

Chapter 2 The Research Enterprise in Psychology

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The scientific approach assumes that
 - a. events are governed by some lawful order.
 - b. each event is completely unique.
 - c. there are no general laws or principles that apply to human behavior.
 - d. the search for absolute truth is the ultimate goal.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 87%
REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1
KEY: Factual

2. Answering the question of "how" something works is most closely associated with which goal of science?
 - a. the search for truth
 - b. application and control
 - c. measurement and description
 - d. understanding and prediction

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 56%
REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1
KEY: Concept/Applied

3. Which is NOT among the goals of scientific psychology?
 - a. the development of measurement techniques for describing behavior precisely and accurately
 - b. understanding why certain behaviors occur
 - c. applications of research findings to solve everyday problems
 - d. searching for absolute truths about behavior

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 86%
REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1
KEY: Factual

4. Answering the question of "why" something happens is most closely associated with which goal of science?
 - a. the search for truth
 - b. application and control
 - c. measurement and description
 - d. understanding and prediction

ANS: D PTS: 1
REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1
KEY: Concept/Applied

5. IQ score, age, weight, grade point average, and income are all examples of
- constants.
 - variables.
 - correlations.
 - statistics.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1

TOP: WWW KEY: Concept/Applied

6. Any measurable conditions, events, characteristics, or behaviors that are controlled or observed in a study are called
- hypotheses.
 - correlations.
 - variables.
 - confounds.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 98%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1

KEY: Factual

7. The use of reinforcement principles to modify a child's unruly behavior reflects the goal of science that deals with
- understanding and prediction.
 - measurement and description.
 - deterministic and teleological.
 - application and control.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 86%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1

KEY: Concept/Applied

8. The ____ approach assumes that events are governed by some lawful order.
- philosophical
 - mechanical
 - scientific
 - cognitive

ANS: C PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1

TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

9. If a psychologist hopes that his research will help to solve some practical problem, his hope reflects which goal of science?
- application and control
 - construction and revision
 - understanding and prediction
 - measurement and description

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1

KEY: Concept/Applied

10. A tentative statement about the relationship between two or more variables is a(n)
- variable.
 - hypothesis.
 - theory.
 - operational definition.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

KEY: Factual

11. Theories permit researchers to move from
- understanding to application.
 - concept to description.
 - application to control.
 - description to understanding.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 66%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

KEY: Concept/Applied

12. A scientific theory has to be
- true.
 - accepted by others.
 - testable.
 - well established and not disputed.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 83%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

KEY: Factual

13. Theory construction is
- a gradual iterative process that is always subject to revision.
 - a standard step-like process that quickly moves toward the truth.
 - a circular process that typically leads nowhere.
 - a process that results in concrete findings that are accepted by other scientists.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 87%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

KEY: Factual

14. Dr. Marqueta believes that "misery loves company." Based on this belief, Dr. Marqueta predicts that people who have received bad news will seek out other people. Dr. Marqueta's belief is an example of _____, and her prediction is an example of _____.
- a hypothesis; a theory
 - a theory; a hypothesis
 - a variable; an application
 - a hypothesis; a variable

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 84%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

KEY: Concept/Applied

15. Mrs. Smith, an elementary school teacher, believes that girls are smarter than boys. She predicts that the girls in her class will learn more than the boys during the school year. Her prediction is a(n)
- hypothesis.
 - opinion.
 - fact.
 - theory.

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

KEY: Concept/Applied

16. A theory is
- an objective description of behavior.
 - a system of interrelated ideas used to explain a set of observations.
 - the application of research to practical problems.
 - a statement about the relationship between two or more variables.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

KEY: Factual

17. Scientific theories are most directly associated with which goal of science?
- application and control
 - construction and revision
 - measurement and description
 - understanding and prediction

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

KEY: Critical Thinking

18. A clinical psychologist notes that an unusually large number of obese people are depressed or anxious, and she offers an explanation that excess weight causes emotional disorders. Her explanation is a(n)
- hypothesis.
 - theory.
 - opinion.
 - fact.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

TOP: WWW KEY: Concept/Applied

19. While theories are most closely associated with the scientific goal of ____, hypotheses are most closely associated with the goal of ____.
- application; description
 - description; application
 - understanding; prediction
 - prediction; understanding

ANS: C PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

KEY: Critical Thinking

20. Hypotheses are typically expressed as
- theories.
 - variables.
 - predictions.
 - statistics.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 85%
REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2
KEY: Factual

21. Dr. Licciardi predicts that if people are observed while they perform a complex task they will make more errors. Dr. Licciardi's prediction is an example of
- a hypothesis.
 - an operational definition.
 - a theory.
 - inferential statistics.

ANS: A PTS: 1
REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2
KEY: Concept/Applied

22. Dr. Malm predicts that if teachers ignore students who act up in class, fewer students will act up in class. Dr. Malm's prediction is an example of
- an operational definition.
 - a theory.
 - inferential statistics.
 - a hypothesis.

ANS: D PTS: 1
REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2
KEY: Concept/Applied

23. A researcher is measuring the heart rate of subjects as an index of anxiety. In this study, heart rate is
- a confounded variable.
 - negatively correlated with anxiety.
 - an independent variable.
 - an operational definition of anxiety.

ANS: D PTS: 1
REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3
KEY: Concept/Applied

24. Dr. Dobbins wants to study attachment patterns in single-parent families. The first step in her scientific investigation would be to
- design the study and select the research method.
 - analyze the data.
 - formulate a testable hypothesis.
 - collect the data.

ANS: C PTS: 1
REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3
KEY: Concept/Applied

25. Dr. Critell is studying aggression in children and plans to define aggression as the number of times one child pushes or strikes another child. Defining aggression in this way would
- be an example of a hypothesis.
 - violate ethical guidelines for psychological research.
 - represent an operational definition.
 - require a double-blind research design.

ANS: C PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Concept/Applied

26. A researcher is interested in examining whether relaxation techniques help decrease the perception of anxiety in subjects. The second step in this scientific investigation would be
- to design the study and select the research method.
 - to analyze the data.
 - to formulate a testable hypothesis.
 - to collect the data.

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Concept/Applied

27. A psychologist monitors changes in the subject's heart rate as the subject watches a violent movie. The data collection technique being used is
- direct observation.
 - psychological testing.
 - physiological recording.
 - archival records.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 60%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Concept/Applied

28. A standardized measure used to obtain a sample of a person's behavior is called
- a psychological test.
 - a case study.
 - an experiment.
 - a survey.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 49%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

29. Jackson is working with a company to help them develop more effective training programs for their employees. He has spent a great deal of time reviewing all the documentation the company has about previous training opportunities they have provided for their employees. Up to this point in time, Jackson has been engaged in
- psychological testing.
 - archival research.
 - direct observation.
 - meta-analysis.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Concept/Applied

30. Laura answered a series of written questions that asked about her attitudes and opinions on a number of current issues. The method of data collection that was being used in this case was
- a standardized psychological test.
 - archival research.
 - direct observation.
 - a questionnaire.

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Concept/Applied

31. The FINAL step in a scientific investigation is to
- conduct the study.
 - analyze the data.
 - decide whether or not the hypothesis was supported.
 - report the findings.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 95%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Factual

32. A scientific journal refers to
- a personal diary kept by a scientist.
 - a periodical that publishes technical and scholarly articles.
 - a detailed record of the daily procedures followed in conducting a study.
 - a collection of biographies of famous scientists.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 81%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Factual

33. Publication of research findings is extremely important to the scientific method because
- it allows for critique and self-correction.
 - it brings recognition to the research worker.
 - it forces the writer to be clear.
 - the royalties help the researcher pay for the research.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 92%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Concept/Applied

34. In scientific investigations a researcher must clearly define the variables under study by precisely describing how they will be measured or controlled. These definitions are referred to as
- objective definitions.
 - precise definitions.
 - operational definitions.
 - dictionary definitions.

ANS: C PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

35. A psychologist measures blood alcohol level to determine intoxication. In this example, blood alcohol level is the ____ definition of intoxication.
- operational
 - dictionary
 - objective
 - precise

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Concept/Applied

36. Psychologists use a variety of data collection techniques; which of the following is best suited for studying attitudes?
- questionnaires
 - direct observations
 - psychological tests
 - physiological recordings

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Factual

37. Statistical procedures are used during which step in conducting a scientific investigation?
- collect the data
 - select a research method and design the study
 - report the findings
 - analyze the data and draw conclusions

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Factual

38. Most typically, researchers report their findings
- by holding a press conference.
 - in a book.
 - in a scientific magazine.
 - in a journal.

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

KEY: Factual

39. Which of the following is NOT true regarding common sense analyses of behavior?
- they tend to be vague and ambiguous
 - they often tolerate contradictory generalizations
 - they usually involve little effort to verify ideas or detect errors
 - they are typically based on precise definitions and hypotheses

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 79%

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.4

KEY: Factual

40. The scientific approach requires that people specify exactly what they are talking about when they formulate hypotheses. Which advantage of scientific investigation does this illustrate?
- precision
 - acceptance of a degree of error
 - skepticism
 - operational definitions

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.4

KEY: Factual

41. Operational definitions are most closely associated with which major advantage of the scientific approach?
- commonsense approach
 - clarity and precision
 - intolerance of error
 - tolerance of error

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.4

KEY: Critical Thinking

42. The different general strategies for conducting scientific investigation are referred to as
- data collection techniques.
 - operational definitions.
 - research methods.
 - hypotheses.

