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Chapter 02: Research in Child Development

1. **Irina wants to study infant language development. She decides to watch ten babies once a month from birth to two years of age and write down the sounds they make and the words they use. Irina is using**
A) self-report.
B) systematic observation.
C) tasks to sample behaviour.
D) interviews.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-01
Page-Reference: 24

Answer: B) systematic observation.

2. **Research measures that involve watching children's unprompted behaviour in real-life settings are referred to as**
A) structured observations.
B) tasks that sample behaviour.
C) self-report measures.
D) naturalistic observations.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-02
Page-Reference: 24

Answer: D) naturalistic observations.

3. **The factors subject to change that a researcher records in an observation are referred to as**
A) variables.
B) samples.
C) populations.
D) correlation coefficients.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-03
Page-Reference: 24

Answer: A) variables.

4. **Mary chose to assess the quality of infants' relationships with their caregivers by observing infants in a laboratory situation wherein the infants experienced a series of separations from and reunions with their caregivers. What kind of measure did Mary use?**
A) self-report
B) naturalistic observation
C) structured observation
D) a task that sampled behaviour

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-04
Page-Reference: 24

Answer: C) structured observation

5. **One drawback of structured observations is that**
A) the artificial nature of the setting may distort the behaviour of interest.

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B) they cannot be used to study behaviours that occur naturally but only rarely.
C) they can only be used to study behaviours that occur in public settings.
D) they cannot be performed in a laboratory.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-05
Page-Reference: 25

Answer: A) the artificial nature of the setting may distort the behaviour of interest.

6. **Which of the following measures involves sampling behaviour with a task?**
A) putting a number of objects in front of a child and having the child count them
B) listening to children's everyday conversations and recording the complexity of their sentence structures
C) asking children how much television they watch in one week
D) having children fill out a questionnaire about their study habits

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-06
Page-Reference: 25

Answer: A) putting a number of objects in front of a child and having the child count them

7. **Which of the following is *true* of sampling behaviour with tasks?**
A) Sampling behaviour with tasks may not really sample the behaviour of interest.
B) Sampling behaviour with tasks can be used to observe behaviour directly.
C) Sampling behaviour with tasks isn't a popular method because it isn't convenient to use.
D) Sampling behaviour with tasks might lead some children to provide socially acceptable answers.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-07
Page-Reference: 26

Answer: A) Sampling behaviour with tasks may not really sample the behaviour of interest.

8. **Which of the following is a *strength* associated with measures that sample behaviour with tasks?**
A) Children's behaviour is seen as it occurs naturally.
B) They almost always validly represent real-life behaviours.
C) They are convenient to use.
D) They assure representative sampling.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-08
Page-Reference: 26

Answer: C) They are convenient to use.

9. _____ **measures ask children questions about the topic of interest.**
A) Naturalistic observation
B) Structured observation
C) Sampling behaviour with tasks
D) Self-report

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-09
Page-Reference: 26

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Answer: D) Self-report

10. **Which of the following is a problem with the use of self-reports?**
A) Answers do not lead directly to information on the topic of interest.
B) Children may be biased to provide answers that are socially acceptable.
C) The collection of information is not convenient.
D) Children have very accurate memories so their answers regarding past events can be trusted.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-10
Page-Reference: 26

Answer: B) Children may be biased to provide answers that are socially acceptable.

11. **Alvaro is interested in finding out how children's conceptions of death change with age. He decides to interview children and ask them questions such as "What happens when people die?" and "Do people eat when they die?" Alvaro is using a form of _____ to measure children's conceptions of death.**
A) naturalistic observation
B) self-report
C) sampling behaviour with tasks
D) structured observation

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-11
Page-Reference: 26

Answer: B) self-report

12. **The tendency to select socially acceptable answers is referred to as**
A) demand characteristics.
B) self-report.
C) validity.
D) sampling behaviour.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-12
Page-Reference: 26

Answer: A) demand characteristics.

13. **Abe is investigating moral reasoning by asking children what they would do in different situations, such as if one of their friends shoplifted when they were together. He is concerned that children may be giving him the answers they think he wants to hear rather than their genuine feelings about what they would really do. Abe is worried about**
A) cohort effects.
B) representative sampling.
C) demand characteristics.
D) confidentiality.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-13
Page-Reference: 26

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Answer: C) demand characteristics.

