is believable.
- B) It is standardized.
- C) It is valid.
- D) It is reliable.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Whether a test is believable has no bearing on whether it is a good test.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

96) With respect to assessment instruments, when test scores are consistent they are referred to as \_\_\_\_\_, whereas the term \_\_\_\_\_ means that the test scores accurately reflect what is being

measured.

- A) valid; reliable
- B) valid; standardized
- C) consistent; reliable
- D) reliable; valid

Answer: D

Explanation: D) To be reliable, a test must produce consistent results. Validity means that a test measures what it is designed to measure.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

97) Which of the following statements is FALSE?

- A) Popular polls and surveys often suffer from volunteer bias because people who feel strongly enough to volunteer their opinions may differ from those who remain silent.
- B) Surveys are procedures used to measure and evaluate personality traits, emotional states, aptitude, interests, abilities, and values.
- C) A problem with surveys is that sometimes people lie or misinterpret the question.
- D) Most people do not realize that a sample's size is less critical than its representativeness.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Tests, not surveys, are procedures used to measure and evaluate personality traits, emotional states, aptitude, interests, abilities, and values.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

98) Which of the following is an area of controversy concerning the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)?

- A) The validity of the TOEFL for students who take their primary courses in languages other than English.
- B) There are large discrepancies when the results of two TOEFL testing sessions are compared.
- C) The ability of the TOEFL to predict university performance is questionable.
- D) The extent to which the TOEFL scores are fair in regard to women and minorities has been questioned.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) There is a marginal relationship between scores on the TOEFL and academic performance for undergraduate students.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

99) Two types of validity are:

- A) standardization and reliability.
- B) validity with norms and validity without norms.
- C) content validity and standardization.
- D) content validity and criterion validity.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Content validity and criterion validity are the two major types of validity.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

100) If a test measures what it is supposed to measure, it is:

- A) reliable.
- B) valid.
- C) standardized.
- D) criterion referenced.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) This is a definition of validity.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

101) When Dana takes a personality test, she is told that the test has been judged to have criterion validity, that is:

- A) it produces the same results from one time to the next.
- B) its results are compared to established standards of performance.
- C) it measures what it is designed to measure.
- D) it predicts other criteria of the personality trait in question.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Criterion validity exists when a test's results are predictive of other criteria of the trait being measured.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

102) When Becky takes a personality test, she is told that the test has been judged to have content validity, that is:

- A) it predicts other criteria of the personality trait in question.
- B) it produces the same results from one time to the next.
- C) it measures what it is designed to measure.
- D) its results are compared to established standards of performance.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Content validity exists when a test's items are related to actual standards of performance.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

103) In order to be useful, a test must be valid, that is, it must:

- A) produce the same results from one time to the next.
- B) produce comparable results when alternate forms are given.
- C) compare results against established standards of performance.
- D) measure what it is designed to measure.

Answer: D



Explanation: D) Validity means that a test measures what it is designed to measure.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

104) Ryan and his middle-school teammates buy a sports magazine and take the test entitled "Do you have what it takes to make the CFL?" Given our textbook's discussion of test construction, what advice would be best to give to Ryan?

- A) The norms were probably established using college students and so the results wouldn't apply to you.
- B) Keep practicing because unless an injury gets in the way, the test's results are likely to be reliable and valid.
- C) Magazine tests are usually valid instruments, but they are rarely reliable and so the results only explain current football skills.
- D) Don't take the results too seriously because the test is just a list of questions that someone thought sounded good.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Tests in popular magazines have rarely been determined to be valid or reliable, and they lack normative data.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

105) Professor Flummox gives her new test of psychological aptitude to her psychology students at the start of the year. At the end of the year, she finds out that those students who received excellent scores on her test averaged only a C in her courses. A shortcoming of the test is that it lacks:

- A) reliability.
- B) criterion validity.
- C) a representative sample.
- D) double-blind procedures.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) In this example, criterion validity is clearly lacking since the test does not predict performance.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

106) The pop-psych tests found in magazines and newspapers usually:

- A) have not been evaluated for validity or reliability.
- B) have been evaluated for validity and reliability.
- C) have not been evaluated for validity but are reliable tests.
- D) have not been evaluated for reliability but are valid tests.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Tests in popular magazines have rarely been determined to be valid or reliable, and they lack normative data.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

107) Most personality and intelligence tests on the internet and in magazines are:

- A) neither reliable nor valid.
- B) both reliable and valid.
- C) valid, but not reliable.
- D) reliable, but not valid.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Tests in popular magazines and on the internet have rarely been determined to be valid or reliable, and they lack normative data.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

108) \_\_\_\_\_ usually generate information about people indirectly; in contrast, \_\_\_\_\_ gather information by asking people directly about their experiences.

- A) Case studies; laboratory experiments
- B) Surveys; case studies
- C) Psychological tests; surveys
- D) Laboratory experiments; psychological tests

Answer: C

Explanation: C) This is a comparison of tests to surveys.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Conceptual

109) Which descriptive method would be most appropriate for studying attitudes toward stem-cell research?

- A) survey
- B) case study
- C) test
- D) observation

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Surveys are generally most appropriate for measuring attitudes of large groups of people.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

110) When a radio talk show host asked listeners to call in their opinions regarding legislation to decriminalize marijuana, the overwhelming response was support for the change. All of the following are likely shortcomings of this survey EXCEPT:

- A) the lack of a representative sample.
- B) the method of subject recruitment.
- C) the tendency to lie about touchy subjects.
- D) the issue of volunteer bias.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) In this situation, most people probably do not lie.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

111) A group of subjects, randomly selected from the population of interest, which matches the population on important characteristics such as age and sex is called:

- A) volunteer bias.
- B) a representative sample.
- C) the control group.
- D) the experimental group.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) This is a definition of a representative sample.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

112) Dr. Wiseman wants to know about the alcohol consumption patterns among college students in Canada. He should:

- A) draw a representative sample among college students.
- B) give the survey to every college student in the country.
- C) require students' names on each survey to avoid the tendency to lie.
- D) remember that sample size is the most critical factor in survey research.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) It is not necessary to survey the entire population of interest as long as the sample used is representative.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

113) The editors of *Scientific American* are able to obtain a representative sample of their readers in order to assess their attitudes toward preservation of the rain forests in Costa Rica. When interpreting the results of their survey, the editors will be able to apply the results to :

- A) North Americans.
- B) Costa Rica.
- C) scientists.
- D) subscribers of *Scientific American*.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Survey results can be generalized only to people similar to the original respondents.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

114) The magazine *Lover's Delight* publishes a survey of its female readers called "The Sex Life of the Canadian Wife." It reports that 87% of all wives like to make love in rubber boots. The critical flaw in this research would be the fact that:

- A) rubber boots are not equally available in all regions of the country.
- B) the sample is not representative of Canadian wives.
- C) a psychological test, rather than a survey, should have been given.

D) "making love" has not been operationally defined.  
Answer: B  
Explanation: B) Respondents to such a survey would include only readers of the particular magazine and would not be representative of all people.  
Type: MC  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Applied

115) A representative sample is a:  
A) large group of participants containing at least 25% of the population of interest.  
B) group of participants that contains both volunteers and nonvolunteers.  
C) group of participants containing males, females, and representatives of all racial and ethnic groups.  
D) group of participants that accurately represents the larger population of interest.  
Answer: D  
Explanation: D) A definition of a representative sample is a group of participants that accurately represents the larger population of interest.  
Type: MC  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Factual

116) The likelihood of lying about a touchy topic is reduced when respondents:  
A) are questioned by a compassionate interviewer.  
B) are paid for their participation in the survey.  
C) are guaranteed anonymity.  
D) receive explanations regarding the importance of the survey.  
Answer: C  
Explanation: C) Anonymity generally results in increased honesty about touchy subjects.  
Type: MC  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Conceptual

117) Famed sex researcher Alfred Kinsey found that more truthful responses were elicited when he phrased a question in which of the following ways?  
A) Do your behaviours regarding nonmarital sex match your values?  
B) Have you ever had sex outside of marriage?  
C) Have you ever engaged in fornication or adultery?  
D) How many times have you had nonmarital sex?  
Answer: D  
Explanation: D) This type of phrasing generally lends itself to more honest answers.  
Type: MC  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Conceptual

118) Problems with surveys may include all of the following EXCEPT:  
A) lack of representative samples.  
B) lack of honesty of participants.  
C) choice of media (phone, internet, etc.) to use for the survey.

D) volunteer bias.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Choice of media is an important consideration, but is not necessarily a problem.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

119) Many tests and surveys on the Web have not been:

A) correlated.

B) replicated.

C) validated.

D) standardized.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Many tests and surveys on the Web have not been validated.

Type: MC

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

120) A/an \_\_\_\_\_ is a measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another.

A) correlation

B) independent variable

C) experimental effect

D) dependent variable

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is a definition of correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

121) A statistical measure of the relationship between two variables is the definition of:

A) correlation.

B) relationship coefficient.

C) an experiment.

D) replication.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is a definition of correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

122) A negative correlation means that:

A) high values of one variable are associated with low values of the other.

B) there is no relationship between the two variables.

C) high values of one variable are associated with high values of the other.

D) low values of one variable are associated with low values of the other.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Negative correlations indicate that two related variables move in opposite directions; that is, the higher one variable the lower the other is and vice versa.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

- 123) Julie has found that the number of hours she sleeps each night is related to the scores she receives on quizzes the next day. As her sleep approaches eight hours, her quiz scores improve; as her sleep drops to five hours, her quiz scores show a similar decline. Julie realizes that:
- A) she should sleep about 10 hours a night to ensure 100% quiz grades.
  - B) there is a positive correlation between the number of hours she sleeps and her quiz grades.
  - C) her low quiz scores are caused by sleep deprivation the night before a quiz.
  - D) there is a negative correlation between the number of hours she sleeps and her quiz grades.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) This is an example of a positive correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

- 124) Janie has found that the number of hours she sleeps each night is related to the scores she receives on quizzes the next day. As her sleep approaches eight hours, her quiz scores improve; as her sleep drops to five hours, her quiz scores show a similar decline. Janie realizes that:
- A) her low quiz scores are caused by sleep deprivation the night before a quiz.
  - B) she should sleep about 10 hours a night to ensure 100% quiz grades.
  - C) worrying about low quiz scores causes her to have insomnia before a quiz.
  - D) there is a positive correlation between the number of hours she sleeps and her quiz grades.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) This is an example of a positive correlation, but does not give any information about cause and effect.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

- 125) The word "correlation" is often used incorrectly as a synonym for:
- A) relationship.
  - B) variable.
  - C) reliability.
  - D) validity.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Correlation is a measure of relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

- 126) A correlation is a numerical measure of the:
- A) behaviours of subjects followed and periodically assessed over time.
  - B) strength of the relationship between two variables.