ANS: C PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.4

KEY: Factual

43. The two main types of research methods used in psychology are the
- experimental and descriptive/correlational research methods
 - experimental and case study research methods
 - descriptive and correlational research methods
 - descriptive/correlational and case study research methods

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.4

TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

44. Manipulating a variable under carefully controlled conditions and observing the changes in a second variable defines
- the testing approach.
 - the survey approach.
 - the experimental approach.
 - naturalistic observation.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 99%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Factual

45. A researcher wants to see if a protein-enriched diet will enhance the maze-running performance of rats. One group of rats is fed the high-protein diet for the duration of the study; the other group continues to receive ordinary rat chow. In this experiment, the rats' maze-running performance is the
- correlated variable.
 - control variable.
 - dependent variable.
 - independent variable.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

46. In an experiment, the variable that is controlled or manipulated by the researcher is called the
- dependent variable.
 - independent variable.
 - control variable.
 - stimulus variable.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 82%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Factual

47. An independent variable in an experiment refers to
- the variable that is held constant across experimental conditions.
 - the variable deliberately manipulated by the experimenter.
 - the variable that the experimenter believes will change in value because of systematic correlations that exist in the experiment.
 - the variable that provides an alternative explanation for the results of the experiment.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 86%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Factual

48. A group of researchers wanted to determine if people will eat more food in a room with red paint and red decorations than in a room that is decorated blue. Half the participants in this study ate in a red room and half ate in a blue room. The researchers then measured how much food was consumed in each of the two rooms. In this study, the independent variable was
- the type of food that was available during the study.
 - the amount of food that was consumed.
 - the color of the decorations in the room.
 - how hungry the participants were at the end of the study.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

49. Researchers who were studying plant growth raised plants in two separate rooms. One room had taped conversations playing 24 hours a day; the other room was silent. The researchers found that the plants grew better in the room which had the conversations playing. In this study, the type of room (conversation or silence) would be
- the dependent variable.
 - an extraneous variable.
 - a placebo.
 - the independent variable.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

50. A dependent variable in an experiment refers to the variable
- held constant across the experimental conditions.
 - deliberately manipulated by the experimenter.
 - that changes value because of the systematic manipulation in the experiment.
 - that the experimenter is depending on to cause something to happen in the experiment.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 55%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Factual

51. Researchers studying the effects of sleep deprivation tested the physical coordination skills of 25-year-old males who had been sleep deprived for either 24, 36, or 48 hours. In this study, the dependent variable would be
- the age of the research participants.
 - the physical coordination skills of the men in the study.
 - the length of time the participants had been sleep deprived.
 - the type of physical coordination task the researchers use.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

52. A group of researchers wants to determine if people are more likely to follow directions if the person giving the directions is in a uniform. Half the participants are directed to a parking spot by a uniformed security guard, the other half are directed to a parking spot by an individual wearing blue jeans and a t-shirt. In this study, the dependent variable would be
- the number of participants who park in the spot they are directed to.
 - the type of clothing worn by the person giving the directions.
 - the gender of the person driving into the parking lot.
 - the distance between the parking spot and the entrance.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

53. An industrial designer wants to determine if the new design for a piece of office equipment will result in fewer errors. The designer sets up a machine with the old design in one room, and a machine with the new design in a second room. He counts how many errors are made using each of the two machines. In this study, the number of errors that are made would be
- a control variable.
 - the dependent variable.
 - the independent variable.
 - an extraneous variable.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

54. If we view an experiment as an attempt to establish a cause-effect relationship, the ____ variable would be the cause, and the ____ variable would be the effect.
- dependent; independent
 - independent; dependent
 - control; experimental
 - independent; confounded

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 93%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Concept/Applied

55. A researcher found that clients who were randomly assigned to same-sex groups participated more in group therapy sessions than clients who were randomly assigned to coed groups. In this experiment, the dependent variable was
- the amount of participation in the group therapy sessions.
 - whether or not the group was coed.
 - the clients' attitudes toward group therapy.
 - how much the clients' mental health improved.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 76%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Concept/Applied

56. The experimental group
- consists of the subjects who receive some special treatment with regard to the independent variable.
 - consists of the subjects who receive some special treatment with regard to the dependent variable.
 - consists of the subjects who do not receive the special treatment.
 - must be chosen so as to be as different from the control group as possible.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 79%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Factual

57. In an experiment designed to test memory processes, one group was given special instructions and asked to group the items on a list into categories while they tried to memorize them. A second group of participants was given the same list, but they did not receive any special instructions. In this study, the experimental group is
- the group in which the participants remember the least items from the list.
 - the group who did not receive any special instructions.
 - the group who received the special instructions.
 - the group in which the participants remember the most items from the list.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

58. In a study designed to test the effects of a new drug developed to treat Alzheimer's disease, half the patients were given the actual drug while the other half of the patients were given a placebo (sugar pill). In this study, the experimental group is
- the patients who show evidence of an improvement in their memory.
 - the group who received the actual drug.
 - the group who received the placebo.
 - the patients who were not included in the study.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

59. David and Alexandra both take part in a research study that is investigating the effects of sleep deprivation on reaction time. David is kept awake for 24 hours straight, while Alexandra follows her normal sleep routine. In this study, David is part of the
- hypothesis group.
 - experimental group.
 - control group.
 - dependent variable group.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

60. The purpose of the control group is to
- make the experiment more complex.
 - isolate the effect of the independent variable on the dependent variable.
 - make statistical significance more likely.
 - isolate the effect of the dependent variable on the independent variable.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 75%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Critical Thinking

61. A group of researchers wanted to determine whether children would behave more aggressively after watching violent television programming. Half the children in the study watched a violent television show; the other children watched a non-violent television program. In this study, the control group is the children who
- behave the most aggressively at the end of the study.
 - watch the non-violent program.
 - watch the violent show.
 - behave the least aggressively at the end of the study.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

62. Dr. Prutherow believes that people who are under stress will develop more colds than people who are not under stress. When he randomly selects 10 participants and exposes them to high levels of stress, he finds that 9 of the participants develop colds. Based on these results he concludes that stress causes an increase in colds. Dr. Prutherow's reasoning may be flawed because in this study
- there was no dependent variable in his study.
 - there was no control group for comparison.
 - he didn't formulate a hypothesis before he collected his data.
 - he didn't measure the independent variable when the study ended.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

63. A variable, other than the independent variable, that appears to have influenced the dependent variable in a study is referred to as
- a covariate.
 - an extraneous variable.
 - a redundant variable.
 - an inverse bias.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 92%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Factual

64. When two variables are linked and their individual effects cannot be separated out, we speak of the variables as being
- independent variables.
 - dependent variables.
 - confounded variables.
 - codependent variables.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 77%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Factual

65. Diaz conducts a decision-making experiment to determine if people reason more logically when they have more time to decide. All the participants who are under 40 are allowed 15 minutes to reach a decision about a problem; all the participants who are over 40 are allowed 20 minutes to reach a decision about the same problem. Diaz has a problem with his experimental design because
- there are two control groups and no experimental group.
 - the time allowed for the decision is confounded with the independent variable.
 - there is no dependent variable in the experiment.
 - the age of the participants is confounded with the independent variable.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Critical Thinking

66. In experiments, placing subjects in experimental groups such that each subject has an equal probability of ending up in any experimental group is referred to as
- random selection.
 - random sampling.
 - random forecasting.
 - random assignment.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 54%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.5
KEY: Factual

67. Dr. Kalmagura plans on introducing a new exam review procedure in his chemistry classes. To check the effectiveness of the new procedure he is going to have half his students try the new technique for one semester, while the remaining students review in the way they have always done in the past. He asks each student to decide which of the techniques they would like to use, the new technique or the standard technique. In this example, Dr. Kalmagura's procedure illustrates
- the use of non-random assignment.
 - a correlational research design.
 - a double-blind research design.
 - what is meant by informed consent in research.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

68. Bill received a poor performance evaluation in his job last year. Since then Bill has started working through his lunch hour, has taken on four special projects, and has enrolled in night classes to upgrade his computer skills. If Bill receives a better evaluation at his next performance it will be hard for him to figure out why because
- he failed to use a double-blind procedure to test his hypothesis.
 - he didn't formulate a research hypothesis before implementing the changes.
 - none of the actions he took are likely to be related to his overall job performance.
 - the three actions he took are confounded with each other.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Critical Thinking

69. Derrick designed an experiment in which participants listened to a persuasive speech delivered either by a person who was very tall or a person who was average in height. In addition, the speeches were delivered either by individuals wearing business clothes or by people wearing casual clothes. In this example, Derrick
- has two dependent variables, and will be able to determine if persuasion interacts with any other factors.
 - has two independent variables, and will be able to determine if height and style of clothing interact.
 - does not have a control group, which should reduce the impact of self-reporting bias in his study.
 - is using a double-blind procedure, which should reduce experimenter bias.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.6 KEY: Concept/Applied

70. The research method in which the investigator manipulates a variable under carefully controlled conditions and observes whether any changes occur in a second variable as a result is the
- scientific method.
 - correlational method.
 - descriptive method.
 - experimental method.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Factual

71. In experimental research, the variable that the researcher measures because it is thought to be affected by the manipulation of another variable is the
- extraneous variable.
 - dependent variable.
 - independent variable.
 - controlled variable.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

72. In experimental research, the researcher manipulates the ____ variable in order to measure its effect on the ____ variable.
- dependent; independent
 - dependent; extraneous
 - independent; dependent
 - independent; extraneous

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Factual

73. If a researcher varies the loudness of music in a factory to observe its effect on the rate of productivity of the employees, the dependent variable is the
- factory setting.
 - rate of productivity.
 - style of music being used.
 - loudness of music being used.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

74. In experimental research, subjects that receive some special treatment in regard to the independent variable are the
- experimental group.
 - control group.
 - observational group.
 - correlational group.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Factual

75. In experimental research, while subjects in the ____ group received some special treatment in regard to the independent variable, subjects in the ____ group did not.
- control; experimental
 - experimental; control
 - primary; secondary
 - secondary; primary

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Factual

76. Subjects in the control group should be ____ subjects in the experimental groups in all respects except for the treatment they receive in regards to the ____.
- very different from; independent variable
 - very different from; dependent variable
 - very similar to; independent variable
 - very similar to; dependent variable

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Factual

77. A researcher tries to make sure that subjects in the experimental and control groups are very similar to each other in order to reduce the effects of
- extraneous variables.
 - random variables.
 - dependent variables.
 - independent variables.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Factual

78. Conclusions concerning cause and effect relationships are only possible when the ____ method is used.
- survey
 - experimental
 - correlational
 - descriptive

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.8 TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

79. The main advantage associated with the experimental method is
- its precise control.
 - its ability to duplicate real life in the laboratory.
 - that it can be used to explore just about everything.
 - participants usually enjoy taking part in the study.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 82%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.8
KEY: Concept/Applied

