Investigating the Social World 10th edition Schutt Test Bank

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Investigating the Social World (10th)

ISBN 9781071879801 | Chapter 1: Science, Society, and Social Research

Total Questions: 60

Easy

Multiple Choice (10)

Q1. *[Multiple Choice]*

Overall, social scientists are _____.

a) removing themselves from the world to be unbiased.
b) partnering with policymakers to make meaningful changes.
c) removing social ties to improve living standards.
d) making sense of the world from a systematic approach. ✓ correct

Q2. *[Multiple Choice]*

In a blog about jury duty, and everyday observer made the following errors of overgeneralization?

a) The justice system is not color blind.
b) Most people dislike jury duty. ✓ correct
c) Most people lie to get out of jury duty.
d) Most judges are insensitive to why people can't serve on a jury.

Q3. *[Multiple Choice]*

The everyday error that involves unjustifiably concluding that what is true for some cases is true for all cases is called _____

a) overgeneralization ✓ correct
b) selective observation
c) inaccurate observation
d) illogical reasoning

Q4. *[Multiple Choice]*

Claims presented so that they appear scientific even though they lack supporting evidence and plausibility are known as _____.

a) sociology
b) psychology
c) inaccurate observation
d) pseudoscience ✓ correct

Q5. *[Multiple Choice]*

Descriptive research _____.

a) defines and illustrates social phenomena ✓ correct
b) investigates social phenomena without expectations
c) identifies causes and effects of social phenomena
d) determines the effect of a social program

Q6. *[Multiple Choice]*

Evaluation research and other social research motivated by practical concerns is called _____.

a) overgeneralization
b) basic science
c) applied research ✓ correct
d) social science

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Q7. *[Multiple Choice]*

The belief that there is a reality apart from our own perception of it, that it can be understood through observation, and that it follows general laws is known as _____.

a) positivism ✓ correct
b) objectivism
c) interpretivist
d) postpositivism

Q8. *[Multiple Choice]*

A method of research that assumes an external, objective reality, but also acknowledges the complexity of reality and the limitations and biases of the scientists who study it is known as _____.

a) postpositivism ✓ correct
b) positivism
c) feminist research
d) an "insider" perspective

Q9. *[Multiple Choice]*

The effort to figure out what the world is like and why it works as it does is known as _____.

a) applied Research
b) social science
c) basic science ✓ correct
d) overgeneralization

Q10. *[Multiple Choice]*

The belief that reality is socially constructed and that the goal of social scientists is to understand what meanings people give to that reality is called _____.

a) constructivist paradigm
b) interpretivism ✓ correct
c) postpositivism
d) intersubjective agreement

True/False (9)

Q11. *[True/False]*

Most social science research is motivated by personal gains only.

a) True
b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q12. *[True/False]*

Selective observation occurs when people conclude that what is true for some cases is true for all cases.

a) True
b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q13. *[True/False]*

Pseudoscience claims are often easily identifiable, making these statements unbelievable to the general public.

a) True
b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q14. *[True/False]*

Social science is defined as the use of scientific methods to investigate individuals, societies, and social processes.

a) True ✓ correct
b) False

Correct answer: True

Q15. *[True/False]*

Exploratory research identifies the causes and effects of social phenomena.

a) True
b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q16. *[True/False]*

Social research allows us to see more and observe with fewer distortions.

a) True ✓ correct
b) False

Correct answer: True

Q17. *[True/False]*

Social phenomena are simple in nature and allow for flexibility when choosing research designs.

a) True
b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q18. *[True/False]*

Quantitative methods use numerical data which is presented as percentages and other statistics in order to summarize relationships among different variables.

a) True ✓ correct
b) False

Correct answer: True

Q19. *[True/False]*

Intersubjective agreement refers to an agreement between scientists about the nature of reality.

a) True ✓ correct
b) False

Correct answer: True

Medium

Multiple Choice (15)

Q20. *[Multiple Choice]*

Which of the following is a legitimate motive for social research in an academic setting?

a) To assist in making government decisions on political party affiliations.
b) To test if the role of the media was leading Americans to become a "lonely crowd." ✓ correct
c) To review policy and law enforcement agencies' practices in traffic violations.
d) To improve the overall effectiveness of an organization in retention and hiring.