- C) behaviours of subjects of different ages compared at a given time.
- D) unintended changes in subjects' behaviour due to cues from the experimenter.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Correlation is a measure of relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

127) All of the following variables EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_ show a positive correlation.

- A) height and weight
- B) school grades and I.Q. scores
- C) men's educational level and their income
- D) average income and the incidence of dental disease

Answer: D

Explanation: D) There is a negative relationship between average income and the incidence of dental disease.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

128) All of the following variables EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_ show a negative correlation.

- A) the price of a car and the age of a car
- B) hours spent watching TV and grade point average
- C) average income and the incidence of dental disease
- D) adult shoe size and IQ scores

Answer: D

Explanation: D) There is no relationship between shoe size and IQ scores.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

129) Two sets of observations assessing height and weight are compared. Which of the following is the most likely outcome?

- A) The two variables will be uncorrelated.
- B) The first variable causes the second variable.
- C) The two variables will be positively correlated.
- D) The two variables will be negatively correlated.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Height and weight are positively correlated; that is, in general the taller a person is the more he or she weighs.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

130) Two sets of observations assessing men's educational level and their annual income are compared. Which of the following is the most likely outcome?

- A) The two variables will be uncorrelated.
- B) The first variable caused the second variable.

- C) The two variables will be positively correlated.
- D) The two variables will be negatively correlated.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) In general, men with more education also earn more, a positive correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

131) Two sets of observations, assessing annual income and the number of dental problems needing care, are compared. Which of the following is the most likely outcome?

- A) The two variables will be positively correlated.
- B) The first variable causes the second variable.
- C) The two variables will be negatively correlated.
- D) The two variables will be uncorrelated.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) In general, people with low incomes do not receive preventive dental care and therefore have more dental problems. Thus this is a negative correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

132) Two sets of observations, assessing annual income and dental health, are compared. Which of the following is the most likely outcome?

- A) The two variables will be positively correlated.
- B) The two variables will be uncorrelated.
- C) The two variables will be negatively correlated.
- D) The first variable causes the second variable.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) In general, people with higher incomes receive more preventive dental care and therefore have better dental health. Thus this is a positive correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

133) Two sets of observations, assessing hours spent watching television and grade-point averages, are compared. Which of the following is the most likely outcome?

- A) The two variables will be negatively correlated.
- B) The first variable causes the second variable.
- C) The two variables will be uncorrelated.
- D) The two variables will be positively correlated.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) In general, grade-point average decreases as hours watching television increases, a negative correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

134) Two sets of observations, assessing age and the number of hairs on a man's head, are compared.



Which of the following is the most likely outcome?

- A) The first variable causes the second variable.
- B) The two variables will be positively correlated.
- C) The two variables will be uncorrelated.
- D) The two variables will be negatively correlated.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Generally, older men have less hair, a negative correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

135) Two sets of observations, assessing shoe size and IQ, are compared. Which of the following is the most likely outcome?

- A) The two variables will be uncorrelated.
- B) The two variables will be negatively correlated.
- C) The first variable causes the second variable.
- D) The two variables will be positively correlated.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) It is unlikely that shoe size and IQ are related in any way.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

136) A researcher is interested in whether there is a relationship between musical ability and mathematical ability. The type of design best suited to this task would be a/an:

- A) case study.
- B) correlational study.
- C) survey.
- D) naturalistic observation.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) A correlational study is a descriptive study that looks for a consistent relationship between two phenomena.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

137) It is quite likely that the more classes students miss, the lower their test grades tend to be. This relationship illustrates a/an:

- A) coefficient of correlation.
- B) positive correlation
- C) zero correlation.
- D) negative correlation

Answer: D

Explanation: D) A negative correlation means that high values of one variable are associated with low values of another.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

138) Professor Holden gives a psychology exam on the origins of intelligence. She gives a short answer question based on the IQ scores of a parent–child pair. In order to answer the question correctly, her students need to remember that:

- A) given these variables, the correlation will be positive.
- B) to say that a relationship exists, you need more than one pair of values to compare.
- C) given these variables, the correlation will be uncorrelated.
- D) given these variables, the correlation will be negative.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) To say that a relationship exists, you need more than one pair of values to compare.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

139) Dr. Myers found that students in her class who scored 80% or better on the mid-term exam were likely to score 70% or better on the final exam. Students who scored below 60% on the midterm, however, were likely to end up failing the final exam. These test results suggest:

- A) there is a strong negative correlation between the midterm and final exam scores.
- B) students who do poorly on the midterm exam give up and fail to study adequately for the final exam.
- C) the midterm and final exam scores are not correlated.
- D) there is a strong positive correlation between the midterm and final exam scores.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) A strong positive correlation between two variables indicates a strong direct relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

140) Imagine that the personality traits of conservatism and aggression have a strong negative correlation. If Sue has a score on aggression that is very low:

- A) it is impossible to predict her score on the conservatism scale without more information.
- B) she will likely have an average conservatism score.
- C) she will likely have a high score on conservatism.
- D) she will likely have a low score on conservatism.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) When two variables are negatively correlated, an increase in one variable is associated with a decrease in the other.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

141) A researcher computes a coefficient of correlation and determines that it is zero. This finding indicates that:

- A) a perfect correlation between two variables exists.
- B) as one variable increases, the other variable decreases.
- C) there is no relationship between two variables.
- D) as one variable increases, the other variable increases.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) The closer the correlation coefficient is to 0, the weaker the relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

142) Shannon reads in a news magazine that people who are chronically depressed are more likely than non-depressed people to develop cancer. From this article, Shannon would be able to determine that:

- A) chronic depression causes cancer.
- B) chronic depression and cancer are related to one another.
- C) early, undetected cancer causes depression.
- D) depressed people tend to smoke, causing cancer.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Correlation tells us about relationships, but not causal relationships.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

143) One of the more common errors with respect to correlational findings is making the assumption that a correlation between two variables:

- A) does not tell the researcher anything useful.
- B) means that since one variable predicts a second variable, the first must be causing the second variable.
- C) , whether positive or negative, must be a perfect correlation to be useful to researchers.
- D) does not permit a researcher to make predictions about one variable based on information from another variable.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) A correlation does not show causation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

144) The coefficient of correlation conveys:

- A) whether or not the principle of falsifiability applies to each variable.
- B) the unintended changes in a subject's behaviour due to the experimenter's cues.
- C) the size and direction of a relationship between two variables.
- D) whether one variable causes the other variable to happen.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Correlations give information about size and direction of relationships, but not cause and effect.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

145) Which of the following correlations is the strongest?

- A) -0.8
- B) +0.5
- C) -0.1

D) +0.7

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Correlations further away from 0 (either positive or negative) are stronger.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

146) A correlation coefficient of -1.73 means that:

- A) a calculation error has been made.
- B) the relationship between the two variables is very strong.
- C) as one variable increases, so does the other.
- D) the relationship between the two variables is very weak.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Correlations can only range from -1 to +1; therefore a calculation error has been made.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

147) When two variables are not related, the correlation coefficient will be close to:

- A) 0.
- B) +1.
- C) -10.
- D) -1.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) The closer the correlation coefficient is to 0, the weaker the relationship. A correlation coefficient of 0 indicates no relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

148) When two variables have a strong positive correlation, the correlation coefficient will be close to:

- A) 0.
- B) -1.
- C) +10.
- D) +1.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Correlation coefficients close to +1 indicate strong positive relationships.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

149) When two variables have a strong negative correlation, the correlation coefficient will be close to:

- A) -10.
- B) +1.
- C) 0.
- D) -1.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Correlation coefficients close to -1 indicate strong negative relationships.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

150) The strongest relationship, as indicated by these correlation coefficients, is:

A) +3.42.

B) -.74.

C) -.35.

D) 0.0.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) The further from a correlation coefficient is from 0, the stronger the relationship. A correlation coefficient of +3.42 is not possible.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

151) The strongest relationship, as indicated by these correlation coefficients, is:

A) +.68.

B) -.74.

C) +.71.

D) -.69.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) The further from a correlation coefficient is from 0, the stronger the relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

152) The strongest relationship, as indicated by these correlation coefficients, is:

A) -.74.

B) +.73.

C) +.68.

D) -.67.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) The further from a correlation coefficient is from 0, the stronger the relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

153) The weakest relationship, as indicated by these correlation coefficients, is:

A) +.27.

B) -.74.

C) -.35.

D) +.16.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) The closer the correlation coefficient is to 0, the weaker the relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

154) A researcher finds that there is no correlation between the colour of the house you grew up in and your IQ. This relationship, as indicated by these correlation coefficients, is:

- A)  $-0.35$ .
- B)  $0.0$ .
- C)  $+0.27$ .
- D)  $-1.00$ .

Answer: B

Explanation: B) The closer the correlation coefficient is to 0, the weaker the relationship. A correlation coefficient of 0 indicates no relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

155) A researcher finds that there is no correlation between the colour of the house you grew up in and your IQ. This relationship, as indicated by these correlation coefficients, is:

- A)  $+10.00$ .
- B)  $-10.00$ .
- C)  $0.0$ .
- D)  $-1.00$ .

Answer: C

Explanation: C) The closer the correlation coefficient is to 0, the weaker the relationship. A correlation coefficient of 0 indicates no relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

156) Which of the following statements about correlation is true?

