Psychology Research Methods 2nd edition Heath Test Bank

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Psychology Research Methods (2nd)

ISBN 9781071919293 | Chapter 1: Introduction to Research Methodology

Total Questions: 48

Easy

Multiple Choice (7)

Q1. *[Multiple Choice]*

The method used to select people to participate in a research study is called _____.

a) selecting
b) choosing
c) retaining
d) sampling ✓ correct

Q2. *[Multiple Choice]*

In research, a population is made up of _____.

a) all the people the researcher is interested in studying ✓ correct
b) every person selected to participate in the study
c) the people recruited by the researcher for the study
d) those chosen by a specific sampling method

Q3. *[Multiple Choice]*

The four goals of scientific research are _____.

a) observe, describe, predict, and explain
b) record, describe, explain, and predict
c) understand, describe, explain, and predict
d) describe, explain, predict, and control ✓ correct

Q4. *[Multiple Choice]*

Explaining a behavior or psychological phenomenon answers the question of _____.

a) what
b) where
c) when
d) why ✓ correct

Q5. *[Multiple Choice]*

A hypothesis is a(n) _____.

a) understanding of a general theory
b) description of a specific behavior
c) belief regarding a phenomena
d) expectation of what will occur ✓ correct

Q6. *[Multiple Choice]*

The _____ variable is one the researcher manipulates, and the dependent variable is one the researcher measures.

a) first
b) confounding
c) independent ✓ correct
d) extraneous

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Q7. *[Multiple Choice]*

Empirical data comes from _____.

a) deductive reasoning
b) systematic observation ✓ correct
c) logical reasoning
d) rational thinking

True/False (5)

Q8. *[True/False]*

Researchers use only a portion of the population as participants.

a) True ✓ correct
b) False

Correct answer: True

Q9. *[True/False]*

For a behavior to be studied, it must be observable.

a) True
b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q10. *[True/False]*

Random assignment is used to ensure that the participants in the experimental and control groups do not differ on important characteristics.

a) True ✓ correct
b) False

Correct answer: True

Q11. *[True/False]*

Replication is important for both internal and external validity.

a) True ✓ correct
b) False

Correct answer: True

Q12. *[True/False]*

Having other researchers evaluate a study before publication is a process called scientific review.

a) True
b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Medium

Multiple Choice (14)

Q13. *[Multiple Choice]*

Which statement describes what it means to be a critical consumer of research?

a) A person who reads a lot of consumer research reports in various journal articles.
b) A person who understands the strengths and limitations of various research methods. ✓ correct
c) A person who conducts psychological research for institutions or medical companies.
d) A person who publishes experimental research for the purpose of professional development.

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Q14. *[Multiple Choice]*

A representative sample is one that _____.

a) has the same characteristics as the population of interest ✓ correct
b) has a proportional number of different genders and races
c) varies significantly from the population being studied
d) includes members outside of the target population

Q15. *[Multiple Choice]*

The scientific goal of description is _____.

a) explaining what causes a behavior to occur
b) understanding the behavior in the real world
c) providing details about an observable behavior ✓ correct
d) systematically recording a conceptual behavior

Q16. *[Multiple Choice]*

Which behavior would be considered observable?

a) comprehension
b) helping ✓ correct
c) judgment
d) empathy

Q17. *[Multiple Choice]*

The scientific goal of explanation requires a theory of _____ a behavior occurs.

a) why ✓ correct
b) when
c) to whom
d) what kind of

Q18. *[Multiple Choice]*

Which description is characteristic of a theory?

a) an organized set of ideas that explains a phenomenon ✓ correct
b) a detailed description outlining a particular behavior
c) a prediction of what will occur given specific circumstances
d) a group of hypotheses that can be tested experimentally

Q19. *[Multiple Choice]*

A good theory is one that allows for _____ to be made.

a) predictions ✓ correct
b) descriptions
c) explanations
d) conditions

Q20. *[Multiple Choice]*

The goal of science that pertains to the power to influence or direct people's behavior is _____.

a) description
b) explanation
c) prediction
d) control ✓ correct

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Q21. *[Multiple Choice]*

By reinforcing or punishing behaviors, researchers are able to increase or decrease the probability of those behaviors occurring in the future. This an example of _____ behavior.

a) explaining
b) describing
c) controlling ✓ correct
d) enforcing

Q22. *[Multiple Choice]*

Marcelo is researching differences in empathy levels based on personality type. Empathy levels and personality type are the _____ in Marcelos study.