14. **Which of the following is a weakness of self-report measures?**
A) They are difficult to use with behaviours that are rare or that typically occur in private settings.
B) They may be invalid because they cannot sample behaviour as it occurs naturally.
C) They may be invalid because they do not access thoughts and ideas.
D) They may be invalid because situational cues may suggest to the participant how the researcher wants them to respond.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-14
Page-Reference: 26

Answer: D) They may be invalid because situational cues may suggest to the participant how the researcher wants them to respond.

15. **A measure is _____ if the results are consistent over time.**
A) representative
B) reliable
C) valid
D) a sample

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-15
Page-Reference: 27

Answer: B) reliable

16. **If Mohammed took the same achievement test at three different times and received scores of 100, 75, and 45, the test would have low levels of**
A) validity.
B) representativeness.
C) sampling behaviour.
D) reliability.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-16
Page-Reference: 27

Answer: D) reliability.

17. **_____ refers to whether conclusions based on the measure actually mean what the researcher hypothesized they would mean.**
A) Validity
B) Representativeness
C) Sampling
D) Stability

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-17
Page-Reference: 27

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Answer: A) Validity

18. **To measure children's social skill, you decide to use the number of interactions children have with other children as your measure of social skill. As you collect data, you notice that some children who have many interactions do not seem to be very socially skilled because many of their interactions are negative. This makes you question the _____ of your measure.**
A) sampling
B) stability
C) validity
D) representativeness

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-18
Page-Reference: 27

Answer: C) validity

19. **Ludmilla is interested in finding out how children typically learn math concepts. She found a class of gifted math students willing to be her subjects. What might be an issue with using that particular group of students as subjects?**
A) response bias
B) representative sampling
C) artificial setting
D) cohort effects

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-19
Page-Reference: 28

Answer: B) representative sampling

20. **Correlations can range from**
A) 0 to 100
B) 1 to 10
C) −1.00 to 1.00
D) −.10 to .10

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-20
Page-Reference: 30

Answer: C) –1.00 to 1.00

21. **A correlation coefficient of 0.0 indicates what about the relation between two variables?**
A) The two variables are directly related.
B) The two variables are inversely related.
C) The two variables are completely unrelated.
D) This coefficient indicates which variable was the "cause" and which the "effect."

Difficulty: 2

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QuestionID: 02-21
Page-Reference: 30

Answer: C) The two variables are completely unrelated.

22. **In a correlational study,**
A) factors are manipulated to determine whether they are related.
B) it is possible to determine whether there is a causal relationship between two variables.
C) it is possible to determine whether two variables are related, but not whether there is a causal relationship between the variables.
D) there is an independent variable and a dependent variable.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-22
Page-Reference: 30

Answer: C) it is possible to determine whether two variables are related, but not whether there is a causal relationship between the variables.

23. **A correlation of .8 was found between the number of hours spent studying and final exam scores. This means that**
A) students who studied less received higher exam scores.
B) students who studied less received lower exam scores.
C) studying caused students to receive higher exam scores.
D) the amount of studying was unrelated to exam scores.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-23
Page-Reference: 30

Answer: B) students who studied less received lower exam scores.

24. **A high correlation between a child's behaviour (e.g., being aggressive) and that of her parents (e.g., spanking) indicates that**
A) the child's aggression caused the spanking.
B) the spanking caused the aggression.
C) shared aggressive genes, a third factor, caused the child's aggression and the parents' spanking.
D) aggression and spanking are related, but correlations do not indicate causality.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-24
Page-Reference: 30

Answer: D) aggression and spanking are related, but correlations do not indicate causality.

25. **In an experimental study, the _____ is manipulated to observe its effects on another variable.**
A) dependent variable
B) independent variable
C) correlation coefficient
D) random assignment

Difficulty: 2

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QuestionID: 02-25
Page-Reference: 31

Answer: B) independent variable

26. **A researcher is interested in how the scores that children receive on a spelling test are affected by the amount of food that they eat for lunch. The independent variable is**
A) the age of the children.
B) the scores on the spelling test.
C) the words on the spelling test.
D) the amount of food eaten for lunch.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-26
Page-Reference: 30

Answer: D) the amount of food eaten for lunch.