- A) Positive correlations are meaningful, but negative ones are not.
- B) A strong correlation is indicative of a causal relationship between variables.
- C) Correlations close to  $+1.0$  or  $-1.0$  are strong, while correlations close to 0 are weak.
- D) Negative correlations are weak, but positive ones are strong.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) The closer the correlation coefficient is to 0, the weaker the relationship, and the closer the correlation coefficient is to  $+1$  or  $-1$ , the stronger the relationship.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

157) The number of storks nesting in some European villages is positively correlated with the number of human births in the villages. This means that:

- A) when many storks are nesting in the villages, researchers may predict fewer human births.
- B) the researchers made an error in their calculations since babies don't attract storks!
- C) since storks don't bring babies, one may assume that correlation never represents causation.
- D) the number of human births may be predicted by knowing the number of stork nestings.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Correlations can be used to make predictions, but do not indicate cause and effect.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

158) The higher a male monkey's level of the hormone testosterone, the more aggressive he is likely to be. This means that:

- A) testosterone causes aggression.
- B) testosterone and aggression are negatively correlated.
- C) testosterone and aggression are uncorrelated.
- D) testosterone and aggression are positively correlated.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Correlations indicate strength and direction of relationships, but do not indicate cause and effect. This is an example of a positive correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

159) The higher a male monkey's level of the hormone testosterone, the less docile he is likely to be. This means that:

- A) testosterone deficiencies cause docility in monkeys.
- B) testosterone and docility are negatively correlated.
- C) testosterone and docility are positively correlated.
- D) testosterone and docility are uncorrelated.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Correlations indicate strength and direction of relationships, but do not indicate cause and effect. This is an example of a negative correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

160) The hotter the weather, the more muggings tend to occur. This means that:

- A) hot weather and crime are uncorrelated.
- B) heat causes violent behaviours.
- C) hot weather and crime are positively correlated.
- D) hot weather and crime are negatively correlated.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Correlations indicate strength and direction of relationships, but do not indicate cause and effect. This is an example of a positive correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

161) The colder the weather, the fewer muggings tend to occur. This means that:

- A) cold weather causes a reduction in crime.
- B) cold weather and crime are positively correlated.
- C) cold weather and crime are negatively correlated.

D) cold weather and crime are uncorrelated.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Correlations indicate strength and direction of relationships, but do not indicate cause and effect. This is an example of a negative correlation.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

162) The higher a male monkey's level of the hormone testosterone, the more aggressive he is likely to be. This means that:

A) aggression stimulates the production of testosterone.

B) age may influence aggression and hormone production independently.

C) testosterone causes aggression.

D) any of the above explanations is a possibility.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Any of the explanations is a possibility, but a correlation cannot indicate which one is true.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

163) The hotter the weather, the more muggings tend to occur. This means that:

A) hot temperatures make people edgy and cause them to commit crimes.

B) criminals may find it more comfortable to commit crimes in warm weather.

C) potential victims are more plentiful when the weather warms up.

D) any of the above explanations is a possibility.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Any of the explanations is a possibility, but a correlation cannot indicate which one is true.

Type: MC

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Conceptual

164) The principal reason that researchers use the experimental method is to:

A) make claims concerning cause and effect.

B) eliminate the need for operational definitions.

C) have less control over the situation.

D) determine whether two variables are related.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) An experiment allows the researcher to control or manipulate the situation being studied.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

165) Experiments are more valuable than other research methods because:

A) there is a control group to compare with the experimental group.

B) they allow a determination of cause-and-effect relationships.



- C) they are conducted in labs where the researcher is able to control all the variables.
- D) they use both independent and dependent variables.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Experiments are the only method that allows a determination of cause and effect.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

166) A controlled test of a hypothesis, in which the researcher manipulates one variable in order to discover its effect on another variable, is called a/an:

- A) single-blind study.
- B) control condition.
- C) correlational study.
- D) experiment.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) This is a description of an experiment.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

167) A controlled test of a hypothesis, in which the researcher manipulates one variable in order to discover its effect on another variable, is called:

- A) an experiment.
- B) a case study.
- C) a valid study.
- D) a reliable study.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is a description of an experiment.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

168) Which variable does the experimenter manipulate?

- A) The confounding variable
- B) The control variable
- C) The dependent variable
- D) The independent variable

Answer: D

Explanation: D) The independent variable is manipulated by the experimenter.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

169) A variable that the experimenter manipulates is called a/an:

- A) dependent variable.
- B) independent variable.
- C) coefficient of correlation.
- D) control condition.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) The independent variable is manipulated by the experimenter.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

170) A variable that the experimenter predicts will be affected by her manipulations is called a/an:

- A) independent variable.
- B) dependent variable.
- C) coefficient of correlation.
- D) control condition.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) The dependent variable is a measure of the outcome of an experiment.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

171) Ideally, everything in the experimental situation EXCEPT the \_\_\_\_\_ is held constant.

- A) inferential statistic
- B) hypothesis
- C) independent variable
- D) placebo

Answer: C

Explanation: C) The only difference between experimental and control groups should be the independent variable.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

172) Ideally, everything in the experimental situation EXCEPT the \_\_\_\_\_ is held constant.

- A) reaction of the subjects
- B) presumed effect
- C) dependent variable
- D) independent variable

Answer: D

Explanation: D) The only difference between experimental and control groups should be the independent variable.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

173) One of the variables in a research study is chocolate. Chocolate:

- A) would be an independent variable.
- B) would be a placebo.
- C) would be a dependent variable.
- D) may be either an independent or dependent variable.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Most variables could be either dependent or independent, depending on the experiment.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

174) A researcher wants to know whether eating chocolate makes people nervous. The amount of chocolate eaten:

- A) would be a placebo.
- B) would be a dependent variable.
- C) would be an independent variable.
- D) may be either an independent or dependent variable.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Independent variables are manipulated by the experimenter.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

175) A researcher wants to know whether eating chocolate makes people nervous. The amount of chocolate eaten would be the:

- A) independent variable.
- B) operational definition.
- C) criterion validity.
- D) inferential statistic.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Independent variables are manipulated by the experimenter.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

176) A researcher wants to know whether feeling nervous makes people eat chocolate. The amount of chocolate eaten:

- A) would be an independent variable.
- B) would be a placebo.
- C) would be a dependent variable.
- D) may be either an independent or dependent variable.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Dependent variables are outcome measures.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

177) Professor Marshall wants to know if eating sweets for a bedtime snack makes children active. In his study, sweets before bedtime would be:

- A) the independent variable.
- B) the placebo.
- C) the dependent variable.
- D) the control condition.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Independent variables are manipulated by the experimenter.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

178) A researcher plans to investigate whether a cup of hot milk at night helps people relax so that they fall asleep quickly. In this study,

- A) the control group consists of the subjects drinking hot milk at bedtime.
- B) experimenter effects will occur unless the researcher improves the hypothesis.
- C) the independent variable is the consumption of hot milk at bedtime.
- D) the independent variable is the amount of time it takes the person to fall asleep.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) The independent variable, hot milk, is manipulated by the experimenter.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

179) A research hypothesis proposes that consuming low-carbohydrate diets results in increased weight loss. One group of people follows a low-carb diet for three weeks, while a second group follows a high-carb diet containing the same number of calories for three weeks. The average number of pounds lost per person is compared. What is the dependent variable?

- A) number of pounds lost
- B) the amount of carbs in each diet
- C) the number of calories in each diet
- D) length of time on the diet

Answer: A

Explanation: A) The dependent variable is the outcome measure, the number of pounds lost.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

180) A research hypothesis proposes that consuming low-carbohydrate diets results in increased weight loss. One group of people follows a low-carb diet for three weeks, while a second group follows a high-carb diet containing the same number of calories for three weeks. The average number of pounds lost per person is compared. What is the independent variable?

- A) the amount of carbs in each diet
- B) the number of calories in each diet
- C) number of pounds lost
- D) length of time on the diet

Answer: A

Explanation: A) The independent variable is manipulated by the experimenter, the amount of carbs in each diet.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

181) In a laboratory, smokers are asked to "drive" using a computerized driving simulator equipped

with a stick shift and a gas pedal. The object is to maximize the distance covered by driving as fast as possible on a winding road while avoiding rear-end collisions. Some of the subjects smoke a real cigarette immediately before climbing into the driver's seat. Others smoke a fake cigarette without nicotine. You are interested in comparing how many collisions the two groups have. In this study, the independent variable is:

- A) the use of a driving simulator.
- B) the driving skills of each driver.
- C) the use of nicotine.
- D) the number of collisions.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) The independent variable is manipulated by the experimenter, the use of nicotine.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

182) In a laboratory, smokers are asked to "drive" using a computerized driving simulator equipped with a stick shift and a gas pedal. The object is to maximize the distance covered by driving as fast as possible on a winding road while avoiding rear-end collisions. Some of the subjects smoke a real cigarette immediately before climbing into the driver's seat. Others smoke a fake cigarette without nicotine. You are interested in comparing how many collisions the two groups have. In this study, the dependent variable is:

- A) the number of collisions.
- B) the use of nicotine.
- C) the driving skills of each driver.
- D) the use of a driving simulator.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) The dependent variable is the outcome measure, the number of collisions.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

183) Subjects are randomly assigned to the experimental or control condition to:

- A) make sure the two groups are equivalent.
- B) eliminate the placebo effect.
- C) control for experimenter effects.
- D) control for possible correlations between the independent and dependent variables.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Random assignment helps to eliminate differences between groups.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

184) In an experiment on the effects of playing video games on school grades, which group is the control group?