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Q21. *[Multiple Choice]*

The everyday error that involves choosing to look at things that are in line with our own preferences or beliefs is called _____.

a) overgeneralization
b) selective observation ✓ correct
c) inaccurate observation
d) resistance to change

Q22. *[Multiple Choice]*

Which of the following is true about intersubjective agreements?

a) They are required in applied research.
b) They are often upheld as a more reasonable goal for science than certainty about objective reality. ✓ correct
c) They are the basis of the positivist approach.
d) They prevent errors in reasoning.

Q23. *[Multiple Choice]*

An everyday observer states: "What was good enough for my grandfather is good enough for me!" This is an example of what type of error in everyday logic?

a) excessive devotion to tradition ✓ correct
b) selective observation
c) inaccurate observation
d) ego-based commitment

Q24. *[Multiple Choice]*

Social science reduces the likelihood of overgeneralization by _____.

a) using systematic procedures for selecting individuals to study that is representative of the groups to which we hope to generalize ✓ correct
b) using explicit criteria for establishing causality
c) requiring systematic measurement and sampling
d) using empirical evidence

Q25. *[Multiple Choice]*

_____ is an example of pseudoscience.

a) Astrology ✓ correct
b) Astronomy
c) Sociology
d) Social Science

Q26. *[Multiple Choice]*

How has the scientific research method added to the increase of knowledge?

a) The reliance on illogical methods increases understanding over time.
b) Results are widely accepted and new questions can be asked.
c) It provides trust and common understanding.
d) It is continually refined and changes over time. ✓ correct

Q27. *[Multiple Choice]*

Explanatory research _____.

a) defines and illustrates social phenomena
b) investigates social phenomena without expectations
c) identifies causes and effects of social phenomena ✓ correct
d) determines the effect of a social program

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Q28. *[Multiple Choice]*

Both explanatory and evaluation research studies are concerned with the causes and effects of social phenomena. The difference between them is that evaluation research focuses on the _____.

a) effect of particular policies or programs ✓ correct
b) meanings that people give their actions
c) description of the social phenomena of interest
d) consideration of the impact of social context

Q29. *[Multiple Choice]*

What is the motivation for conducting evaluation research?

a) government policies and programs ✓ correct
b) academic questions about the theory
c) personal motivations
d) internet usage

Q30. *[Multiple Choice]*

How does the social scientific research method develop answers to different questions about the social world?

a) It reduces the likelihood of making everyday errors in reasoning. ✓ correct
b) It provides a selective observation that is convenient to the researcher.
c) It removes the systematic approach seen in natural science research.
d) It reduces the chance to make overgeneralizations about nonacademic work.

Q31. *[Multiple Choice]*

Which of the following statements best describes the limitations of social science research?

a) Researchers can better able predict how interventions will impact other populations.
b) All research has its flaws, and findings are subject to different interpretations. ✓ correct
c) Social science research is closely aligned with pseudoscience research.
d) Social phenomena can be broken into simpler issues that can be too small to study.

Q32. *[Multiple Choice]*

Quantitative methods generally present findings as a(n) _____

a) percent and other statistics ✓ correct
b) focus groups
c) quotations
d) executive summary

Q33. *[Multiple Choice]*

Qualitative methods are most often used for _____ type of research.

a) descriptive
b) exploratory ✓ correct
c) explanatory
d) evaluation

Q34. *[Multiple Choice]*

What do positivist and postpositivist philosophies consider to be beyond the scope of science?

a) applied research
b) value considerations ✓ correct
c) intersubjectivity
d) intersubjective agreement

True/False (6)

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Q35. *[True/False]*

If we allow new research to call into question our preexisting beliefs, we are practicing an excessive devotion to tradition.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q36. *[True/False]*

In-depth interviews with each participant with the same set of questions help reduce the risk of selective or inaccurate observation.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q37. *[True/False]*

Unlike natural sciences, social sciences face special issues in data collection because the subjects can intentionally mislead the researcher.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q38. *[True/False]*

Qualitative methodology is most often driven by exploratory research.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q39. *[True/False]*

Descriptive research is evaluation research and other social research which is motivated by practical concerns.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q40. *[True/False]*

A researcher who conducts a survey with 200 participants and then does in-depth interviews with 40 of these participants is using mixed methods research.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Essay (3)

Q41. *[Essay]*

Identify and describe the four common errors in reasoning. What can researchers do to their studies in order to reduce the risk of running into these errors?