80. One of the disadvantages of the experimental method is
- the inability to generate cause-and-effect conclusions.
 - the length of time necessary to complete the study.
 - the fact that only one variable can be studied at a time.
 - the fact that experiments often can't be done for practical or ethical reasons.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 44%
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research OBJ: 2.8
KEY: Factual

81. One of the disadvantages of the experimental method is
- the inability to generate cause-and-effect conclusions.
 - the artificial, contrived situations in which experiments are often conducted.
 - the length of time necessary to complete the study.
 - the fact that only one variable can be studied at a time.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.8 KEY: Factual

82. Compared to the other scientific research methods, the principal advantage of the experimental method is it
- can easily be used to study all research questions.
 - allows for a description of behavior.
 - permits conclusions about cause and effect relationships.
 - observes behavior in its natural setting.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.8 KEY: Factual

83. In descriptive/correlational research, the investigator
- systematically observes two variables to see whether there is an association between them.
 - manipulates a variable under carefully controlled conditions and observes whether there are changes in a second variable as a result.
 - exposes subjects to two closely related treatment conditions.
 - simultaneously manipulates two or more independent variables.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 69%
REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9
KEY: Factual

84. Which of the following is NOT listed in the textbook as a descriptive research method?
- criterion-based induction
 - case studies
 - surveys
 - naturalistic observation

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 92%
REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9
KEY: Factual

85. Naturalistic observation, case studies, and surveys all have in common that
- they do not directly observe behavior.
 - they do not manipulate the variables under study.
 - they can show causal relationships.
 - the results obtained cannot be analyzed statistically.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 90%
REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9
KEY: Concept/Applied

86. Which research method involves a researcher engaging in careful observation of behavior without intervening directly with the subjects?
- criterion-based induction
 - case studies
 - surveys
 - naturalistic observation

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 90%
REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9
KEY: Factual

87. Recording all instances of an event for a particular time period (such as how many times an older brother strikes his younger brother) without the subjects' awareness is an example of
- compiling a case study.
 - correlational research.
 - conducting an experiment.
 - naturalistic observation.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 79%
REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9
KEY: Concept/Applied

88. You are sitting on a park bench in a major metropolitan area from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and you note the number of people who walk by, whether or not they litter, and their gender. You are engaging in
- casual observation.
 - naturalistic observation.
 - case study research.
 - experimental research.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 93%
REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9
KEY: Concept/Applied

89. One of the main concerns with the case study method of research is that
- a single case is seldom able to provide a historical perspective.
 - hypotheses cannot be generated about the origin of the behavior.
 - they cannot be used to study rare or unusual events.
 - the experiences reported may not be representative of other cases.

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Factual

90. A group of researchers wanted to investigate allegations of sexual harassment on a company's assembly line. To make their observations, the researchers took jobs working on the assembly line and pretended to be new employees. In this example, the researchers were using
- naturalistic observation.
 - correlational research.
 - survey research.
 - the case study method of research.

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Concept/Applied

91. The tendency for participants to participate in survey research appears to have
- increased noticeably in recent decades.
 - increased for mail surveys but decreased for phone surveys.
 - remained relatively constant since the early 1950s.
 - declined noticeably in recent decades.

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Factual

92. Jolyn believed that there are gender differences in driving habits. To test this assumption she stood near a quiet intersection. Jolyn recorded the gender of each driver who approached a stop sign, and also whether the individual came to a complete stop before proceeding into the intersection. Jolyn is conducting
- an experiment with two dependent variables.
 - case study research.
 - naturalistic observation.
 - psychological testing.

ANS: C PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Concept/Applied

93. One advantage of naturalistic observation is that it
- approximates the experimental method.
 - allows for cause-and-effect conclusions to be drawn.
 - allows behavior to be studied in realistic settings.
 - involves random assignment.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 99%

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

TOP: WWW KEY: Concept/Applied

94. Which research method involves an in-depth investigation of an individual subject?
- an experiment
 - a case study
 - a survey
 - a naturalistic observation

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Factual

95. Dr. Kincaid was interested in the topic of autistic savants (individuals with limited abilities in many areas, but with an exceptional talent in one specific area). In the initial part of the investigation Dr. Kincaid carefully observed and compiled detailed files on three individuals who were autistic savants. Dr. Kincaid is conducting
- case study research.
 - survey research.
 - correlational research.
 - experimental research.

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Concept/Applied

96. Which of the following techniques is most likely to prove useful in determining why one particular child is afraid to go to school?
- experiment
 - descriptive study
 - naturalistic observation
 - case study

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 89%

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Concept/Applied

97. One of your friends is writing a research paper and wants to obtain information about the depth of personal information people typically reveal during a first date. Directly observing a large number of people during a first date will be difficult, so your friend asks for your advice on the best way to collect this type of data. The best suggestion would be for your friend to use
- the case study approach.
 - archival research.
 - a double-blind observational study.
 - a survey.

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Critical Thinking

98. Estavan received a questionnaire in the mail asking about his general buying habits. He was asked to identify the specific products that he typically buys, and the amount of each product that he typically uses. If Estavan completes the questionnaire and returns it, he will have taken part in research that incorporates
- the survey method.
 - naturalistic observation.
 - a case study approach.
 - archival research.

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Concept/Applied

99. When studying a research question where it would be impractical to manipulate the variables of interest, a researcher would use a(n)
- logical method.
 - common sense method.
 - experimental method.
 - descriptive/correlational method.

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Factual

100. Which of the following is NOT a descriptive/correlational research method?
- survey
 - experiment
 - case study
 - naturalistic observation

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Factual

101. The research method that is often used to obtain information concerning individuals' behaviors, attitudes, and/or opinions is the
- case study method.
 - naturalistic observation method.
 - correlation method.
 - survey method.

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Factual

102. A researcher interested in studying individuals' attitudes toward "animal rights issues" would MOST likely conduct
- a case study.
 - a survey.
 - a correlation.
 - a naturalistic observation.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9

KEY: Concept/Applied

103. Broadening the scope of phenomena that psychologists are able to study is associated with
- descriptive research methods.
 - introspective research methods.
 - hypothetical deductive research methods.
 - functional research methods.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 52%

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.10

KEY: Concept/Applied

104. Trevor plans to study the relationship between people's responses to highly stressful situations and their overall health. He decides he must use correlational research, rather than experimental research, to investigate this problem. Trevor most likely chose a correlational method because correlational studies
- tend to be more accurate than experiments.
 - have higher internal validity than experiments when there are two dependent variables.
 - can be used to study either positive or negative relationships, whereas experiments can only be used to study positive relationships.
 - can be used to investigate factors that would be unethical to manipulate in an experimental study.

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.10

KEY: Concept/Applied

105. A researcher plans to study the relationship between people's smoking behavior and their tendency to have minor physical illnesses (such as colds or the flu). Most likely he will use correlational research for the study because
- correlational studies are always the "first choice" of researchers.
 - it is not practical or ethical to manipulate people's smoking behavior.
 - correlational studies allow the researcher to draw strong cause and effect conclusions.
 - the university does not allow smoking in the psychology building.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.10

KEY: Concept/Applied

106. The principal disadvantage of the descriptive/correlational research method is
- because of practical or ethical reasons they cannot be used to study some research questions.
 - since researchers cannot control variables of interest, conclusions concerning cause and effect relationships are not appropriate.
 - they do not allow the researcher to describe behavior.
 - they frequently observe behavior in artificial situations.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.10

KEY: Factual

107. The primary reason descriptive/correlational research cannot determine conclusively that variables have a cause and effect relationship is because in conducting the research
- the researcher cannot control events or manipulate variables.
 - only an experimental group is used.
 - the data collected frequently comes from direct observations or statements made by subjects.
 - the researcher observes behavior under artificial situations.

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.10

KEY: Factual

108. The use of mathematics to organize, summarize, and interpret numerical information is referred to as
- calculus.
 - functional analysis.
 - statistics.
 - algebra.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 79%

REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.11

TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

109. Statistics can be used to do all of the below EXCEPT
- summarize observations.
 - organize observations.
 - interpret observations.
 - prove observations.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 73%

REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.11

KEY: Factual

110. The two basic types of statistics are
- descriptive and inferential.
 - central tendency and variability.
 - sampling and correlative.
 - parametric and nonparametric.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 90%

REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.11

KEY: Factual

111. Statistics that are used to summarize and organize data are called
- descriptive statistics.
 - numerical statistics.
 - inferential statistics.
 - computational statistics.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 67%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.11
KEY: Factual

112. The score that falls exactly in the center of a distribution of scores, such that half the scores fall below that score and half the scores fall above it, is the
- mean.
 - standard deviation.
 - range.
 - median.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 94%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.11
KEY: Factual

113. Your grade point average is an example of which measure of central tendency?
- median
 - mean
 - mode
 - midpoint

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 95%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.11
KEY: Concept/Applied

114. The mode in a group of scores describes the ____ for that group of scores.
- central tendency
 - association with another group of scores
 - halfway point
 - variability

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 77%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.11
KEY: Factual

115. Charley tells you that 17 out of the 30 students enrolled in his English class scored exactly 62 points on the last exam. Conceptually, this is the same as saying
- the mean for that particular English exam was 62 points.
 - the median for that particular English exam was 62 points.
 - the standard deviation for that particular English exam was 62 points.
 - the mode for that particular English exam was 62 points.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Concept/Applied

116. When the scores for a recent Chemistry exam were calculated, the mean was 60 and the median was 65. Later the professor discovered that one score had been recorded incorrectly; it had been entered into the computer as a 5, instead of as a 50. When this correction is made,
- the median for the exam will change, but the mean will stay the same.
 - both the mean and the median for the exam will change.
 - the mean for the exam will change, but the median will stay the same.
 - neither the mean nor the median for the exam will be affected.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Critical Thinking

117. Carla earned 78 points on her statistics exam. Ten of the students in her class earned higher scores than she did, and ten students earned lower scores than she did. Based on this information, you can conclude that Carla's score of 78 points is
- the standardized score for her class.
 - the median for her class.
 - the mean for her class.
 - the mode for her class.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Concept/Applied