- A) a group that is allowed to play video games for as long as they want each day
- B) a group that plays video games only on weekends
- C) a group that is allowed to play video games for one hour each day
- D) a group that doesn't play video games at all

Answer: D

Explanation: D) The control group is the one that is not exposed to the independent variable. In this case, the independent variable is playing video games.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

- 185) All of the following are accurate statements regarding random assignment EXCEPT:
- A) it is a procedure in which each subject has the same possibility of being assigned to a given group.
  - B) it is a procedure in which subjects are assigned to a positive correlation or a negative correlation condition.
  - C) it is a procedure for assigning people to experimental and control groups.
  - D) it is a procedure that allows individual characteristics to be roughly balanced between groups.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Random assignment has nothing to do with correlation. It is a procedure for helping to assure that the experimental and control groups are equivalent.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

- 186) Professor Wakelin has developed a new form of therapy that he believes cures anxiety. Of the people who go through his program, 63% improve. A problem with his research study is:
- A) he conducted an experiment when he should have done a laboratory observation.
  - B) over 30% of the people did not improve.
  - C) it lacks a well-developed hypothesis.
  - D) it lacks a control condition.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Without a control group for comparison, it is not possible to interpret the meaning of the experimental results.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

- 187) The \_\_\_\_\_ in an experiment is a comparison condition in which subjects are not exposed to the same treatment as in the experimental condition.
- A) double-blind condition
  - B) criterion validity
  - C) control condition
  - D) single-blind condition

Answer: C

Explanation: C) This is a description of a control group.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

- 188) Dr. Rodgers believes that people under high stress are more likely to develop cardiovascular

disease. When he randomly selects 30 participants who have high-stress jobs, he finds that 26 of the participants develop cardiovascular disease. Based on the results Dr. Rodgers concludes that stress causes an increase in the incidence of cardiovascular disease. His reasoning is flawed because in this study:

- A) he didn't formulate a hypothesis prior to conducting the study.
- B) there was no control group for comparison.
- C) there was no independent variable.
- D) there was no dependent variable.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Without a control group for comparison, it is not possible to interpret the meaning of the experimental results.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

189) In a laboratory, smokers are asked to "drive" using a computerized driving simulator equipped with a stick shift and a gas pedal. The object is to maximize the distance covered by driving as fast as possible on a winding road while avoiding rear-end collisions. Some of the subjects smoke a real cigarette immediately before climbing into the driver's seat. Others smoke a fake cigarette without nicotine. You are interested in comparing how many collisions the two groups have. In this study, the cigarette without nicotine is:

- A) a placebo.
- B) a double-blind procedure.
- C) an hypothesis.
- D) a dependent variable.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) A placebo is a "sugar pill" or treatment without the active ingredient. It is used so that the subjects do not know who is getting nicotine and who isn't.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

190) \_\_\_\_\_ is an experiment in which subjects do not know if they are in the experimental or the control group.

- A) Field research
- B) The double-blind study
- C) The single-blind study
- D) Correlational research

Answer: C

Explanation: C) This is a description of a single-blind study.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

191) Experimenter effects, such as those found by Rosenthal (1966), are likely to occur as a result of:

- A) nonverbal cues.
- B) dishonest researchers.
- C) intentional biasing of researchers.

D) dishonest participants.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Even an experimenter's friendly smile can affect people's responses in a study.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

192) A well-known study on experimenter effects using rats labelled as "maze bright" and "maze dull" was conducted by \_\_\_\_\_ in 1966.

A) Alex Jacobsen

B) Robert Rosenthal

C) B. F. Skinner

D) Wade Tavis

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Rosenthal conducted the study that is described here.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

193) Unintended changes in subjects' behaviour due to cues inadvertently given by the experimenter are called:

A) replications.

B) volunteer biases.

C) single-blind studies.

D) experimenter effects.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) This is a definition of experimenter effects.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

194) The purpose of a single-blind or double-blind study is to:

A) eliminate the effects of expectations on the results of an experiment.

B) examine the difference between the experimental and control groups

C) compare people blind in one eye with people blind in both eyes.

D) examine the effects of the independent variable on the experimental group.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Single- and double-blind studies help to limit the effects of bias and expectations.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

195) Many psychologists have called for more field research because experimental studies:

A) cannot identify cause and effect.

B) do not allow firm conclusions to be drawn.

C) may be missing vital information due to participants' inaccurate memories.

D) often involve artificial situations.

Answer: D



Explanation: D) Artificial situations in some laboratory research cause results to be less generalizable to real situations.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

196) \_\_\_\_\_ is an experiment in which neither the subjects nor the individuals running the experiment know if subjects are in the experimental or the control group until after the results are tallied.

- A) The double-blind study
- B) The single-blind study
- C) Field research
- D) Correlational research

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is a description of a double-blind study.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

197) Many psychologists have called for more field research because experimental studies:

- A) cannot identify cause and effect.
- B) do not allow firm conclusions to be drawn.
- C) often involve artificial situations.
- D) may be missing vital information due to subjects' inaccurate memories.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Laboratory studies often involve somewhat artificial situations and the results cannot generalize to real situations. Field research overcomes this limitation.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

198) Field research may yield better results than laboratory research because:

- A) placebos don't need to be used.
- B) subjects don't know they are in an experiment.
- C) the situation is less artificial.
- D) there is no control group.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Artificial situations in some laboratory research cause results to be less generalizable to real situations.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

199) Which of the following problems is NOT common to both experiments and surveys?

- A) Participants may not be representative of the larger population.
- B) Subjects may not behave honestly.
- C) Generalization may be limited if subjects are not selected randomly.
- D) It is not possible to determine cause and effect.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Experiments, but not surveys, can determine cause and effect.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

200) Which of the following is NOT a problem with experiments?

- A) Experimenter bias may affect subjects' performance.
- B) Generalization may be limited because the situation is artificial.
- C) Use of volunteers may bias the results.
- D) Cause and effect cannot be determined in an experiment.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Cause and effect can be determined by experiments.

Type: MC

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

201) Which of the following is the definition of the "arithmetic mean"?

- A) a statistical procedure that allows researchers to draw inferences about how statistically meaningful a study's results are
- B) an average that is calculated by adding up a set of quantities and dividing the sum by the total number of quantities in the set
- C) a commonly used measure of variability that indicates the average difference between scores in a distribution and their mean
- D) a statistical test that assesses how likely it is that a study's results occurred merely by chance so that the researcher knows that the probability that the difference is "real" is overwhelming

Answer: B

Explanation: B) An arithmetic mean is an average.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

202) Statistics are used for all of the following EXCEPT:

- A) determining the significance of the results.
- B) describing results.
- C) generating results.
- D) determining reliability and meaningfulness of results.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Experiments generate results and statistics describe and analyze them.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Conceptual

203) Descriptive statistics includes all of the following EXCEPT:

- A) calculating the standard deviation.
- B) tests of significance.
- C) use of graphs and charts.

D) calculating the arithmetic mean.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Tests of significance are inferential statistics, not descriptive statistics.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

204) Which of the following is the definition of "descriptive statistics"?

- A) averages that are calculated by adding up a set of quantities and multiplying the sum by the total number of quantities in the set
- B) statistical procedures that organize and summarize research data
- C) statistical tests that assess how likely it is that a study's results occurred merely by chance
- D) statistical procedures that allow researchers to draw inferences about how statistically meaningful a study's results are

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Descriptive statistics are procedures that organize and summarize research data.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

205) Which of the following is the definition of "standard deviation"?

- A) an average that is calculated by adding up a set of quantities and dividing the sum by the total number of quantities in the set
- B) a statistical test that assesses how likely it is that a study's results occurred merely by chance so that the researcher knows that the probability that the difference is "real" is overwhelming
- C) a commonly used measure of variability that indicates the average difference between scores in a distribution and their mean
- D) a statistical procedure that allows researchers to draw implications about how statistically meaningful a study's results are

Answer: C

Explanation: C) A standard deviation is defined as a commonly used measure of variability that indicates the average difference between scores in a distribution and their mean.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

206) If the likelihood that a result occurred by chance is less than 5%:

- A) the results are statistically significant.
- B) the results fail to support the hypothesis being tested.
- C) the results can be used to predict individual behaviour with some accuracy.
- D) the results are meaningless.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) This is a definition of statistical significance.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

207) Psychologists consider a result to be significant if it would be expected to occur by chance \_\_\_\_\_ time(s) in 100 repetitions of the study.

- A) ten or fewer
- B) one
- C) five or fewer
- D) fifteen or fewer

Answer: C

Explanation: C) The most common criterion for significance is a probability less than 5 times in 100 repetitions.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

208) In a journal article, the authors report that the result is significant at the 0.05 level. This means that:

- A) the probability that the result is due to "real" differences between groups is 5 times in 100 repetitions of the study.
- B) the results failed to support the hypothesis of the study, although the researchers may want to do further studies.
- C) the researchers know that the results were not obtained by chance and that the difference between the experimental and the control group is "real."
- D) the probability that the result occurred by chance is extremely low and the probability that the difference is "real" is overwhelming.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) A 0.05 level of significance means that there is less than 5% probability that the results were due to chance.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Conceptual

209) Which of the following is the definition of "inferential statistics"?

- A) statistical procedures that allow researchers to draw inferences about how statistically meaningful a study's results are
- B) statistical tests that assess how likely it is that a study's results occurred merely by chance
- C) averages that are calculated by adding up a set of quantities and multiplying the sum by the total number of quantities in the set
- D) statistical procedures that organize and summarize research data

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Inferential statistics are procedures that allow researchers to draw inferences about how statistically meaningful a study's results are.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

210) Which of the following is the definition of "significance tests"?