Suggested answer: *Sample response: selective and inaccurate observations, overgeneralization, illogical reasoning, and resistance to change. Answers should elaborate on how to avoid these by recognizing these errors for what they are and making a conscious effort to avoid them.*

Q42. *[Essay]*

Compare and contrast descriptive and exploratory research.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Defining and describing social phenomena of interest is a part of almost any research investigation, but descriptive research is often the primary focus of the first research about some issue. Exploratory research seeks to find out how people get along in the setting under question, what meanings they give to their actions, and what issues concern them. The goal is to learn "What is going on here?" and to investigate social phenomena without explicit expectations.*

Q43. *[Essay]*

Explain the limitations and strengths to social science research and give an example.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Research always has some limitations and some flaws (as does any human endeavor) and our findings are always subject to differing interpretations. Social research permits us to see more, observe with fewer distortions, and to describe more clearly to others what our opinions are based on, but it will not settle all arguments. Others will always have differing opinions, and some of those others will be social scientists who have conducted their own studies and drawn different conclusions. In this way, one research study often leads to another, and another, each one improving on previous research or examining a research question from a somewhat different angle.*

Hard

Multiple Choice (10)

Q44. *[Multiple Choice]*

Gabriella recently took a vacation to San Francisco, California. While she was there, she began to realize the lack of food and grocery stores near her hotel. After her vacation, she began to develop an interest and research agenda around food desserts in urban areas. Which type of motivation for the research is illustrated in this example?

a) personal ✓ correct
b) academic
c) applied
d) pseudoscience

Q45. *[Multiple Choice]*

Dr. Smith is studying the effect of violent music on young teenagers. In order to collect data, she distributes surveys to a local public school, each with the same set of questions. She did this in order to reduce the risk of _____.

a) illogical reasoning
b) resistance to change
c) selective observation ✓ correct
d) overgeneralization

Q46. *[Multiple Choice]*

In a field experiment to observe altruistic behavior, an observer records the number of people who stopped to hold the door for a student on crutches. She reports that seven people volunteered to assist the young man, when in fact there were only five. She has made an error called _____

a) overgeneralization
b) selective observation
c) illogical reasoning
d) inaccurate observation ✓ correct

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Q47. *[Multiple Choice]*

Mindy was recording the number of customers that visited a particular store from 2 to 4 p.m. When a large group entered at once, she accidentally recorded 8 customers instead of the 10 who entered. This is an example of what type of error in everyday observation?

a) selective observation
b) overgeneralization
c) inaccurate observation ✓ correct
d) illogical reasoning

Q48. *[Multiple Choice]*

As the average income of a neighborhood increased, the violent crime rate decreased. This information is an example of which kind of social research?

a) descriptive
b) exploratory
c) explanatory ✓ correct
d) evaluation

Q49. *[Multiple Choice]*

Researcher X has proposed a project in which she will interview several immigrants from other countries to find out why they chose to move to the United States. This study is an example of which kind of social research?

a) descriptive
b) exploratory ✓ correct
c) explanatory
d) evaluation

Q50. *[Multiple Choice]*

When the state approved stronger penalties for drunk driving, including the automatic suspension of driving privileges, the number of highway deaths related to drunk driving decreased. This observation suggests which kind of social research?

a) descriptive
b) exploratory
c) explanatory
d) evaluation ✓ correct

Q51. *[Multiple Choice]*

Mayor Politico requests an assessment of how people use city parks: who uses the parks, what activities are conducted in the parks, and when they use the parks. The Mayor has asked which type of research to be conducted.

a) descriptive ✓ correct
b) explanatory
c) evaluation
d) qualitative

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Q52. *[Multiple Choice]*

Which of the following statements best describes the strength of social science research?

a) A researcher's careful review of their sample design and the representativeness of the desired population helps to prevent the overgeneralization of groups not being studied. ✓ correct

b) Expanding on established theories allows for non-social scientists to develop conclusions in other science or pseudoscience fields of study.

c) Oversampling allows for social science researchers to look for other research questions beyond the scope of the original research purpose and design.

d) Social science research has the ability to take complex issues and restructure them to remove illogical reasoning that can occur from larger social understandings.