118. In Margaritte's sociology discussion group 4 of the 5 students are between the ages of 19 and 23; the fifth student is 54 years old. If Margaritte wants to report the statistic that best represents the "average" age for her discussion group, she should report either
- the mean or the median, because these numbers are typically the same.
 - the mean or the mode, because these number are not affected by extreme scores.
 - the median or the mode, because these numbers will be more representative.
 - the mean or the standard deviation, so additional statistics can be calculated.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Concept/Applied

119. When variability in a data set is large, the standard deviation will be ____; when variability is small, the standard deviation will be ____.
- large; small
 - large; large
 - small; large
 - small; small

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 84%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.11
KEY: Concept/Applied

120. Georganne calculated descriptive statistics for the age of residents in a nursing home. She reported the mean age as 75 years, with a standard deviation of 10 years. Later she found that she had made an error in her calculations. One resident's age was entered as 27 when it should have been 72. When this correction is made
- the standard deviation for the data set will decrease.
 - the standard deviation for the data set will not change.
 - the standard deviation for the data set will increase.
 - the correlation coefficient for the data set will become negative.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Critical Thinking

121. Carmella is in a class where the scores on the second midterm exam ranged from 75 to 85 points. Conrad is taking the same course, but in his section the scores ranged from 50 to 98 points. In this example the standard deviation in Carmella's class should be
- negatively correlated with the standard deviation in Conrad's class.
 - lower than the standard deviation in Conrad's class.
 - higher than the standard deviation in Conrad's class.
 - the same as the standard deviation in Conrad's class.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Critical Thinking

122. Which of the following is NOT a measure of central tendency?
- mode
 - mean
 - median
 - variability

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Factual

123. The median of the following distribution of scores 1, 2, 3, 7, 7 is
- 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 7.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Concept/Applied

124. The measure of central tendency that is MOST sensitive to (or most influenced by) extreme scores in a distribution is the
- standard deviation.
 - mean.
 - median.
 - mode.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Factual

125. How much the scores in a data set vary from each other and from the mean refers to the concept of
- correlation.
 - central tendency.
 - variability.
 - standard deviation.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Factual

126. The ____ is an index of the amount of variability in a set of data.
- statistical significance
 - central tendency
 - standard deviation
 - correlation coefficient

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Factual

127. The correlation coefficient is a measure of
- central tendency.
 - the amount of variability in a data set.
 - the degree of relationship between two variables.
 - the difference between the largest and smallest scores in a data set.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 84%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.12
KEY: Factual

128. If we were to measure the height and weight of 100 adult women, we would find that these two measures are
- uncorrelated.
 - increasingly correlated.
 - negatively correlated.
 - positively correlated.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 74%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.12
KEY: Concept/Applied

129. Suppose a researcher discovered a $+0.87$ correlation between the length of a person's toes and the number of shoes the person owns. In general, people who own the fewest number of shoes would have
- small toes.
 - large toes.
 - medium-sized toes.
 - either very large or very small toes.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

130. Based on the information on getting more out of lectures presented in the personal application section in chapter 1, class attendance and grade average in the class would be
- uncorrelated.
 - increasingly correlated.
 - negatively correlated.
 - positively correlated.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Critical Thinking

131. Dr. Macator predicts that people will act more aggressively during the heat waves of summer than they will during the cold spells of winter. This suggests that Dr. Macator believes that temperature and level of aggression are
- negatively correlated.
 - independent variables.
 - uncorrelated.
 - positively correlated.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

132. As interest rates increase, house sales decline, indicating
- a direct correlation between the two variables.
 - a negative correlation between the two variables.
 - a positive correlation between the two variables.
 - no correlation between the two variables.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

133. The FDA found that people who used a particular diet drug combination had more heart valve defects than people who had not taken the diet drug combination. This suggests that the use of the diet drug combination and heart valve defects are
- negatively correlated.
 - independent variables.
 - positively correlated.
 - interactive variables.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

134. Dr. Barton has found that students who score higher than 85% on the first midterm tend to earn scores of 75% or better on the final exam, while students who score less than 60% on the first midterm often end up with a failing grade on the final exam. This suggests that
- the scores on the first midterm and the final exam are positively correlated.
 - the scores on the first midterm and the final exam are negatively correlated.
 - students who do poorly on the first midterm give up and study less for the final.
 - Dr. Barton should change the final so it is more fair to students who are not doing well in the course.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

135. Suppose a researcher discovered a strong negative correlation between the length of people's hair and the amount of money they paid for their automobile. In general, people who paid the least amount of money for their automobile also had
- the longest hair.
 - mid-length hair.
 - the shortest hair.
 - either extremely long or extremely short hair.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 59%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.12
KEY: Concept/Applied

136. As the number of bystanders' increases, people are less likely to help someone who is in distress. This suggests that the size of a crowd and helping behavior are
- negatively correlated.
 - uncorrelated.
 - positively correlated.
 - dependent variables.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

137. A correlation between two variables exists when scores on one variable
- are different from the scores on the second variable.
 - cause or determine the scores on the second variable.
 - are related to scores on the second variable.
 - are unrelated to scores on the second variable.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Factual

138. If two variables have a positive correlation, you would expect that ____ scores on one variable are generally associated with ____ scores on the second variable.
- low; low
 - low; high
 - middle; a wide variety of
 - high; low

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

139. As an adult ages, his/her physical strength declines. The relationship between age and physical strength is a(n)
- nonexistent correlation.
 - equal correlation.
 - positive correlation.
 - negative correlation.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Critical Thinking

140. A correlation coefficient will always have a value between
- 0% and 100%.
 - 10.00 and +10.00.
 - 1.00 and +1.00.
 - 0 and +1.00.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Factual

141. A high correlation coefficient (either positive or negative) indicates that
- there is a high level of consistency between the two variables.
 - the scores on the two variables are nearly identical.
 - a change in one variable causes a change in the second variable.
 - a third factor or variable is always responsible for the relationship between the two variables.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Critical Thinking

142. A correlation coefficient of zero describes
- a positive relationship between two variables.
 - a negative relationship between two variables.
 - the lack of a relationship between two variables.
 - a perfect relationship between two variables.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 79%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.12
TOP: WWW KEY: Concept/Applied

143. Dr. Redding has found a correlation of +0.65 between snoring and weight. This indicates that
- overweight individuals tend to snore less than underweight individuals.
 - there is no relationship between weight and snoring.
 - overweight individuals tend to snore more than underweight individuals.
 - individuals who go on a diet will most likely begin to snore.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

144. Of the following, the correlation coefficient that indicates the strongest relationship between the two variables being measured is
- +0.65.
 - 0.89.
 - 0.00.
 - +3.45.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

145. Of the following, the correlation coefficient that indicates the weakest relationship between the two variables being measured is
- a. +0.95.
 - b. -0.69.
 - c. +0.01.
 - d. -4.50.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

146. Of the following correlation coefficients, the one that would allow the most accurate predictions of one variable based on the other variable would be
- a. 0.00.
 - b. +1.24.
 - c. +0.65.
 - d. -0.79.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.13 KEY: Concept/Applied

147. Dr. Zelke surveys 50 university students to discover the relationship between textbook price and ratings of readability. Dr. Zelke finds that for these two variables the correlation coefficient is -0.70. This indicates that
- a. more expensive books tend to receive higher readability ratings than less expensive books.
 - b. there is no relationship between textbook price and ratings of readability.
 - c. increasing a textbooks price will cause a decrease in its readability rating.
 - d. more expensive books tend to receive lower readability ratings than less expensive books.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

148. Which of the following statements about correlations is incorrect?
- a. A and B correlate +1.00; therefore, they are causally related.
 - b. A and B correlate +1.00; if you know A you can predict B without error.
 - c. A and B correlate -1.00; if you know A you can predict B without error.
 - d. A correlation of +.90 gives better predictability than a correlation of +.60.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 51%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.13
KEY: Concept/Applied

149. As correlation coefficients ____, the ability to predict one variable based on knowledge of the second variable increases.
- a. become positive
 - b. become negative
 - c. increase in strength
 - d. decrease in strength

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.13 KEY: Factual

150. If A and B are highly correlated, which statement MOST accurately describes the relationship between A and B?
- the score on A causes the score on B
 - the score on B causes the score on A
 - both A and B are caused by a third variable
 - the score on A can be used to predict the score on B

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.13 KEY: Critical Thinking

151. Statistics that are used to interpret data and draw conclusions are called
- descriptive statistics.
 - inferential statistics.
 - numerical statistics.
 - significant statistics.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.14 KEY: Factual

152. Inferential statistics help us determine whether ____ played a role in an experiment.
- chance
 - a dependent variable
 - a normal distribution
 - genetics

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 85%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.14
KEY: Concept/Applied

153. "Statistically significant" means that the results of an experiment most likely
- resulted from chance variations.
 - were not due to chance.
 - had practical significance.
 - were important.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 72%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.14
KEY: Concept/Applied

154. Paulo tells you that he just completed an experiment in his botany class, and the results he obtained were statistically significant. This means that the results he obtained
- are important and will likely have an impact in the field of botany.
 - were unlikely to be a result of chance variations in his sample.
 - will be of interest to people, even if they are not botanists.
 - were likely to be the result of chance variations in his sample.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.14 KEY: Concept/Applied

155. Helen conducted a study in which she measured the response time for males and females to complete a spatial task. She found that the mean response time was 1.48 minutes for males and 1.63 minutes for females. For Helen to be confident that an actual difference exists between the males and females in her study, she must
- calculate a correlation coefficient.
 - redo the experiment.
 - obtain a larger sample.
 - calculate an inferential statistic.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 28%
REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research OBJ: 2.14
KEY: Concept/Applied

156. Researchers use ____ to determine whether the observed difference between the two groups in the study was large enough to support the hypothesis.
- mathematical statistics
 - inferential statistics
 - descriptive statistics
 - correlational statistics

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.14 KEY: Factual

157. When research results are said to be statistically significant it means that
- the probability that the observed findings are due to chance is very low.
 - the observed findings are important.
 - the observed findings are interesting.
 - the observed findings and both important and interesting.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.14 KEY: Factual