- A) statistical procedures that assess how likely it is that a study's results occurred merely by chance
- B) averages that are calculated by adding up a set of quantities and multiplying the sum by

- the total number of quantities in the set
- C) statistical procedures that allow researchers to draw inferences about how statistically meaningful a study's results are
  - D) statistical procedures that organize and summarize research data

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Tests of significance are statistical procedures that assess how likely it is that a study's results occurred merely by chance.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

- 211) A psychologist is studying gender relationships in childhood and early adolescence. Children in grade 4 and in grade 6 are observed during lunchtime at school in order to assess seating preferences of boys and girls. From this information, it is evident that the researcher is:
- A) conducting a cross-sectional study.
  - B) able to draw firm conclusions about cause and effect.
  - C) conducting a longitudinal study.
  - D) performing a meta-analysis procedure.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Cross-sectional studies compare subjects of different ages at the same time.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Applied

- 212) When Patrick and Mary Anne first got married they agreed to participate in a research project that investigates the happiness of married couples over time. Every five years they complete a survey that indicates their marital satisfaction. It is evident that Patrick and Mary Anne are:
- A) subjects in a cross-sectional study.
  - B) participants in a longitudinal study.
  - C) subjects in a control condition.
  - D) participants in a single-blind study.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Longitudinal studies involve repeated testing of the same subjects over a long period of time.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Applied

- 213) Techniques such as meta-analysis are useful in psychology because:
- A) they allow for the careful study of behaviour in schools, workplaces, and other natural contexts.
  - B) rarely does one study prove anything, and this technique analyzes data from many studies.
  - C) they include subjects who are exposed to experimental conditions that do not include the independent variable.
  - D) they help reduce unintended changes in subjects' behaviour due to cues given by the experimenter.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Meta-analysis allows the results of many studies to be combined. Thus the results are more meaningful than the results of one small study that may or may not prove anything.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

214) Interpreting the results of an experiment involves all of the following EXCEPT:

- A) choosing the best explanation.
- B) determining the effect size.
- C) summarizing the results with descriptive statistics.
- D) judging the results' importance.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Descriptive statistics are used to report the results but not to explain them.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Conceptual

215) Which of the following statements is NOT true?

- A) Effect size can be small even with statistically significant results.
- B) Meta-analysis can reveal trends and effect size.
- C) Scientific breakthroughs are typically based on a single, well-designed study.
- D) Scientific progress typically occurs gradually.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Scientific breakthroughs are rarely based on a single study.

Type: MC

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Conceptual

216) The Tri-Council that governs the code of conduct of all research done in Canada is comprised of three main federal agencies, namely:

- A) CIHR, NSERC, AHFMR.
- B) SSHRC, CPA, CIHR.
- C) SSHRC, AHFMR, NSERC.
- D) NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Statement of fact.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

217) The Tri-Council policy statement published in 1998 regarding the ethical conduct for research involving humans contains the following principles EXCEPT:

- A) respect for free and informed consent.
- B) respect for vulnerable persons.
- C) respect for human dignity.
- D) limiting the use of deception.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Deception is sometimes necessary in experiments, but subjects should be debriefed after the study.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

- 218) According to the ethical guidelines of the Tri-Council and the Canadian Psychological Association, researchers using human subjects must do all of the following EXCEPT:
- A) provide adequate financial reimbursement to compensate for the time and effort of their subjects.
  - B) warn the subjects in advance if any risk exists for those participating in the study.
  - C) give subjects the opportunity to withdraw from the study at any time without any penalty.
  - D) explain enough about the study so that subjects can decide whether they wish to participate.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) The CPA ethical guidelines are designed to protect the rights of the subject and prevent harm to the subject, not compensate the subject.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

- 219) As a result of controversy over the use of deception in research:
- A) the CPA now does not allow deception.
  - B) debriefing is required when deception is used.
  - C) deception is allowed as long as subjects are volunteers.
  - D) subjects who are deceived must receive therapy free of charge if they request it.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Deception is sometimes necessary in experiments, but subjects should be debriefed after the study when deception is involved.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

- 220) People who participate in research studies must participate voluntarily and must know enough about the study to make an intelligent decision about participating, a concept known as:
- A) criterion validity.
  - B) informed consent.
  - C) the basic research ethic.
  - D) experimental clarification.

Answer: B

Explanation: B) This is a description of informed consent.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

- 221) Animal research is used for all of the following reasons EXCEPT:
- A) to conduct basic research on a particular species.

- B) to improve human welfare.
- C) to replace human studies that would require deception.
- D) to discover practical applications.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Animal research is used, in some cases, when human studies would be unethical or impossible.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Conceptual

222) Psychologists study animals for all of the following reasons EXCEPT:

- A) to clarify theoretical questions, such as assessing that a male–female difference in lifestyle exists in mammals other than humans.
- B) to improve human welfare, for example, investigating the mechanisms underlying memory loss and senility.
- C) to discover practical applications of psychological principles without concerns over the treatment of the subjects.
- D) to conduct basic research on a particular species, such as studying cooperation among apes.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) Even in animal research, experimenters are concerned about the treatment of the subjects.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Conceptual

223) CPA ethical guidelines for research with human subjects require all of the following EXCEPT:

- A) protecting participants from physical and mental harm.
- B) warning subjects of potential risks resulting from participation.
- C) obtaining informed consent from research subjects.
- D) avoiding deception in all research.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) The CPA ethical guidelines are designed to protect the rights of the subject and prevent harm to the subject. Deception is sometimes necessary in experiments, but subjects should be debriefed after the study when deception is involved.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

224) The Canadian Council for Animal Care (CCAC) was established in what year?

- A) 1956
- B) 1963
- C) 1936
- D) 1923

Answer: B

Explanation: B) Statement of fact.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical



Skill: Factual

- 225) All research involving the use of animals in Canada must adhere to the principles outlined by the:
- A) NSERC.
  - B) CIHR.
  - C) CPA.
  - D) CCAC.

Answer: D

Explanation: D) Statement of fact.

Type: MC

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

- 226) An essential part of scientific thinking is not only how to use statistics correctly, but also how to identify the misuse of statistics. Our authors suggest that students should:
- A) trust only those statistics that are presented in reputable newspapers and journals.
  - B) distrust all statistics because they convey a false impression of certainty and are typically wildly inaccurate.
  - C) ask how the statistic was calculated and what data the statistic is based upon.
  - D) integrate statistics with "real-life" issues, such as day care, in order to interpret them.

Answer: C

Explanation: C) To understand statistics, it is important to know how they are calculated and what data they are based on.

Type: MC

Section: Taking Psychology with You

Skill: Factual

- 227) To guard against misuse of statistics a person should do all of the following EXCEPT:
- A) avoid use of statistics whenever possible.
  - B) look for the control group.
  - C) be cautious about correlations.
  - D) check to see how terms have been defined.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Statistics should not be avoided, but every attempt should be made to understand them and the research that was conducted.

Type: MC

Section: Taking Psychology with You

Skill: Factual

- 228) A primary reason for misuse of statistics is:
- A) innumeracy.
  - B) inaccuracy.
  - C) illegibility.
  - D) illiteracy.

Answer: A

Explanation: A) Many people do not understand numbers and therefore misuse statistics.

Type: MC

Section: Taking Psychology with You

Skill: Factual

229) The scientific enterprise has more to do with attitudes and procedures than with scientific apparatus.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

230) A hypothesis is an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: This is a definition of a theory, not a hypothesis.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

231) A theory is an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

232) A hypothesis is a statement that attempts to predict or to account for a set of phenomena.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

233) A theory is a statement that attempts to predict or to account for a set of phenomena.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: This is a definition of a hypothesis, not a theory.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

234) Terms used in hypotheses are given operational definitions, which specify how the phenomena in question are to be observed and measured.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

235) Violations of the principle of falsifiability are rare in everyday life.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Violations of the principle of falsifiability are common in everyday life.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

236) The principle of falsifiability is the tendency to look for information that confirms one's beliefs, thereby avoiding information that would prove one's beliefs to be false.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: The principle of falsifiability means that theories must be stated in such a way that they can be refuted or disproved by counterevidence.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

237) Confirmation bias is the tendency to look for information that supports one's beliefs.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

238) According to the principle of falsifiability, a scientific theory must make predictions that are specific enough to expose the theory to the possibility of disconfirmation.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

239) Replication is an essential part of the scientific process.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

240) Replication occurs when scientists repeat a study in order to verify or challenge its findings.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

241) In order to maintain scientific objectivity, psychologists and other scientists cannot work on research that is sponsored by private, for-profit businesses.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Research is often sponsored by private, for-profit businesses, which makes it difficult to commit to the scientific requirement of full disclosure.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

242) Scientists are expected to submit their results for peer review before any announcements regarding the study are made to the public.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

243) Descriptive methods yield characterizations of behaviour but not necessarily causal explanations.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

244) Experiments yield descriptions of behaviour but cannot provide causal explanations.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Experiments are the one method that can provide causal explanations.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

245) Case studies are most commonly used by clinicians.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

246) Case studies are usually only sources of hypotheses, not tests of hypotheses.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

247) The case study of Genie disproved the hypothesis that a critical period exists for language development.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: The case study of Genie supported the hypothesis that a critical period exists for language development.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

248) Case studies proved that autism in children was caused by rejecting, cold, "refrigerator" mothers.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Case studies cannot prove anything, but they can suggest hypotheses for further research.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

249) Observational studies are more useful for describing behaviour than for explaining behaviour.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

250) A laboratory observation would be the most effective research method in order to determine the "personal space" preferred by individuals from different cultures.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Naturalistic observation would be more effective than laboratory observation in this example.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

251) Naturalistic observation would be the most effective research method in order to determine the "personal space" preferred by individuals from different cultures.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

252) One shortcoming of laboratory observation is that the presence of researchers and special equipment may cause subjects to behave differently than they would in their usual surroundings.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

253) The usual procedure for developing norms is to give the test to a large group of people who resemble those for whom the test is intended.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

254) When psychologists say that a test has been standardized, they mean that uniform procedures for giving and scoring a test have been developed.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

255) The ability of a test to measure what it is designed to measure is called reliability.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: The ability of a test to measure what it is designed to measure is called validity, not reliability.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

256) Psychologists measure test-retest reliability by giving different versions of the same test to the same group on two separate occasions.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Test-retest reliability is determined by giving the same test to the same group on two separate occasions.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

257) Psychologists measure alternate-forms reliability by giving different versions of the same test to the same group on two separate occasions.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

258) Psychologists measure test-retest reliability by giving the same test twice to the same group of people.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

259) Psychologists measure alternate-forms reliability by giving the same test twice to the same group of people.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Alternate-forms reliability is determined by giving different versions of the same test to

the same group on two separate occasions.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

260) The ability of a test to measure what it is designed to measure is called standardization.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: The ability of a test to measure what it is designed to measure is called validity, not standardization.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

261) The ability of a test to measure what it is designed to measure is called validity.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

262) Professor King's test of creativity has a problem in regard to validity because what is actually being tested is verbal sophistication.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

263) A sample's representativeness is less critical than its size.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: A sample's representativeness is more critical than its size.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

264) A sample's size is less critical than its representativeness.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

265) Popular polls often suffer from volunteer bias because those who feel strongly enough about their opinions may differ from those who remain silent.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

266) Computer technology can help reduce lying on surveys because many people feel more anonymous when they "talk" to a computer.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

267) When a correlation coefficient indicates a strong relationship between two variables, one variable is causing the other.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Correlation does not provide information about causal relationships.