a) characteristics
b) measures
c) controls
d) variables ✓ correct

Q23. *[Multiple Choice]*

Which description is an operational definition of fear?

a) the physiological changes caused by a perceived threat ✓ correct
b) the number of people who dread public speaking
c) avoidance strategies of situations that invoke anxiety
d) feelings of terror provoked by disturbing images

Q24. *[Multiple Choice]*

In order for an experiment to determine cause and effect, the researcher needs ensure that the only variation comes from the independent variable and that all other variables are held constant through _____.

a) controlling methods
b) statistical variation
c) selective distribution
d) random assignment ✓ correct

Q25. *[Multiple Choice]*

Why is replication important to science?

a) Replication provides practice for new researchers entering the field.
b) Replication ensures that the methodology used is sound.
c) Replication determines whether further research should be conducted.
d) Replication increases the confidence that the findings are real. ✓ correct

Q26. *[Multiple Choice]*

How does peer review help to advance the science of psychology?

a) It evaluates research for flaws before the study is accepted for publication. ✓ correct
b) It makes research available to other researchers to encourage replication.
c) It provides a source of research ideas for those who study the same phenomena.
d) It allows other researchers to see the type of research that is popular in science.

True/False (5)

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Q27. *[True/False]*

Theories should allow for testable hypotheses that can provide evidence for or against the proposed theory.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q28. *[True/False]*

Descriptive research is an experimental method that can determine the effect an independent variable has on a dependent variable.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q29. *[True/False]*

Inferential statistics allow researchers to determine whether the experimental and control condition were significantly different from each other.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q30. *[True/False]*

The scientific method refers to a single method that researchers must follow for objective research.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q31. *[True/False]*

Good science should be free of personal biases that can influence the results of a study.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Essay (6)

Q32. *[Essay]*

Discuss the benefits of being a consumer of research.

Suggested answer: *Sample response: Understanding research and the conclusions can that can be drawn from different methodologies allows a person to think critically when confronted with research in the media, which is often reported inaccurately. It can also help a person as a consumer to make important decision such as what to eat and to buy. Additionally, many careers require people to read different research reports, and it is therefore important to be able to identify good and flawed research to avoid making bad decisions.*

Q33. *[Essay]*

Discuss why researchers use theories to explain behavior and other psychological phenomena.

Suggested answer: *Sample response: Theories are a set of organized ideas that serve to explain a behavior. Researchers use theories to explain behavior because they can generate testable hypotheses that are used to understand why, and under what conditions, a behavior takes place. Additionally, theories can be modified when their predictions are shown to be false. In this way, theories drive research.*

Q34. *[Essay]*

One of the goals of psychology is the ability to control behavior. How does psychological research support this goal?

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: The majority of psychological research is interested in determining how the average person is going to behave under a given set of circumstances. By examining the variables that cause a behavior, psychologists are able to predict how a person will react to a situation. They can use this knowledge to develop programs, therapies, and environments that elicit a desired attitude or behavior in people.*

Q35. *[Essay]*

Discuss how descriptive research and experimental research can complement each other.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Descriptive and experimental research are able to complement each other because they have different advantages and disadvantages. Experimental research has high internal validity but low external validity; descriptive research has high external validity and low internal validity. Therefore, experimental research can isolate variables and determine cause and effect, while descriptive research can examine how these variables act in real life situations. Together, the two approaches can give a more comprehensive understanding of the behavior or phenomena in question.*

Q36. *[Essay]*

Why is it important for researchers to follow the scientific method when conducting a study?

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: It is important to follow the scientific method when conducting research because the rules and procedures provide a standardized process that helps to ensure that the research study is objective and free of bias. Additionally, using such methods allow the researchers to draw accurate conclusions.*

Q37. *[Essay]*

Before the introduction of the scientific method, knowledge was acquired from such sources as rationalism, philosophy, religion, astrology, etc. Why is the scientific method a more accurate way of obtaining knowledge?

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: The reason why knowledge acquired through the scientific method is more reliable is its reliance on empirical data that is obtained through the systematic observation of observable behaviors. Such methods are reliable because they use careful measurements that are objective and can be replicated by multiple observers.*

Hard

Multiple Choice (7)

Q38. *[Multiple Choice]*

If Luis is interested in studying the health issues faced by seasonal migrant workers in his state, who makes up the population of interest?

a) all migrant workers
b) migrant workers selected to participate
c) migrant workers that live and work in his state ✓ correct
d) migrant workers who live and work in his city

Q39. *[Multiple Choice]*

Zaire is studying a rarely seen courtship behavior in a bird called the Western Grebes. The courtship includes behaviors like a duet dance and a zipping wingtip flying display. What is the first thing Zaire should do when researching the courtship?

a) Explain why the courtship behavior takes place.
b) Describe the courtship behavior in great detail. ✓ correct
c) Control for any outside influence on the courtship.
d) Predict when the courtship takes place in the wild.