158. A sample is representative if
- only volunteer subjects are used.
 - it is as different from the population as possible.
 - all subjects are chosen from a single, unusual segment of the population.
 - its composition is similar to the composition of the population.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Factual

159. To determine whether students would like more courses scheduled in the late afternoon and evening hours, the Student Services department sends questionnaires to 50 students selected at random from the 5,000 who are registered at the campus. In this instance, the 5,000 students who are registered at the campus would be
- a population.
 - a representative sample.
 - a biased sample.
 - the independent variable.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Concept/Applied

160. To discover whether residents of a city are in favor of building a new sports stadium, the team's owner randomly selected and interviewed 500 of the city's 500,000 residents. In this instance, the 500 people that the owner interviewed would be
- a biased sample.
 - a population.
 - the dependent variable.
 - a representative sample.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Concept/Applied

161. A researcher who is conducting an opinion survey asks viewers who are watching a political debate to dial a 1-800 number and record their opinion to the "question of the day." In this case the researcher is likely to have
- a representative sample.
 - a random sample.
 - a biased sample.
 - a random population.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Critical Thinking

162. The subjects who participate in an experiment should
- all be chosen from the same geographical area and socioeconomic class.
 - be allowed to choose which group they would like to be in.
 - come from a wide range of different age groups.
 - be carefully chosen so they are a representative sample of the population.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 92%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.16
KEY: Concept/Applied

163. Sampling bias is a problem because it
- limits the generality of the findings.
 - makes it impossible to use inferential statistics.
 - makes it difficult to avoid a confounding of variables.
 - makes the effect of the independent variable appear to be bigger than it really is.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 63%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.16
KEY: Concept/Applied

164. Dr. Stillingsworth is interested in people's reactions to a controversial jury verdict. Dr. Stillingsworth calls people at their home between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on a Tuesday afternoon. In this example Dr. Stillingsworth has MOST likely selected
- a representative sample.
 - a biased population.
 - a biased sample.
 - a statistically significant population.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 66%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.16
KEY: Concept/Applied

165. Research involving the repetition of a study to see whether the earlier results can be duplicated are referred to as
- verification studies.
 - replication studies.
 - clarification studies.
 - duplication studies.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.15 TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

166. While a(n) ____ is the group of individuals actually observed in a research study, the ____ is the group of individuals that researchers want to generalize or extend their findings to describe.
- experimental group; control group
 - control group; experimental group
 - population; sample
 - sample; population

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Factual

167. When, or if, a research project uses a sample that is NOT representative of the population from which it was drawn, the project would show the effect of
- experimenter bias.
 - sampling bias.
 - placebo effect.
 - subject bias.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Factual

168. If a college professor surveyed his students about their attitudes concerning the social security system and concluded that young adults doubt that they will ever receive social security benefits, his conclusion would be flawed because
- his students were not a representative sample of young adults.
 - he did not survey the entire population of young adults.
 - he knew his subjects before he surveyed them.
 - his students were a random sample.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Concept/Applied

169. Placebos are used in research to control for
- nontreatment effects.
 - the subjects' expectations about treatment.
 - secondary drug effects.
 - random fluctuations in the independent variable.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

170. Sometimes a subject's expectations may lead to behavior change in the absence of any effective treatment. This is referred to as an example of
- sampling bias.
 - experimenter bias.
 - socially desirable responding.
 - the placebo effect.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Factual

171. Dr. Limmex is trying to win FDA approval for a new drug to treat anxiety. Dr. Limmex claims that 14% of the people who took this new drug reported reduced anxiety; however other researchers claim that 14% of patients who receive no treatment also report reductions in their anxiety levels. It appears that the patients who improved after taking Dr. Limmex's drug
- had a self-report bias.
 - may have been experiencing placebo effects.
 - were a non-representative sample.
 - should have been placed in the control group, rather than the experimental group.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Critical Thinking

172. In an investigation of the effects of caffeine on concentration, half the participants were given regular colas which contained caffeine and half were given decaffeinated colas. In this study, the decaffeinated colas are being used as
- a confounding variable.
 - a random factor.
 - the dependent variable.
 - a placebo.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Concept/Applied

173. Darla has sent out a survey in which she is asking people to provide information about their attitudes on a number of sensitive subjects. When the surveys are returned Darla needs to be aware that the responses may be distorted due to
- placebo effects.
 - self-report biases.
 - statistical artifacts.
 - meta-analytic controls.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Concept/Applied

174. The tendency for survey subjects to provide answers that place them in a favorable light is referred to as
- sampling bias.
 - response stereotyping.
 - a placebo effect.
 - socially desirable responding.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

175. One is most likely to encounter problems with the social desirability bias when using
- self-reports.
 - case studies.
 - naturalistic observations.
 - the experimental method.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 90%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.17
KEY: Factual

176. Subjects' self-reports often indicate that they are healthier, happier, and less prejudiced than other types of evidence would suggest. The most likely explanation for this pattern is
- experimenter bias.
 - faulty memory.
 - the social desirability bias.
 - a tendency to agree with almost every statement.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 95%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.17
KEY: Concept/Applied

177. Reinhold is filling out the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) and as he reads each question he thinks about the way most other people would probably respond. When he answers, he selects the alternative that he thinks will present the most favorable impression. Reinhold's answers reflect
- a social desirability bias.
 - a negative response set.
 - the placebo effect.
 - non-representative sampling.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Concept/Applied

178. The tendency to respond to questions in a manner unrelated to the content of a question is called
- cognitive confabulation.
 - response set.
 - counter confound.
 - counter placebo effect.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 69%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.17
KEY: Factual

179. John dislikes completing questionnaires, so each time he fills one out he always circles the same item (such as "strongly agree" or "strongly disagree"). John's behavior reflects
- the placebo effect.
 - a sampling bias.
 - social desirability.
 - a response set.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 61%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.17
KEY: Concept/Applied

180. Malinda is filling out a survey for a marketing agency in order to be eligible for a grand prize drawing. She doesn't actually read many of the questions, and simply answers "yes" to everything. Malinda's answers to the survey reflect
- a social desirability bias.
 - the placebo effect.
 - a response set.
 - an interaction effect.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Concept/Applied

181. In which of the scientific research methods are distortions in self-report MOST likely to be of concern to the researcher?
- experimental method
 - correlational method
 - naturalistic observation method
 - survey method

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Concept/Applied

182. The fact that many times researchers unintentionally influence the outcome of their studies implies the existence of
- experimenter bias.
 - a placebo effect.
 - sampling bias.
 - social desirability.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Concept/Applied

183. Experimenter bias occurs when
- experimenters explicitly instruct the subjects to behave in a way that will be consistent with the hypothesis.
 - experimenters desire to make a favorable impression on their subjects.
 - experimenters' beliefs in their own hypotheses affect either the subjects' behavior or their observations of the subjects.
 - experimenters conduct their studies in a completely objective manner.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 87%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.17
KEY: Factual

184. Melvin and Leigh are interviewing students at their campus to determine if the students agree or disagree with a proposed policy change. Melvin believes the proposed policy change is a good idea, but Leigh believes the change will be bad for students. Nearly all the students who Melvin interviewed supported the policy change, but nearly all the students who Leigh interviewed disapproved of the change. The differences in the results illustrate the potential impact of
- the placebo effect.
 - double-blind research studies.
 - confounded dependent variables.
 - experimenter bias.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Critical Thinking

185. One method to control for experimenter bias effects in research is to use
- a socially desirable procedure.
 - reverse control groups.
 - a double-blind procedure.
 - a non-representative sample.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 93%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.17
KEY: Concept/Applied

186. The experimental procedure in which both the experimenter and subject are unaware of who is in the experimental and who is in the control group is referred to as the
- placebo control procedure.
 - stereotaxic procedure.
 - single-blind procedure.
 - double-blind procedure.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 96%
REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research OBJ: 2.17
KEY: Factual

187. Scarlett is a graduate student who is observing children playing together after watching a film. She knows that some children saw a film that contained graphic scenes of violence and some children saw a non-violent film, but she doesn't know which film each child she is observing watched. In this case, Scarlett is recording data for
- a double-blind research study.
 - a study with two independent variables.
 - an unethical research study.
 - a correlational study with confounded variables.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Concept/Applied

188. Dr. Webb designs a research study in which neither the subjects nor the individuals who interact directly with the subjects know which is the control group and which is the experimental group in the study. Dr. Webb probably chose this type of research design in order to
- avoid the need to obtain ethics approval for the study.
 - minimize the possibility of self-report bias.
 - ensure that her sample is not biased.
 - reduce the impact of experimenter bias.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Concept/Applied

189. Which of the following statements is MOST accurate concerning the results of the research study by Rosenthal and Fode described in the text book?
- Half of the experimenters were told that the ratings would average -5 and half were told to expect ratings of +5.
 - The experimenters were prevented from conversing with their subjects.
 - The experimenter's expectations influenced the ratings given by the subjects.
 - A double blind procedure was used in the study.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Factual

190. Which type of error is the research study by Rosenthal and Fode described in the text book is used to illustrate?
- the placebo effect
 - double-blind research studies
 - confounded dependent variables
 - experimenter bias

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Critical Thinking

191. When a researcher's expectations or preferences about the outcome of a study influence the results obtained it is referred to as
- experimenter bias.
 - subject bias.
 - the sampling effect.
 - the placebo effect.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Factual

192. Which of the following statements concerning experimenter bias is false?
- experimenter bias may influence the behavior of the participants
 - experimenter bias is often intentional
 - experimenter bias may influence the researcher's observations or recording of participants responses
 - experimenter bias may influence the research project in subtle ways

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Factual

193. The ____ is a research strategy that minimizes the potential methodological problems associated with the placebo effect and experimenter bias.
- neutral sample procedure
 - single blind procedure
 - double blind procedure
 - blind sample procedure

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Critical Thinking

194. Which of the following statements is MOST accurate?
- Deception has never been used in psychological research.
 - Although deception has been used in the past, it has recently been banned by the American Psychological Association.
 - In recent years, there has been a steady increase in the use of deception in psychological research.
 - Deception has been fairly common in psychological research since the 1960s.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 70%
REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means? OBJ: 2.18
KEY: Factual