Type: TF

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

268) An association between increases in one variable and decreases in the other variable is called a negative correlation.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

269) An association between increases in one variable and decreases in the other variable is called a positive correlation.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: This is a description of a negative correlation.

Type: TF

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

270) An association between increases in one variable and decreases in the other variable indicates that the two variables are uncorrelated.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: This is a description of a negative correlation.

Type: TF

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

271) If variable A predicts variable B, then A is causing B to occur.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: It is possible that variable A causes variable B, that variable B causes variable A or that some other variable causes both variables A and B. It is not possible to determine cause and effect using correlation.

Type: TF



Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

272) When two variables are correlated, one variable may or may not be causing the other.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

273) An experiment is a controlled test of a hypothesis in which the researcher manipulates one variable to discover its effect on another.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

274) A laboratory observation is a controlled test of a hypothesis in which the researcher manipulates one variable to discover its effect on another.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: This is a description of an experiment, not a laboratory observation.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

275) The variable that an experimenter manipulates is called the dependent variable.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: The variable that an experimenter manipulates is the independent variable, not the dependent variable.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

276) Ideally, everything in an experiment *except* the independent variable is held constant.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

277) The dependent variable depends on the independent variable.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

278) The variable that an experimenter manipulates is called the independent variable.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

279) Ideally, everything in an experiment *except* the dependent variable is held constant.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Ideally, everything in an experiment except the independent variable is held constant.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

280) The independent variable depends on the dependent variable.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: The dependent variable depends on the independent variable.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

281) If a researcher wants to know whether eating chocolate makes people nervous, then the amount of chocolate eaten is the independent variable.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

282) In the control condition, subjects are treated exactly as they are in the experimental condition, except that they are not exposed to the same treatment of the independent variable.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

283) In the experimental condition, subjects are treated exactly as they are in the control condition except that the experimental subjects are exposed to the placebo.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Experimental subjects are exposed to the independent variable, not a placebo.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

284) If we have enough participants in our study and use a random assignment procedure, then individual characteristics that could possibly affect the results are likely to be roughly balanced in the two groups.

Answer: TRUE  
Explanation: Statement of fact.  
Type: TF  
Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes  
Skill: Factual

285) Control groups are important in experimental studies and in nonexperimental studies.  
Answer: TRUE  
Explanation: Statement of fact.  
Type: TF  
Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes  
Skill: Factual

286) In a single-blind experiment, subjects do not know if they are in an experimental group or a control group.  
Answer: TRUE  
Explanation: Statement of fact.  
Type: TF  
Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes  
Skill: Factual

287) Rosenthal's research revealed that experimenter effects could influence a person's behaviour but had no influence on the behaviour of animals.  
Answer: FALSE  
Explanation: Rosenthal's research revealed experimenter effects in research with animals as well as with humans.  
Type: TF  
Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes  
Skill: Factual

288) Rosenthal's research revealed that experimenter effects could influence a rodent's behaviour.  
Answer: TRUE  
Explanation: Statement of fact.  
Type: TF  
Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes  
Skill: Factual

289) Field research is descriptive or experimental research that is conducted in a natural setting outside the laboratory.  
Answer: TRUE  
Explanation: Statement of fact.  
Type: TF  
Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes  
Skill: Factual

290) Double-blind studies are conducted in order to avoid the powerful influence of experimenter effects on the results of an experiment.  
Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

291) A disadvantage of the naturalistic observation is that it allows the researcher little or no control of the situation.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

292) A disadvantage of correlational research is that it does not permit identification of cause and effect.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

293) An advantage of the naturalistic observation is that it allows the use of sophisticated equipment.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: This is an advantage of laboratory observation, not naturalistic observation.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

294) An advantage of the laboratory observation is that it allows the use of sophisticated equipment.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

295) The arithmetic mean is a commonly used measure of variability.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: The arithmetic mean is a measure of central tendency, not variability.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

296) The arithmetic mean is an average that is calculated by adding up a set of quantities and dividing the sum by the total number of quantities in the set.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

297) Descriptive statistics are statistical procedures that organize and summarize research data.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

298) The standard deviation is a commonly used measure of variability that indicates the average difference between scores in a distribution and their mean.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

299) The standard deviation is an average that is calculated by adding up a set of quantities and dividing the sum by the total number of quantities in the set.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: This is a definition of a mean, not a standard deviation.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

300) Inferential statistics are statistical procedures that organize and summarize research data.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: This is a definition of descriptive statistics, not inferential statistics.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

301) If the results of research are not significant at the .05 level then the researchers conclude that their hypothesis was not supported.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

302) Results from cross-sectional studies find that older people perform as well as younger individuals on tests of mental functioning.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Results from longitudinal, not cross-sectional studies give these results.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

303) A study in which subjects of different ages are compared at a given time is called a longitudinal study.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: This is a definition of cross-sectional research, not longitudinal research.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

304) A study in which subjects of different ages are compared at a given time is called a cross-sectional study.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

305) Results from longitudinal studies find that as people age, they sometime perform as well as they ever did on certain mental tests.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

306) Meta-analysis combines and analyzes data from many studies, instead of assessing each study's results separately.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

307) Naturalistic observation would be an appropriate research method to study aggressive acts early in childhood.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

308) The case study would be an appropriate research method to study the nature of aggressive acts early in childhood.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: Naturalistic observation would be a more appropriate research method in this case.

Type: TF

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

309) The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) suggests that all its members develop strong ethical codes for their research projects.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: The CPA requires that all its members follow the CPA code of ethics.

Type: TF

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

310) The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) requires that all its members follow the CPA code of ethics.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

311) The Tri-Council and CPA's ethical guidelines require researchers to show that any deceptive procedures are justified by a study's potential value.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

312) The Tri-Council and CPA's ethical guidelines require researchers to thoroughly debrief participants about the true purpose of a study if deception has been involved.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

313) Animals have always been used in psychological studies, and in recent years the number has declined further.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

314) The authors recommend distrusting all statistics because statistics confuse and mislead.

Answer: FALSE

Explanation: The authors recommend careful consideration of statistics because they can be used to confuse and mislead.

Type: TF

Section: Taking Psychology with You

Skill: Factual

315) When statistical findings have important implications for the decisions people make, it is important to try to examine the data dispassionately.

Answer: TRUE

Explanation: Statement of fact.

Type: TF

Section: Taking Psychology with You

Skill: Factual

**Match these descriptions with the appropriate research terms.**

A) theory

B) longitudinal study

C) hypothesis

D) correlation

E) experiment

316) A statement that attempts to predict or to account for a set of phenomena; it specifies relationships among events or variables.

Answer: C

Type: MA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

317) A measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another.

Answer: D

Type: MA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

318) A controlled test in which the researcher manipulates one variable to discover its effect on another.

Answer: E

Type: MA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

319) An organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships.

Answer: A

Type: MA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

320) A study in which subjects are followed and periodically reassessed over time.

Answer: B

Type: MA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual



**Match these descriptions with the appropriate research method.**

- A) survey
- B) case study
- C) experiment
- D) observational Study
- E) correlation

321) A detailed description of a particular individual being studied or treated.

Answer: B

Type: MA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

322) Questionnaires and interviews that ask people directly about their experiences, attitudes, or opinions.

Answer: A

Type: MA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

323) A controlled test of a hypothesis in which the researcher manipulates one variable to discover its effect on another.

Answer: C

Type: MA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

324) A measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another.

Answer: E

Type: MA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

325) A study in which the researcher carefully and systematically observes and records behaviour without interfering with the behaviour.

Answer: D

Type: MA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

**Match these definitions with the terms they define.**

- A) standardization
- B) validity
- C) psychological tests
- D) reliability
- E) norms

326) The ability of a test to measure what it was designed to measure.

Answer: B  
Type: MA  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Factual

327) Established standards of performance for tests.  
Answer: E  
Type: MA  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Factual

328) The consistency of scores derived from a test, from one time and place to another.  
Answer: D  
Type: MA  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Factual

329) The development of uniform procedures for giving and scoring a test.  
Answer: A  
Type: MA  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Factual

330) Procedures used to measure and evaluate personality traits, emotional states, aptitudes, interests, abilities, and values.  
Answer: C  
Type: MA  
Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts  
Skill: Factual

**Match these definitions with the terms they define.**

- A) confirmation bias
- B) volunteer bias
- C) placebo
- D) experimenter effects
- E) double-blind study

331) The tendency to look for or pay attention only to information that confirms one's own belief.  
Answer: A  
Type: MA  
Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations  
Skill: Factual

332) A shortcoming of findings derived from a sample of volunteers instead of a representative sample.  
Answer: B  
Type: MA  
Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

333) Unintended changes in subjects' behaviour due to cues inadvertently given by the experimenter.

Answer: D

Type: MA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

334) An inactive substance or fake treatment used as a control in an experiment or given by a medical practitioner to a patient.

Answer: C

Type: MA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

335) An experiment in which neither the subjects nor the researcher know which subjects are in the control group and which are in the experimental group until after the results are tallied.

Answer: E

Type: MA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

**Match these descriptions with the appropriate term.**

A) independent variable

B) dependent variable

C) random assignment

D) single-blind study

E) control condition

336) A variable that an experimenter manipulates.

Answer: A

Type: MA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

337) In an experiment, a comparison condition in which subjects are not exposed to the same treatment as in the experimental condition.

Answer: E

Type: MA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

338) An experiment in which subjects do not know whether they are in an experimental or a control group.