Q53. *[Multiple Choice]*

Qualitative research methods are used most commonly in which type of research?

a) descriptive

b) explanatory

c) exploratory ✓ correct

d) evaluation

Essay (7)

Q54. *[Essay]*

Motives for social research are sometimes complementary and sometimes conflicting. List three motives for social research and write a one-sentence definition of each. Imagine that you direct a government criminal justice agency. What might motivate you to conduct research on the impact of your parole policies? How might the motives for research conflict?

Suggested answer: *Sample response: policy motivations, academic motivations, and personal motivations.*

Q55. *[Essay]*

Social researchers undertake research for various reasons. If you were going to propose research on student success in university settings, describe potential sets of motives from each of the following perspectives: personal interest, policy guidance/program management, and academic concerns.

Suggested answer: *Sample response: Policy motivations—government agencies, elected officials, and private organizations; academic motivations—changing social relations; personal motivations—improving the quality of communities.*

Q56. *[Essay]*

Consider the research conducted on Internet use and other forms of social relations, as described in Chapter 1. Which conclusions are most consistent with your own casual observations about social relations in the United States? List three of your own observations that are either consistent with or contradict conclusions found in the text. Describe how you might propose descriptive research to test whether your observations hold up to scientific criteria. In addition, be specific about the types of errors in everyday reasoning that might apply to your casual observations.

Suggested answer: *Sample response: U.S. Bureau of the Census of approximately 54,000 households revealed that 63.5% of the population had a broadband connection in their homes; two types of WiFi users—secondary work office or a tool for meeting others, mobile phones increase social ties, Internet use differs dramatically between social groups; descriptive research—defining and describing social phenomena, selective and inaccurate observation, overgeneralization, illogical reasoning, and resistance to change.*

Q57. *[Essay]*

Review each of the four errors in scientific research and evaluate the relative difficulties they create. Answer in terms of a specific research area, such as understanding homelessness, crime, or adaptations to communities or work organizations.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Answers will vary but should include selective and inaccurate observation, overgeneralization, illogical reasoning, and resistance to change.*

Q58. *[Essay]*

Explain how individual studies are part of the larger process of creating social scientific knowledge. Consider why research must evaluate previous research and why researchers should expect to have their studies critically evaluated.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Social science—relies on scientific methods in order to investigate individuals, societies, and social processes; each study fits back into the context of social scientific knowledge; researchers must be aware of their place in the study in relation to the subjects and how to treat subjects ethically in their own surroundings; researchers should evaluate previous studies to explore new, untouched areas while also critically evaluating research to see how it can be improved.*

Q59. *[Essay]*

You are working for a community development organization in a city with high rates of unemployment, poverty, high school attrition, and juvenile delinquency. Your organization wants to begin an afternoon computer training program for young people. Explain how descriptive, exploratory, explanatory, and evaluation research can all be used to help start and later maintain this program.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Descriptive research—understand and describe the target population; exploratory research—how people get along in a particular setting, what meanings do they give to their actions, and what issues do they face; explanatory research—identify cause and effects of a social phenomenon and then predict how one phenomenon may change in response to another; evaluation research—determine how the program set in place is affecting the target population.*

Q60. *[Essay]*

Using the examples on Internet use and social relations found in Chapter 1, define and describe the difference between quantitative and qualitative methods in social research. How did the researchers' choice of qualitative or quantitative methods strengthen their conclusions?

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Quantitative methods—numerical data used to report findings as percentages and other statistics that summarize the relationships among variables; quantitative methods often use motive for research such as explanation, description, or evaluation; quantitative methods are usually implemented to generalize to the larger public but do not provide detail on smaller, subgroups; qualitative methods—focuses on actual text and most often uses exploration as a motive; qualitative data give researchers a lot of information about a few people, but the findings cannot be generalizable to the whole population.*

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