195. Deception is used in some research in order to
- help control for placebo effects.
 - help aid in double-blind procedures.
 - prevent socially desirable responding.
 - encourage socially desirable responding.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.18 TOP: WWW KEY: Concept/Applied

196. Research has revealed that subjects who participated in research involving deception
- were psychologically distressed at being deceived.
 - suffered extreme embarrassment at being "fooled."
 - didn't mind being misled and generally enjoyed taking part in research.
 - lost the ability to trust others.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 67%
REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means? OBJ: 2.18
KEY: Factual

197. The primary reason for the ethical dilemmas psychologists encounter regarding the use of deception in research reflects concerns
- whether the deception affects all participants equally.
 - for the well-being of animals used in research.
 - about the possibility of inflicting harm on human subjects.
 - whether subjects believe the deception.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.18 KEY: Concept/Applied

198. Which of the following statements regarding the use of deception in psychological research is false?
- a. defenders of deception believe that some research questions can only be studied by using deception
 - b. critics of deception believe that the conclusions from studies involving deception are not valid
 - c. critics of deception believe that the deception may result in subjects becoming less trusting of others
 - d. participants in research involving the use of deception generally report that they enjoyed the experience

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.18 KEY: Critical Thinking

199. Which of the following is NOT a criticism of using animals in psychological research?
- a. Many of the studies are trivial.
 - b. It is unethical to subject an animal to pain.
 - c. The studies cost too much for the limited amount of information they provide.
 - d. The studies are a waste of time, as the results often do not apply to humans.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 55%
REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means? OBJ: 2.19
KEY: Factual

200. The single issue citizens write about most often to their congresspersons and the President is
- a. homelessness.
 - b. animal welfare.
 - c. the drug problem.
 - d. crime.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 71%
REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means? OBJ: 2.19
KEY: Factual

201. Which of the following statements is most accurate?
- a. More than one-third of all psychological studies involve animals.
 - b. The American Psychological Association has developed strict ethical guidelines for research involving animals.
 - c. There have been few, if any, major advances in the treatment of mental or physical disorders in humans that are attributable to animal research.
 - d. The majority of psychological studies using animals involve painful or harmful manipulations.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 85%
REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means? OBJ: 2.19
KEY: Factual

202. Which of the following reasons for conducting psychological research with animals is MOST controversial?
- animals can live in research labs 24 hours a day while that would not be practical for human subjects
 - animals can be exposed to treatments that would be unacceptable to expose humans to
 - psychologists desire to understand and explain the behavior of certain species of animals
 - psychologists believe that the results of animal research can help identify general principles of behavior that are relevant to humans

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.19 KEY: Factual

203. Which of the following statements regarding the use of animals in psychological research is MOST accurate?
- animals are used as subjects in less than 10% of psychological research studies
 - psychologists, if given a choice, always prefer to conduct animal research instead of human research
 - most animal research involves exposing the animals to painful procedures
 - while ethical principles govern the treatment of humans in research, there are no ethical principles for conducting animal research

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.19 KEY: Factual

204. Which of the following is NOT included in the ethical guidelines for human participants in psychological research?
- Participants should not be subjected to harmful or dangerous treatments.
 - Participants should be paid for their participation.
 - Participants' right to privacy should not be compromised.
 - Participants should volunteer to participate.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20 KEY: Critical Thinking

205. Zigfried Rosenblat, Jr. took part in a study on sexual deviance last year. He was somewhat dismayed when he read an article in a weekly journal discussing sexual deviance in which one patient was referred to as ZRJ. Although the article claimed all names had been disguised to protect personal identities, Zigfried is convinced he is the individual described in the article. In this case, it is possible that the researchers who conducted the study violated the ethical principle of
- informed consent.
 - right to privacy.
 - full disclosure.
 - adequate debriefing.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20 KEY: Concept/Applied

206. Dr. Jacobsen is investigating the link between social support networks and grades in school. Students in his classes are required to complete survey forms related to this research; however they are never told about the purpose of the survey. In this case, some researchers might argue that Dr. Jacobsen's research violates the ethical principle of
- right to privacy.
 - protection for harm.
 - full disclosure.
 - informed consent.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20 KEY: Critical Thinking

207. Dr. Dickinson is investigating the link between social support networks and grades in school. Students in his classes are required to complete survey forms related to this research. If a survey form is not completed by the end of the semester a student's grade is reduced by 10 points. In this case, some researchers might argue that Dr. Dickinson's research violates the ethical principle of
- right to privacy.
 - full disclosure.
 - voluntary participation.
 - protection from harm.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20 KEY: Critical Thinking

208. Mackenzie took part in an experiment where she was told she would be required to sit alone in a darkened room for 30 minutes, after which she would be asked to complete a brief questionnaire about her future goals and plans. When she finished the questionnaire she was told the experiment was over. Mackenzie never really understood the purpose of the study, and she wasn't sure why she had to wait in the darkened room before filling out the short questionnaire. In this case, it would appear that the researchers who conducted the experiment
- did not use an adequate debriefing procedure.
 - failed to obtain informed consent.
 - violated Mackenzie's right to privacy.
 - did not provide adequate protection from harm.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20 KEY: Concept/Applied

209. According to the ethical guidelines for psychological research with humans, if you agree to be a participant in a research study you would understand that you
- will not be exposed to harmful or dangerous treatments.
 - will not be exposed to deception.
 - have to commit to participating in the entire research study.
 - do not have the right to privacy.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20 KEY: Concept/Applied

210. According to the ethical guidelines for conducting psychological research with animals, exposing animals to harmful or painful procedures
- is justified if the research design requires the harmful or painful procedures.
 - is justified for lower animals but not for primates.
 - cannot be justified unless the potential benefits of the research are substantial.
 - is never justified.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20 KEY: Factual

211. The fact that researchers focus their attention on findings that are unlikely to have occurred by chance illustrates which of your text's unifying themes?
- Our experience of the world is highly subjective.
 - Psychology is empirical.
 - Behavior is determined by multiple causes.
 - Psychology is theoretically diverse.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 62%
REF: Reflecting on the Chapter's Themes OBJ: 2.21
KEY: Concept/Applied

212. The fact that subjects sometimes report beneficial effects from a placebo treatment illustrates which of your text's unifying themes?
- Our experience of the world is highly subjective.
 - Psychology is empirical.
 - Heredity and environment jointly influence behavior.
 - Our behavior is shaped by our cultural heritage.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 89%
REF: Reflecting on the Chapter's Themes OBJ: 2.21
KEY: Concept/Applied

213. The fact that research results can be affected by experimenter bias illustrates which of your text's unifying themes?
- Our behavior is shaped by our cultural heritage.
 - Psychology is theoretically diverse.
 - Our experience of the world is highly subjective.
 - Behavior is determined by multiple causes.

ANS: C PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 80%
REF: Reflecting on the Chapter's Themes OBJ: 2.21
KEY: Concept/Applied

214. The various methods and procedures used in conducting psychological research and evaluating the research of other psychologists are consistent with which unifying theme in psychology?
- psychology is empirical
 - psychology is theoretically diverse
 - our behavior is determined by multiple causes
 - our behavior is shaped by our cultural heritage

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Reflecting on the Chapter's Themes
OBJ: 2.21 KEY: Factual

215. Articles published in technical and scholarly journals are written for
- students majoring in that field.
 - other professionals in that field.
 - the general public.
 - anyone with an interest in the topic.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 56%
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.22 TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

216. In psychology, MOST journal articles are
- descriptions of newly developed theories.
 - reports that describe original empirical studies.
 - criticisms of previously published research.
 - reviews that summarize and reconcile the findings from a large number of studies.

ANS: B PTS: 1
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.22 KEY: Factual

217. A summary of research literature in psychology can be obtained by looking in
- Psychological Review.
 - PsychINFO.
 - Psychology Today.
 - the American Psychological Association home page.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 65%
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.23 KEY: Factual

218. The abstract of a journal article provides
- a concise summary of the entire article.
 - an overview of the research problem, relevant theories, and previous research.
 - a description of the research methods used in the study.
 - a concise summary of the raw data and statistical analyses.

ANS: A PTS: 1
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.24 TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

219. A computerized database that allows individuals to locate journal articles and other published works related to psychological research is
- The Citation Index.
 - American Psychological Association Online.
 - Psychology Today.
 - PsycINFO.

ANS: D PTS: 1
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.23 KEY: Factual

220. The hypotheses for a research study are most likely to be found in the
- methodology section of a journal article.
 - reference section of a journal article.
 - results section of a journal article.
 - introduction section of a journal article.

ANS: D PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 94%
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.24 TOP: WWW KEY: Factual

221. The data obtained in a research study, along with the statistical analyses, are reported in the
- introduction section of a journal article.
 - results section of a journal article.
 - method section of a journal article.
 - discussion section of a journal article.

ANS: B PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 90%
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.24 KEY: Factual

222. The correct sequencing of the sections of the main body of a journal article would be
- introduction, method, results, discussion.
 - introduction, discussion, method, results.
 - discussion, introduction, method, results.
 - method, introduction, results, discussion.

ANS: A PTS: 1 DIF: Correct = 81%
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.24 KEY: Factual

223. Individuals who think critically do not rely on anecdotal evidence because this type of evidence
- is too general and can be applied to too many unrelated situations.
 - is based on inferential statistical analysis, which is generally unreliable.
 - can be distorted by reporting biases.
 - involves only negative instances, and cannot be used to make an unbiased decision.

ANS: C PTS: 1
REF: Critical Thinking Application: The Perils of Anecdotal Evidence
OBJ: 2.25 KEY: Factual

224. Which section of a journal article describing psychological research contains the author's interpretation and evaluation of the data?
- References
 - Conclusion
 - Discussion
 - Results

ANS: C PTS: 1
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.24 KEY: Factual

225. Studies that have investigated the influence of anecdotal information have found that
- people are not influenced by anecdotal information, and tend to view it as non-representative and biased.
 - people tend to be influenced by anecdotal information, even when they are forewarned that the information is not representative.
 - people are only influenced by anecdotal evidence when they have not been forewarned that it may be misleading.
 - people are only influenced by anecdotal evidence when it is provided by someone they know and trust.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Critical Thinking Application: The Perils of Anecdotal Evidence

OBJ: 2.25 KEY: Factual

226. Which of the following statements concerning anecdotal evidence is false?
- Anecdotal evidence is based on a single example and may reflect sampling bias.
 - Anecdotal evidence rarely influences a person's opinion or behavior.
 - Anecdotal evidence can usually be found to support any position.
 - Anecdotal evidence often reflects a distortion in self-report.