Answer: D

Type: MA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

339) A variable that an experimenter predicts will be affected by the manipulation of another variable.

Answer: B

Type: MA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

340) A procedure for putting people in the experimental and control groups in which each individual has the same probability as any other of being put into a given group.

Answer: C

Type: MA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Factual

**Match these definitions with the appropriate statistical term.**

A) inferential statistics

B) effect size

C) significance tests

D) descriptive statistics

E) meta-analysis

341) A procedure for combining and analyzing data from many studies.

Answer: E

Type: MA

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

342) Statistical tests that show how likely it is that a study's results occurred merely by chance.

Answer: C

Type: MA

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

343) The amount of variance among scores in a study accounted for by the independent variable.

Answer: B

Type: MA

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

344) Statistical procedures that allow researchers to draw conclusions about how statistically meaningful a study's results are.

Answer: A

Type: MA

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

345) Statistical procedures that organize and summarize research data.

Answer: D

Type: MA

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

346) List five characteristics of an ideal scientist.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* precision
- \* scepticism
- \* reliance on empirical evidence
- \* willingness to make "risky predictions"
- \* openness

Type: SA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

347) Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote that "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." How would you frame this question in clear and concrete terms? Specify an operational definition for the major terms.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* To achieve something great, a person must have enthusiasm.
- \* A possible operational definition for a great achievement might be an achievement that is reported in a national news magazine.
- \* A possible operational definition of enthusiasm might be an average rating of 8 or higher on a 10-point rating scale by a panel of independent judges.

Type: SA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Applied

348) Explain the purpose and process of peer review.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* The purpose of peer review is to ensure that research lives up to accepted scientific standards.
- \* When a scientist sends research results to a professional journal for publication, the report is sent to experts in the field for evaluation and suggestions for revision prior to publication.

Type: SA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Conceptual

349) Norman Cousins wrote a bestseller explaining how humour and vitamins cured him of a life-threatening disease. What rule of science did he violate?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Cousins offered only a personal account, so his theory was not based on empirical data.
- \* He also did not look for contradictory evidence and so was guilty of confirmation bias.

Type: SA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Applied

350) Dr. Benjamin Rush treated yellow fever by bloodletting. He attributed each recovery to the bloodletting and each death to the severity of the yellow fever. What rule of science did he violate?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Rush violated the principle of falsifiability.
- \* There was no possible counterevidence that could refute his theory.

Type: SA

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Applied

351) Think of a topic in psychology (from Chapter 1, from your own experience, or from the media) that interests you. Write a hypothesis regarding this topic and explain what research method you would use in order to investigate the topic.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Sample hypothesis: People who are under stress experience more frequent illnesses than others.
- \* Appropriate methods to study the hypothesis could include surveys, correlation, or experimentation.
- \* A variety of hypotheses and methods might be given in this answer.

Type: SA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

352) The first major challenge facing any researcher is to obtain a representative sample for study. Why is this so important? Give an example.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* A representative sample is a group of participants that accurately represents the larger population in which the researcher is interested.
- \* A sample's size is less critical than its representativeness.
- \* A study that fails to use proper sampling methods may yield questionable results.
- \* An example may include the use of convenience samples.

Type: SA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

353) In what circumstances is a psychological case study informative?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* A case study is informative in the early stages of research.
- \* It is also informative when other ways of gathering information are not possible because of practical or ethical considerations.
- \* Case studies can be useful in generating hypotheses for further research and testing.

Type: SA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

354) In what circumstances is a psychological case study of limited use?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Case studies have only limited usefulness for deriving general principles of behaviour.
- \* This is especially true when information is missing or hard to interpret.
- \* It is also true if the individual being studied is unrepresentative of the group that a researcher is interested in.

Type: SA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

355) Dr. Slocum is interested in studying brain lateralization, that is, how the two sides of the brain serve different functions. In order to investigate this topic, she notes whether parents tend to carry their infants in a "left-sided" hold or in a "right-sided" hold. Explain what research method Dr. Slocum is using. What are the limitations of this method?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* This research would involve observation methods, either in the laboratory or in natural settings.
- \* A major drawback is that the presence of an observer may affect the behaviour that is being observed.
- \* Laboratory observation might occur in artificial situations that might alter the behaviour being observed.

Type: SA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

356) Briefly outline how you could conduct a study of "personal space."

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Naturalistic observation would be the best method for studying personal space.
- \* Personal space would need to be operationally defined. For example, it could be defined as the distance in centimetres between two people who are carrying on a conversation.
- \* Careful record keeping is necessary to ensure accuracy.
- \* Observers should be careful to disguise their intentions so people are not aware that they are being observed.
- \* Observations should be made in a variety of locations and of a variety of types of people.

Type: SA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

357) A psychologist has the option of gathering information through psychological tests or through self-evaluations by the subjects. Which option would be more effective in clarifying the differences/similarities between individuals? Why?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Tests would be more useful.
- \* Tests are objective measures.
- \* Results from a good test (one that is reliable, valid, and standardized) can allow direct comparison of different individuals.

Type: SA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

358) Increasingly, internet surveys are being utilized as research tools. Describe the advantages and disadvantages of internet surveys.

Answer: A good answer will include the following points.

- \* Advantages include less of a tendency to lie, larger and more diverse samples than with traditional surveys.
- \* Disadvantages include that it is more difficult to know whether respondents understand the instructions and questions clearly. As well, many internet surveys have not been validated.

Type: SA

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Factual

359) When two variables are correlated, it is easy to assume that if "A" predicts "B," then "A" must be causing "B." Explain why this is not necessarily so, using this example: The higher a male monkey's level of the hormone testosterone, the more aggressive he is likely to be.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

\* Correlation does not indicate causation.

\* A positive correlation between testosterone levels and aggression could mean that testosterone causes aggression.

\* It could also mean that aggressive behaviour causes an increase in testosterone levels.

\* It could also mean that some other unspecified variable causes both high testosterone levels and high aggression.

Type: SA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

360) If TV watching is correlated positively with children's aggressiveness, then in what possible ways could this relationship be explained?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

\* Watching TV could cause children to behave aggressively.

\* Aggressiveness in children could cause them to watch more TV.

\* Another unspecified variable could cause both TV watching and increased aggressiveness.

Type: SA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

361) The text describes an example of experimental design to test the hypothesis that cellphone use impairs driving skills. Explain why a control condition would be important to include in testing this hypothesis. How should subjects be assigned to conditions? How can the researchers design the experiment so that the only difference between both conditions is the use of a cellphone?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

\* A control condition is necessary for comparison purposes.

\* Subjects should be randomly assigned to the experimental and control groups.

\* Both groups should be treated identically except for exposure of the control group to the use of a cellphone.

\* Both groups could be given cellphones, but the cellphone given to the control group would not be activated (a placebo).

Type: SA

Section: Correlational Studies: Looking for Relations

Skill: Applied

362) Experiments have long been the method of choice in psychology. However, the experiment does have its limitations. Describe these limitations and explain why many psychologists have called for more field research.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

\* One limitation of experiments is experimenter effects. That is, if subjects know whether they are in the



experimental or control group their expectations may affect the results.

- \* A researcher's expectations can also influence the results of an experiment.
- \* If participants are not representative of the larger population of interest, the results cannot be generalized.
- \* Controlled experiments may result in artificial situations in which behaviour is not normal and cannot be generalized to the real world.
- \* Field research can at least partially overcome this last objection.

Type: SA

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

363) Compare the advantages and the disadvantages of conducting a laboratory observation. What are the advantages and disadvantages of conducting an experiment? Describe a topic that you believe would be most effectively studied by laboratory observation rather than by an experiment.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* An advantage of laboratory observation is an increase in control and uniformity from one subject to another.
- \* A disadvantage is that behaviour observed in an artificial situation may not be totally normal.
- \* The primary advantage of an experiment is the ability to determine cause and effect.
- \* Disadvantages include experimenter effects, nonrepresentative samples, and artificial situations.
- \* Study of the characteristics of sleep could better be studied by laboratory observation than an experiment.
- \* Many other examples are also possible.

Type: SA

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Conceptual

364) If you have just completed a research study, your work has just begun! What three things must you do once you have your results in hand?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* You must describe your results.
- \* You must assess how reliable and meaningful your results are.
- \* You must figure out how to explain your results.

Type: SA

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

365) In the "Miss Peach" cartoon in the textbook, Ira said that he averaged two baths a day. Explain why averages, such as this one, are sometimes misleading.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Without knowing something about variability, an average does not explain much.
- \* The average (e.g., two baths a day) may never actually occur.

Type: SA

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Conceptual

366) A psycholinguist wants to know whether children who speak their first words at an earlier age

than average also learn to read earlier than other children. Should she conduct a cross-sectional study or a longitudinal study? Explain your answer.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* A longitudinal study would probably be more useful because the researcher is interested in the time of occurrence of two different events in the same person.
- \* Cross-sectional studies are more useful for assessing generational differences.

Type: SA

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Applied

367) Doing good research is demanding; however, the challenges are multiplied when psychologists venture into societies other than their own.

Describe and give examples of three major concerns that arise in multicultural research.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Methods and sampling. Scientists must ensure that samples are similar in all important ways except for nationality and ethnicity (i.e., education, crowding).
- \* Stereotyping. Researchers must avoid oversimplifying average differences across societies. Individual differences must be acknowledged.
- \* Reification. Culture refers to a collection of ideas and traditions and is an intangible construct. Researchers must be careful to avoid circular reasoning.

Type: SA

Section: Culture and Research

Skill: Applied

368) What makes psychological research scientific? Chapter 2 points out the importance of precision in the pursuit of knowledge. How does this principle of good science correspond to the critical thinking guideline "Define Your Terms," discussed in Chapter 1?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* The requirement for precision in science includes both stating specific hypotheses and providing operational definitions of all variables.
- \* This directly corresponds with the guideline requiring that critical thinkers define the terms that they use.