27. **Sonja conducts an experiment to determine whether listening to music affects emotional state. She has children wait alone in a room that either did or did not have music playing and then has them complete a questionnaire asking about their current level of happiness. The independent variable in this study is**
A) how happy they were before the study began.
B) being alone in the room while waiting.
C) whether or not music was playing in the room.
D) their level of happiness as rated on the questionnaire.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-27
Page-Reference: 30

Answer: C) whether or not music was playing in the room.

28. **The variable in an experiment that is observed to see if it changes when another variable is manipulated is called the**
A) correlation coefficient.
B) independent variable.
C) cohort.
D) dependent variable.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-28
Page-Reference: 31

Answer: D) dependent variable.

29. **Yuri is interested in finding out whether exercise affects boys' and girls' performance on a memory task. The dependent variable in this situation is**
A) memory performance.
B) the amount of exercise.
C) the age of the children.
D) gender.

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Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-29
Page-Reference: 31

Answer: A) memory performance.

30. **A weakness of experimental studies is that**
A) they cannot be used to determine cause and effect.
B) results may not be representative of real-life behaviour.
C) they cannot be used in a laboratory setting.
D) they are usually expensive.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-30
Page-Reference: 32

Answer: B) results may not be representative of real-life behaviour.

31. **A strength of experimental studies is that**
A) they measure behaviour in a natural setting.
B) no manipulation of variables is done.
C) they allow conclusions about cause and effect.
D) only a single study is needed to definitely settle a question.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-31
Page-Reference: 31

Answer: C) they allow conclusions about cause and effect.

32. **Field experiments**
A) involve manipulation of independent variables.
B) occur in a laboratory setting.
C) do not allow investigators to draw conclusions about cause and effect.
D) are usually fairly easy to conduct.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-32
Page-Reference: 32

Answer: A) involve manipulation of independent variables.

33. **Dr. Land conducted a research study in a preschool where he asked teachers to change their typical procedures so that he could test his hypothesis that the amount of unstructured time (free play) structure in a day affects the amount of unruliness that children display. Teachers systematically varied the amount of free play each day for a month, and Dr. Land's research assistants recorded the amount of unruliness children displayed each day. This study would best be described as a**
A) correlational study.
B) laboratory experiment.
C) field experiment.
D) self-report study.

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Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-33
Page-Reference: 32

Answer: C) field experiment.

34. **A microgenetic study would best be described as**
A) a very short longitudinal study.
B) a very long longitudinal study.
C) a very short cross-sectional study.
D) a very long cross-sectional study.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-34
Page-Reference: 33

Answer: A) a very short longitudinal study.

35. **Which of the following is a disadvantage of longitudinal studies?**
A) the development of "test-wise" subjects
B) the problem of cohort effects
C) sample of subjects over the course of the research stays the same
D) cost is relatively low

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-35
Page-Reference: 34

Answer: A) the development of "test-wise" subjects

36. **Which of the following is *not* a disadvantage of a longitudinal approach?**
A) inability to answer questions about the continuity or discontinuity of behaviour
B) subject dropout may alter results
C) difficulty maintaining contact with participants
D) repeated testing may distort results

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-36
Page-Reference: 33

Answer: A) inability to answer questions about the continuity or discontinuity of behaviour

37. **What type of research was conducted in the Alberta substance abuse study?**
A) longitudinal
B) cross-sectional
C) correlational
D) experimental

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-37
Page-Reference: 34

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Answer: B) cross-sectional

38. **Cohort effects are most likely to be a problem in _____ studies.**
A) experimental
B) correlational
C) longitudinal
D) cross-sectional

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-38
Page-Reference: 34

Answer: D) cross-sectional

39. **Differences between age groups resulting from environmental events rather than developmental processes are referred to as**
A) demand characteristics.
B) cohort effects.
C) representative samplings.
D) artificial settings.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-39
Page-Reference: 34

Answer: B) cohort effects.

40. **The fact that differences between age groups in a cross-sectional study may result as easily from chance environmental events as from significant developmental processes is**
A) an example of the sample constancy problem.
B) a major problem of longitudinal studies.
C) a problem with a random sample from a population of interest.
D) a major disadvantage of the cross-sectional approach.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-40
Page-Reference: 34

Answer: D) a major disadvantage of the cross-sectional approach.