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Critical Thinking Application: The Perils of Anecdotal Evidence

OBJ: 2.25 KEY: Factual

227. Imagine that a group of researchers conducted a single-blind study designed to test the effectiveness of subliminal-message weight-loss tapes. Suppose the researchers found that everyone lost weight during the study, even those who were given tapes without any subliminal messages. This type of result would
- indicate that the independent and dependent variables are negatively correlated.
 - provide evidence that subliminal tapes are effective in promoting weight loss.
 - be evidence of a placebo effect.
 - be evidence that the study contained confounding variables.

ANS: C PTS: 1 KEY: Integrative

228. Which of the following pairs of terms related to the goals of science are MOST clearly associated with the concept of correlation?
- understanding and prediction
 - description and understanding
 - description and prediction
 - prediction and application

ANS: C PTS: 1 KEY: Integrative

229. A researcher is conducting an experiment on the effect of alcohol consumption on reaction time and half of the subjects drink alcoholic drinks and half drink non-alcoholic versions of the same drinks. The subjects receiving the non-alcoholic drinks are the ____ group and are used in the study to minimize the influence of ____.
- experimental; sampling bias
 - experimental; the placebo effect
 - control; sampling bias
 - control; the placebo effect

ANS: D PTS: 1 KEY: Integrative

230. Which of the following is NOT a common methodological flaw to consider when evaluating scientific research?
- distortions of self-report
 - sampling bias
 - subject effect
 - placebo effect

ANS: C PTS: 1 KEY: Integrative

231. The double blind procedure was developed by researchers because of which unifying theme in psychology?
- psychology is empirical
 - psychology evolves in a sociohistorical context
 - our behavior is shaped by our cultural heritage
 - our experience of the world is highly subjective

ANS: D PTS: 1 KEY: Integrative

232. The organization or standard format of journal articles describing psychological research reflects or follows the
- preferences of the specific researcher.
 - goals of science.
 - steps involved in conducting scientific research.
 - unifying themes of psychology.

ANS: C PTS: 1 KEY: Integrative

233. Which of the following is a major assumption of science?
- Events occur in a relatively orderly or predictable manner.
 - Cause and effect is indicated by correlational relationships.
 - In contrast to the behavior of lower animals, human behavior is in part a function of free will.
 - Events are largely randomly determined.

ANS: A PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1

KEY: Concept/Applied

234. An experimenter tests the hypothesis that physical exercise improves people's mood. Subjects in the experimental group participate on Monday and Tuesday and those in the control group on Wednesday and Thursday. What is the *independent* variable?
- the hypothesis
 - the day of the week
 - the exercise
 - the mood (degree of happiness)

ANS: C PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.5

KEY: Concept/Applied

235. An experimenter tests the hypothesis that physical exercise improves people's mood. Subjects in the experimental group participate on Monday and Tuesday and those in the control group on Wednesday and Thursday. What is the *dependent* variable?
- the hypothesis
 - the day of the week
 - the exercise
 - the mood (degree of happiness)

ANS: D PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.5

KEY: Concept/Applied

236. An experimenter tests the hypothesis that physical exercise improves people's mood. Subjects in the experimental group participate on Monday and Tuesday and those in the control group on Wednesday and Thursday. What is the *extraneous* (confounding) variable?
- the hypothesis
 - the day of the week
 - the exercise
 - the mood (degree of happiness)

ANS: B PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.5

KEY: Concept/Applied

237. What is the mode of the following data? 2, 3, 3, 3, 5, 5, 7, 12
- 3
 - 4
 - 5
 - 6

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research

OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Concept/Applied

238. What is the median of the following data? 1, 3, 4, 4, 5, 6, 9
- 3
 - 4
 - 4.57
 - 6

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research

OBJ: 2.11 KEY: Concept/Applied

239. Suppose researchers find a negative relationship between alcohol consumption and the number of correct responses on a skills test: the more alcohol consumed the lower the score. Which of the following fictitious statistics could possibly represent that correlation?
- 4.57
 - 0.87
 - +0.91
 - +0.00

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research

OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Critical Thinking

240. An instructor wishes to find out whether a new teaching method is superior to his usual procedures, so he conducts an experiment. Everyone in his classes is quite excited about the prospect of learning under the new procedure but of course he cannot administer the new teaching method to everyone. A random half of the students receive the new method and the remaining half receive the old. What is the most obvious flaw in this experiment?
- Subjects should have been systematically assigned to groups.
 - The sample is not representative of the population.
 - Placebo effects or experimenter bias are likely to affect results.
 - Distortions in self-report will affect results.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Critical Thinking

241. With regard to the topic of deception in research with human subjects, which of the following is most accurate?
- Researchers are careful to avoid deceiving subjects.
 - Some topics could not be investigated unless deception was used.
 - It has been empirically demonstrated that deception causes severe distress.
 - All psychological research must involve some deception.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.18 KEY: Factual

242. Which of the following is one of the six standard parts of a psychological journal article?
- conclusions
 - bibliography
 - data summary
 - discussion

ANS: D PTS: 1
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.24 KEY: Factual

243. A researcher is investigating the effects of caffeine consumption on student writing performance. Because the researcher will evaluate both the speed of assignment completion and the number of grammatical errors, she will need to include more than one _____ variable in her study
- independent
 - dependent
 - confounding
 - extraneous

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.6

244. The Featured Study presented in the text on how motives can affect perception demonstrates which of the texts's unifying themes?
- People's experience of the world is highly subjective.
 - Psychology evolves in a sociohistorical context.
 - Behavior is shaped by cultural heritage.
 - Heredity and environment jointly influence behavior.

ANS: A PTS: 1 KEY: Integrative

245. The Featured Study presented in the text demonstrates that people's motives can affect their
- choice of hobbies.
 - sense of taste.
 - attraction to others.
 - visual perception.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.7 KEY: Critical Thinking

246. Following their first experiment, the authors of the Featured Study in the text conducted additional research to be sure that _____ did not account for their initial findings.
- placebo effects
 - dependent variables
 - deception by participants
 - experimenter bias

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.7 KEY: Critical Thinking

247. A researcher who wants to get a broad perspective on an area of research by combining the results from a large number of existing studies would be most likely to use which statistical technique?
- standard deviation
 - meta-analysis
 - correlation
 - means analysis

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.15 KEY: Concept/Applied

248. A recent investigation of potential sampling bias in psychological research indicated that approximately ___ percent of the samples in published studies came from the United States.
- 10
 - 33
 - 66
 - 90

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16 KEY: Factual

249. If your boss thinks very highly of you in general, she may tend to see even your mediocre projects as excellent work. This would be evidence for
- the discriminative effect.
 - the sampling effect.
 - the placebo effect.
 - the halo effect.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17 KEY: Concept/Applied

COMPLETION

1. As scientists, psychologists assume that behavior is governed by some _____ order.

ANS: lawful

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.1

2. A(n) _____ is a tentative statement about the relationship between two or more variables.

ANS: hypothesis

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.2

3. Scientific theories must be subject to empirical scrutiny, that is to say they must be _____.

ANS: testable

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.2

4. The first step in a research study is the formulation of a(n) _____.

ANS: testable hypothesis

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.3

5. Collecting the data in a research study is the _____ step in any scientific investigation.

ANS: third

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.3

6. The two major advantages of the scientific method are its _____, or the fact that it requires that people specify exactly what they are talking about and its intolerance of error.

ANS: precision

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.4

7. A(n) _____ is a research method in which the researcher manipulates a variable under carefully controlled conditions and measures whether any changes occur in a second variable.

ANS: experiment

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5

8. In an experiment the variable that is manipulated by the researcher is known as the _____ variable and the variable that is measured is known as the _____ variable.

ANS: independent; dependent

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5

9. Variables, other than the independent variable, that are likely to influence the dependent variable are called _____ variables.

ANS: extraneous

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5

10. Completing an in-depth study of 100 members from a cult that committed mass suicide would be one example of _____ research.

ANS: case study

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research
OBJ: 2.9

11. The _____ is the measure of central tendency that is most affected by extreme scores in a set of data.

ANS: mean

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11

12. The _____ is a measure of the amount of variability in a set of data.

ANS: standard deviation

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11

13. If a researcher observed that there were more traffic accidents on cold days than on hot days, then temperature and traffic accidents would be _____ correlated.

ANS: negatively

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12

14. The group of subjects selected for observation in an empirical study is known as the _____.

ANS: sample

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16

15. When individuals in a research study experience some change even though they received an ineffectual treatment, they are displaying _____ effects.

ANS: placebo

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.16

16. A person who agreed with all the questions on a personality inventory, even when the questions contradicted each other, would be demonstrating a(n) _____.

ANS: response set

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17

17. When a researcher's expectations or preferences about the outcome of a study influence the results obtained, _____ is said to have occurred.

ANS: experimenter bias

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17

18. Placebo effects and experimenter bias both show that personal experience can be _____.

ANS: subjective

PTS: 1 REF: Reflecting on the Chapter's Themes
OBJ: 2.21

19. A(n) _____ is a concise, 75-175 word summary of a research study that describes the hypotheses, methods, results, and conclusion.

ANS: abstract

PTS: 1 REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles

OBJ: 2.22

20. In a journal article, the _____ presents an overview of the problem under investigation and quickly reviews previous research in the same area.

ANS: introduction

PTS: 1 REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles

OBJ: 2.22

TRUE/FALSE

1. Most scientists hope that ultimately the information they gather will be of some practical value to solve everyday problems.