Type: ES

Section: Chapter 2

Skill: Factual

369) How wise *is* popular wisdom? In Chapter 1 we pondered how many old sayings have other old sayings that contradict them. For example, a common saying is "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." But we also hear, "You are never too old to learn." Now that you have read Chapter 2, design a research study in order to test these sayings. Provide your reasoning in selecting a particular research method and subjects, and other key details.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* One method that could be used is laboratory observation.
- \* A representative group of older people should be selected as subjects.
- \* An attempt should be made to teach the subjects a new task, such as searching the internet for information.
- \* Subjects should then be tested to see whether or not they were able to learn the task.

Type: ES

Section: Chapter 2

Skill: Factual

370) In Chapter 2 you read about the controversy surrounding the reliability and validity of some widely used psychological tests. How does the example of using the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) to determine admission to university for non-native English speakers illustrate the importance of the critical thinking guideline "Don't Oversimplify," discussed in Chapter 1?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* There is a marginal relation between scores on the TOEFL and academic performance for undergraduates.
- \* There are many influences on school and job success, such as motivation, study habits, self-discipline, and practical smarts.
- \* The CPA suggests that the TOEFL should only be used for its intended purpose, that is, as a test of English proficiency.
- \* Avoid oversimplified conclusions and always stop to question the validity and reliability of a psychological test.

Type: ES

Section: Chapter 2

Skill: Applied

371) Unlike plays and poems, scientific theories are not judged by how pleasing they are. Instead, a theory must be backed by empirical evidence if it is to be taken seriously. Integrate this information from Chapter 2 with the critical thinking guideline "Avoid Emotional Reasoning," which you studied in Chapter 1.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Theories must be based on empirical evidence.
- \* They should not be based on emotion, intuition, or appeal to authority.
- \* This directly corresponds with the guideline that critical thinkers should avoid emotional reasoning.

Type: ES

Section: Chapter 2

Skill: Factual

372) Which research method did Curtiss (1977, 1982) rely upon when describing the development of Genie? Analyze what you know about the theory of critical periods of language development methods. What are the strengths and limitations of his approach?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Curtiss's theory was based on case studies.
- \* Case studies are useful for studying unusual or rare cases and for generating hypotheses for further research.
- \* One drawback to case studies is that information is often missing or hard to interpret.
- \* Observers may have biases that influence which facts get noticed and which are ignored.
- \* The memory of observers may be selective or inaccurate, making conclusions unreliable.
- \* Most important, the person studied may be unrepresentative of the group that a researcher is interested in.
- \* The case study method has only limited usefulness for deriving general principles of behaviour.

Type: ES

Section: Chapter 2

Skill: Conceptual

373) When the authors refer to psychologists as scientists, they do not mean that psychologists work with complicated gadgets and machines or wear white lab coats (although some do). The scientific enterprise has more to do with attitudes and procedures than it does with apparatus and apparel. Describe, in detail, the five key characteristics of the ideal scientist.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Scientists must be precise. In other words, they must develop specific hypotheses and operationally define all important terms.
- \* Scientists must be skeptical. They should not accept ideas on faith or authority, but should treat all conclusions with caution.
- \* Scientists must rely on empirical evidence, not on anecdotes, intuition, or an appeal to authority.
- \* Scientists must be willing to make "risky predictions." They must state ideas in such a way that they can be refuted or disproved by counterevidence (principle of falsifiability), and they must be careful to avoid confirmation bias.
- \* Scientists must be open to new ideas and must be willing to commit to full disclosure of their research methods and results.

Type: ES

Section: What Makes Psychological Research Scientific?

Skill: Factual

374) Is there a critical period for language? When the sad story of Genie was broadcast on television, many people wondered what the future would hold for a 13-year-old girl who had survived on minimal physical care. What did psychologists learn about language acquisition through their efforts to teach language to Genie? In what ways does Genie's story illustrate some drawbacks to the case study method?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* The study of Genie supported the idea that there is an early critical period for learning language.
- \* The likelihood of fully mastering a first language declines steadily after early childhood and falls off drastically at puberty.
- \* A drawback to case studies is that information is often missing or hard to interpret.
- \* Observers may have biases that influence which facts get noticed and which are ignored.
- \* The memory of observers may be selective or inaccurate, making conclusions unreliable.
- \* Most important, the person studied may be unrepresentative of the group that a researcher is interested in.
- \* The case study method has only limited usefulness for deriving general principles of behaviour.

Type: ES

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

375) The president of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is concerned after reading that during puberty children have increased needs for sleep. She wants to find out if other parents of middle-school children would support a later starting time for school. At one of the Tuesday night meetings, she conducts a survey of the PTA members in order to address this question. When she asks those parents in support of the change to raise their hands, she discovers that 85% of the parents support a later starting time. What information has she gained by conducting this survey? What shortcomings exist in her survey?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* She has learned that a majority of other PTA members who attend meetings support a later starting time.
- \* A major shortcoming is that the PTA members at the meeting may not be representative of all parents of students at the school in question.

Type: ES

Section: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill: Applied

376) A researcher hypothesizes that adults will respond differently to the same baby depending on how the child is dressed. Her colleague, on the other hand, hypothesizes that boys and girls are treated equally and that only temperamental differences lead to differences in their handling. Design a research study to test their hypotheses. Provided a detailed explanation of how this study would be conducted.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Two babies with similar temperament should be selected, one a male and one a female.
- \* Subjects in the experimental group will be exposed to a baby dressed in clothing appropriate to the opposite sex.
- \* Subjects in the control group will be exposed to an infant dressed in sex-appropriate clothing.
- \* All subjects will be observed for ten minutes while interacting with the baby and their behaviours will be carefully noted.
- \* Behaviours of subjects in the experimental and control groups will be compared.

Type: ES

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

377) For many years, it was thought that a child's fascination with the genitals of an anatomically realistic doll indicated sexual abuse of the child. Using this example, explain why experiments usually require an experimental and a control condition. If you were designing an experiment to test this topic, what would be the independent variable? What would be the dependent variable?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* A control group is necessary as a comparison group.
- \* An experiment to test this hypothesis would use dolls with anatomically realistic genitals (for the experimental group) and without anatomically realistic genitals (for the control group) as the independent variable.
- \* The dependent variable would be a measurement of fascination with or interest in the genitals on the part of the child.

Type: ES

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Applied

378) Experiments have long been the method of choice in psychology, but they do have their limitations. Describe the strengths and the weaknesses of experiments.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* The primary advantage of an experiment is the ability to determine cause and effect.
- \* Disadvantages include experimenter effects, nonrepresentative samples, and artificial situations.

Type: ES

Section: Experiments: Hunting for Causes

Skill: Factual

379) Why is it important to go beyond averages when summarizing data? What other descriptive statistics are used to help interpret data?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

\* An average may not actually occur in any individual case.

\* It is important to also have some indication of the variability of results, such as the range or standard deviation.

\* A measure of variability helps one to know how representative an average is.

Type: ES

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

380) Rarely does a psychological study have completely straightforward results. Usually there is some possibility that the difference between two groups could be due to chance. Explain how inferential statistics help us determine how statistically meaningful a study's results are.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

\* One type of inferential statistics, tests of significance, assess the likelihood that a given set of results could occur by chance.

\* Results are statistically significant only if they would occur by chance less than 5 times in 100.

Type: ES

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Factual

381) When mental abilities are studied through cross-sectional methods, the results conflict with the findings from longitudinal studies. Explain the basic procedures in each type of study and then provide an example of why each method yields different results.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

\* Longitudinal studies examine the same people over a period of time, reassessing them periodically.

\* Cross-sectional studies examine groups of people of different ages at the same time.

\* Longitudinal studies are especially useful to study changes in individuals over time.

\* Cross-sectional studies are more useful when studying generational differences.

\* When comparing the mental test scores of younger and older people, cross-sectional studies usually indicate that younger people achieve higher scores.

\* Longitudinal studies, in contrast, do not indicate any decline until people are in their 70s or 80s.

Type: ES

Section: Evaluating the Findings

Skill: Conceptual

382) Psychologists follow a code of ethics that has been developed by the Tri-Council. Explain the Tri-Council code in regard to research with human subjects. What happens when participants must be misled about the true purpose of the study in order to make sure that their responses are natural?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

\* The Tri-Council code of ethics expects scientists to respect the dignity and welfare of human subjects and specifies a number of guidelines to guarantee this.

\* People must participate in research voluntarily.

\* Informed consent must be obtained.

\* Participants must be protected from physical and mental harm.

\* If risks exist, subjects must be informed in advance.

- \* Subjects must be given the right to withdraw from the research at any time without penalty.
- \* If deception was involved, subjects must be debriefed.

Type: ES

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

383) Psychologists follow a code of ethics that has been developed by the Tri-Council. Describe five reasons why psychologists study animals. Explain the Tri-Council code in regard to research with animal subjects. Why has animal research provoked angry disputes?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

- \* Psychologists study animals to conduct basic research on a particular species.
- \* Psychologists study animals to discover practical applications.
- \* Psychologists study animals to study issues that cannot be studied experimentally with human beings because of practical or ethical considerations.
- \* Psychologists study animals to clarify theoretical questions.
- \* Psychologists study animals to improve human welfare.
- \* The Tri-Council code requires the humane treatment of animals and is more comprehensive than federal law.
- \* Animal research provokes angry disputes because animal rights activists want to eliminate all research using animals.

Type: ES

Section: Keeping the Enterprise Ethical

Skill: Factual

384) Statistics can be manipulated, exaggerated, and misrepresented to promote a particular political or social agenda. Give two examples of how statistics can be misused and outline 4 helpful guidelines to ensure critical thinking when examining statistics.

Answer: A good answer will include the following points:

- \* One misuse of statistics is the tendency to convey a false impression of certainty even when the state of affairs is unclear.
- \* Another misuse of statistics involves misinterpreting the numbers and techniques used in the research.
- \* In order to critically evaluate statistics, the following guidelines are helpful:
  - ask how the statistic was computed
  - check to see how terms are defined
  - look for a control group
  - be cautious about correlations
  - separate statistics from politics

Type: ES

Section: Taking Psychology with You

Skill: Applied