41. **Which of the following is an ethical responsibility that researchers have to the participants in their research?**
A) Researchers do not need to explain the use of deception in their studies.
B) Children's data should be linked with their names so that they can be identified easily.
C) Researchers should minimize the potential for harm or stress to their participants.
D) Researchers do not need to describe the research to participants before they decide to participate.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-41
Page-Reference: 37

Answer: C) Researchers should minimize the potential for harm or stress to their participants.

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42. **Which of the following is *not* an ethical principle found in the Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychologists?**
A) equal pay for equal work
B) responsible caring
C) respect for the dignity of persons
D) responsibility to society

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-42
Page-Reference: 37

Answer: A) equal pay for equal work

43. **Deciding whether a research study is ethical is**
A) usually solely the responsibility of the researcher.
B) typically done by a review board.
C) arbitrary because no one has established uniform guidelines for making decisions about whether research is ethical.
D) determined by whether a study is deemed worthy of publication.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-43
Page-Reference: 38

Answer: B) typically done by a review board.

44. **Laws and regulations that directly or indirectly affect families with children are referred to as**
A) family policy.
B) ethical responsibilities.
C) review board issues.
D) cohort effects.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-44
Page-Reference: 41

Answer: A) family policy.

45. **Which of the following is *not true* of the relationship between child-development research and family policy?**
A) The links between child-development research and family policy have become weaker in recent years.
B) Existing theory and child-development research can be used to evaluate how policies might affect children and their families.
C) Child-development researchers have many methods to assess how families and children are affected by social policies.
D) A focus on social policies can improve child-development research.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-45
Page-Reference: 41

Answer: A) The links between child-development research and family policy have become weaker in recent years.

46. **Which of the following is *not* part of Canada's Child Find mandate?**
A) provide preventative safety education

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B) assist in the location of missing children
C) advocate for the rights of children
D) provide family counselling during reunification

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-46
Page-Reference: 42

Answer: D) provide family counselling during reunification

47. **A characteristic of a quasi-experimental design is that**
A) participants are followed over a period of years.
B) researchers simplify a problem by examining on only a narrow aspect of the problem.
C) groups of participants are not formed by random assignment.
D) they are unlikely to yield implications for family policy.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-47
Page-Reference: 43

Answer: C) groups of participants are not formed by random assignment.

48. **Dr. Conrad conducted an investigation of whether children are able to accurately gauge the interest level of their classmates in a typical classroom-learning situation. The results of this investigation would be high in**
A) convergent validity.
B) divergent validity.
C) environmental validity.
D) ecological validity.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-48
Page-Reference: 25

Answer: D) ecological validity.

49. **Which of the following is associated with negative correlations?**
A) convergent validity
B) divergent validity
C) reliability
D) demand characteristics

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-49
Page-Reference: 26

Answer: B) divergent validity

50. **The issue of population sampling is important in Canadian psychological research because**
A) Canada is very socially diverse and geographically large.
B) Canada has a relatively small population.
C) Canadians are a homogeneous group.
D) research that is applicable to one group of Canadians is applicable to all.

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Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-50
Page-Reference: 28

Answer: A) Canada is very socially diverse and geographically large.

51. **Dr. Anderson is interested in the relationship between the number of hours her students spend watching television and their test results. The simplest way of examining that relationship would be to conduct**
A) a naturalistic observation.
B) an experiment.
C) a correlational study.
D) a longitudinal study.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-51
Page-Reference: 29

Answer: C) a correlational study.

52. **A variable that accounts for a relationship between an independent and a dependent variable is called**
A) an interference variable.
B) a moderating variable.
C) a mediator variable.
D) a correlational variable.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-52
Page-Reference: 31

Answer: C) a mediator variable.

53. **Which of the following is *not* true of peer-reviewed academic journals?**
A) Peer reviews are typically completed anonymously.
B) Results published in such journals are the basis of virtually all of the information presented in the textbook.
C) They are the most reliable sources to use for term papers.
D) They are widely available in bookstores and at newsstands.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-53
Page-Reference: 39

Answer: D) They are widely available in bookstores and at newsstands.

54. **Peer review is a difficult process because**
A) academics can be relentlessly unforgiving.
B) it takes a long time to receive a peer review.
C) it generally is not a supported practice in academia.
D) researchers are too easy on each others' work.

Difficulty: 1

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QuestionID: 02-54
Page-Reference: 38

Answer: A) academics can be relentlessly unforgiving.

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