ANS: T PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1

2. The goals of the scientific enterprise in psychology are to describe, understand, predict and control behavior.

ANS: T PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.1

3. A tentative statement about the relationship between two or more variables is called a theory.

ANS: F PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.2

4. The second step in the research method is the making of the empirical observations and measurements.

ANS: F PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.3

5. The greatest advantage that the scientific method has over logical reasoning or common sense is that it results in cause-and-effect explanations.

ANS: F PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior OBJ: 2.4

6. In an experiment the investigator varies the dependent variable and measures the independent variable.

ANS: F PTS: 1

REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research

OBJ: 2.5

7. The principle advantage of the experimental method is that the final conclusions can be extended to everyday behavior that occurs outside the laboratory.
- ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.8
8. When clinical psychologists do case studies of their clients for diagnostic purposes they are conducting empirical research.
- ANS: F PTS: 1
REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.9
9. Descriptive/correlational research methods broaden the scope of phenomena that psychologists are able to study.
- ANS: T PTS: 1
REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research OBJ: 2.10
10. Because additional statistical manipulations can be performed on it, in general, the most useful measure of central tendency is the mean.
- ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.11
11. In psychology, the best research method to use to develop a cause-and-effect explanation is the correlational method.
- ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.13
12. Research findings that are statistically significant may have no theoretical or practical significance.
- ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.14
13. In order to generalize from a sample to the larger population, the sample must include at least 5% of the population under investigation.
- ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.14
14. Self-report methods can be problematic due to the tendency for people to give socially appropriate answers.
- ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17
15. The best way to reduce the risk of experimenter bias is to use a double-blind research procedure.
- ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Flaws: Evaluating Research
OBJ: 2.17

16. Research into the use of deception in experimental studies has found that deception seriously undermines the participants' trust in others once the study has been concluded.
- ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.18
17. The American Psychological Association has developed a set of ethical guidelines for research that apply to both animal and human research participants.
- ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20
18. According to APA ethical guidelines, psychological studies may not rely on the use of deception unless the subject's privacy could be compromised.
- ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20
19. In psychology, most journal articles are reports of original empirical studies.
- ANS: T PTS: 1
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.22
20. PsychINFO is a computerized database that contains abstracts, or brief summaries of psychological research studies published in journals and books.
- ANS: T PTS: 1
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.23
21. Most psychological journal articles include an abstract, an introduction, methods, results and discussion section and a list of bibliographic references.
- ANS: T PTS: 1
REF: Personal Application: Finding and Reading Journal Articles
OBJ: 2.24
22. The best type of evidence for psychological studies is anecdotal evidence.
- ANS: F PTS: 1
REF: Critical Thinking Application: The Perils of Anecdotal Evidence
OBJ: 2.25

SHORT ANSWER

1. Explain what makes psychology a science.

ANS: Scientists assume that there are constancies or laws that can be uncovered through the use of the scientific enterprise. Psychologists use the scientific enterprise to make systematic observations. Psychologists rely on the use of formal, systematic observations to address their questions about behavior; they use empirical methods just like scientists in all disciplines.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.1 KEY: Factual

2. What are the three goals of scientific enterprise in psychology?

ANS: The goals of science in psychology include:
The measurement and description of behavior;
The understanding and prediction of behavior; and
The application of the knowledge to the task of controlling behavior.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.1 KEY: Factual

3. Briefly describe the steps involved in scientific psychological research.

ANS: All scientific research follows a systematic pattern that includes five steps:
Formulate a testable hypothesis
Select the research method and design the study
Collect the data
Analyze the data and draw conclusions
Report the findings.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.3 KEY: Conceptual

4. Describe why scientific research methods are important to psychologists.

ANS: The scientific approach offers two major advantages: clarity and precision, and intolerance of errors. Scientists use operational definitions to clarify what they are talking about and they scrutinize one another's findings with a critical eye and demand objective data and thorough documentation before they accept ideas leading to more accurate and dependable information.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.4 KEY: Concept

5. Explain the difference between an independent variable and a dependent variable as used in the experimental method.

ANS: Independent variables are conditions that an experimenter varies in order to see their impact on other variables. Dependent variables are the variables that are thought to be affected by the manipulation of the independent variable. Independent variables are manipulated; dependent variables are measured.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.5 KEY: Factual

6. Explain the difference between a correlational and an experimental research study. Be sure to explain what type of conclusions can be drawn from each.

ANS: Experimental research involves the manipulation of an independent variable to determine its effect on a dependent variable. Experimental research is a good research method for determination of cause-and-effect conclusions.

Correlational methods allow researchers to explore research questions that cannot be examined with experimental procedures. However, they do not involve manipulation and thus cannot lead to determination of cause and effect.

PTS: 1
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research; Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research
OBJ: 2.5-2.10 KEY: Concept/Applied

7. Explain why "a correlation does not prove causation."

ANS: A correlation suggests that two variables may be related and allows researchers to address the goal of prediction. However, the correlation does not tell us whether a cause-effect relationship exists because correlation does not address the third variable problem, in other words it does not tell HOW the variables are related. X may cause Y; Y may cause X, or Z may cause X and Y.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research
OBJ: 2.13 KEY: Concept

8. Describe how inferential statistics are used and explain statistical significance.

ANS: Inferential statistics are used to interpret data and draw conclusions. Inferential statistics use the laws of probability to evaluate the possibility that their results might be due to the fluctuations of chance. When the statistical calculations indicate that research results are not likely to be due to chance, the results are said to be statistically significant.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.14 KEY: Factual

9. List and describe the six ethical principles and code of conduct for psychologists.

ANS: The APA ethical guidelines are meant to ensure the welfare of both human and animal subjects. The guidelines include: voluntary participation, protection from harm, informed consent, and participant privacy for human subjects and protection for animals used in research (they must be raised in decent conditions and any harmful or painful procedures must be thoroughly justified); finally, all studies must undergo review by host institutions and research review committees.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.20 KEY: Factual

10. Describe some of the reasons for using animals in research.

ANS: Animals may be used in psychological research for several reasons. These include:

- 1) Sometimes researchers just want to know more about the behavior of a specific type of animal.
- 2) They might want to see if certain laws of behavior apply to both humans and animals.
- 3) The treatments used would be unacceptable to use on human subjects and yet the information obtained justifies the risks.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.19 KEY: Factual

ESSAY

1. Pretend that you are in a discussion with friends and the topic is hard sciences versus soft sciences. It is argued that psychology is not a true science at all, as are sciences like chemistry and physics. How would you defend the proposition that psychology is a true science?

ANS: Scientists assume that there are constancies or laws that can be uncovered through the use of the scientific enterprise. Psychologists use the scientific enterprise to make systematic observations. Psychologists rely on the use of formal, systematic observations to address their questions about behavior; they use empirical methods just like scientists in all disciplines.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Laws: The Scientific Approach to Behavior
OBJ: 2.1 KEY: Concept/Applied

2. Design an experiment that will examine the question: "Who will learn more about psychology, those students enrolled in a traditional course or those enrolled in a distance learning course."
- Be sure to identify:
 - The independent and dependent variables
 - Any confounding variables that might need to be controlled.
 - Your control and treatment groups
 - Also be sure to explain how you will measure the dependent variable

ANS: There are numerous possible experimental designs. Make sure there is an explicit, testable hypothesis; that "traditional course" and "distance learning" are operationally defined; that subjects are randomly assigned to groups; that the control group is exposed to a traditional class setting rather than to no course at all.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research
OBJ: 2.4 | 2.5 KEY: Concept/Applied

3. What are the relative weaknesses and strengths of descriptive/correlational research as opposed to experimental research? Under what conditions would a psychologist choose one method as opposed to the other?

ANS: Experimental research is the more powerful of the two methods, in that it allows precise control over the independent variable and therefore yields cause-and-effect conclusions. On the other hand, experiments may be somewhat artificial and often cannot be done for ethical reasons. Descriptive/correlational studies are conducted in the subjects' natural environment, they are easier and faster to do than experiments, and they can be done ethically in many circumstances in which experiments cannot. However, the researcher has little control over extraneous variables, so cause-and-effect conclusions cannot be drawn. The choice between the two methods is a function of practical and ethical considerations.

PTS: 1
REF: Looking for Causes: Experimental Research; Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research
OBJ: 2.8 | 2.10 KEY: Critical Thinking

4. Design a simple descriptive/correlational study to investigate the relationship between television violence and children's aggressive behavior.

ANS: There are numerous possibilities. Make certain that both variables are operationally defined; that a specific descriptive/correlational method (such as naturalistic observation or survey) is selected; that causation is neither stated nor implied.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Links: Descriptive/Correlational Research
OBJ: 2.9 KEY: Concept/Applied

5. What is the difference between a positive correlation and a negative correlation? List some specific variables that you predict would be positively correlated, and variables that would be negatively correlated, with alcohol consumption by college students.

ANS: Positive correlation: As scores on variable X increase, scores on variable Y tend to increase, too. Examples: alcohol consumption and body weight; alcohol consumption and number of missed classes.

Negative correlation: As scores on variable X increase, scores on variable Y tend to decrease. Examples: alcohol consumption and coordination; alcohol consumption and grade point average.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.12 KEY: Concept/Applied

6. A correlational research study was conducted that found that adults who ate oatmeal as children were four times more likely to develop cancer than those who did not. Can the authors of this correlational study conclude that oatmeal causes cancer? Why or why not?

ANS: No, the authors cannot conclude causality from a correlational study. Correlations show relationships but cannot demonstrate cause and effect relationships. To draw a causal conclusion the researchers needed to conduct an experiment.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking for Conclusions: Statistics and Research
OBJ: 2.13 KEY: Concept/Applied

7. How do you feel about the use of animals as research subjects in psychological studies? Back up your position with evidence.

ANS: Pro: Relatively few psychological studies involve animals, and of those that do, few expose animals to harm or pain; researchers can more precisely control the environment of animal subjects; animal research has generated important advances in the treatment of mental and physical disorders in humans; the knowledge gained justifies the risks.

Con: Animals should have the same rights as human subjects; research animals are sometimes treated inhumanely; many psychological studies using animals are trivial; the results of animal studies may not generalize to humans.

PTS: 1 REF: Looking at Ethics: Do the Ends Justify the Means?
OBJ: 2.19 KEY: Critical Thinking