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Q40. *[Multiple Choice]*

Mario is testing the behaviorist theory of operant conditioning, which states that behaviors are learned through a series of rewards and punishments. Which statement represents a hypothesis derived from the theory?

a) Rewards are a form of behavioral reinforcement.
b) Behaviors rewarded with positive stimuli are expected to increase. ✓ correct
c) Punishments are negative stimuli presented after a behavior.
d) Conditioning occurs as a function of rewards and punishments.

Q41. *[Multiple Choice]*

The theory of objective self–awareness suggests that when people are self–aware, they tend to focus on what behavior is expected in a particular setting. Which of the following is a prediction of objective self–awareness?

a) As self–awareness decreases, expected behavior will also decrease. ✓ correct
b) As people become more self–aware, they become more self–conscious.
c) As behaviors become more appropriate, self–awareness will decrease.
d) As expectations are met, behaviors will be reinforced and increase.

Q42. *[Multiple Choice]*

Jelani is investigating the rubber hand illusion. In this illusion, a person a develops a sensation of being touched while watching a fake rubber hand being touched. The goal of Jelani's research is to learn more about the brain mechanisms involved that create the perceptual experience of being touched. This scenario is an example of _____ psychological research.

a) basic ✓ correct
b) simple
c) applied
d) extrasensory

Q43. *[Multiple Choice]*

Zara has noticed that people are more likely to agree to a request when there are large numbers of other people around compared to when there are fewer people around. She wonders why this occurs and thinks it would be a good idea to research. If Zara wants to pursue her research idea, what should she do next?

a) Identify the variables involved and operationalize them for study.
b) Read the current research to determine what others have already studied. ✓ correct
c) Consult with researchers who have already studied the phenomena to discuss her idea.
d) Decide on whether she wants to conduct descriptive or experimental research.

Q44. *[Multiple Choice]*

Luiz is studying the effects of prior context on the comprehension of scientific textual information. He manipulates the difficulty level of the prior context creating three conditions: simple, intermediate, and difficult. He then measures the participants comprehension of the material by asking questions about the material they had read. In Luiz's study, the prior context is the _____ variable.

a) confounding
b) dependent
c) measured
d) independent ✓ correct

Essay (4)

Q45. *[Essay]*

Parvati is studying how familiarity influences attraction. She defines “attraction” as physiological changes—such as heartrate, temperature, and pupil dilation—evoked by liking of someone. She defines “familiarity” as the recognizability of another person due to experience. Which goal of science has Parvati met? Why this is important?

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: The scenario illustrates the description goal of science. The two behaviors, attraction and familiarity, are not observable. Therefore, Parvati must describe them in such a way as to make them concrete and measurable. In other words, researchers must describe what a specific behavior is in terms of what they are going to look for and in a way that is objective.*

Q46. *[Essay]*

Discuss how variables can be operationalized in different ways. Provide an example.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Many variables can be studied in different ways therefore researchers are able to choose how they want to operationalize their variable of interest. For example, there are many ways we could operationalize “attraction.” It could be operationalized as physiological changes, amount of smiling and eye-contact, or in terms of physical proximity. The point of operationalizing a variable is to specify the meaning of the variable in terms of how it will be measured and studied.*

Q47. *[Essay]*

In March of 2020, the journal*Heart*reported on a study examining the link between bathing and cardiovascular disease. The study used a longitudinal design and followed participants for 20–years. At the beginning of the study, participants responded to a questionnaire regarding their health and lifestyle. At the end of the study, researchers found a correlation between hot baths and cardiovascular disease. The study revealed that people who bathed twice a week had a 28% lower risk of developing cardiovascular disease and a 26% lower risk of a stroke. The media reported on this study and stated that “taking hot baths can lower your risk of cardiovascular disease.” Discuss what is wrong with the statement made by the media regarding the study.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: The problem with the media’s statement is that it suggests that hot baths are cause of lower risk of cardiovascular disease, and the study does not support this claim. The study was a correlational rather than experimental, and although hot bathes and cardiovascular disease were correlated, this does not mean that they are causally related. In other words, it could be a completely separate, unmeasured variable that is driving the correlation.*

Q48. *[Essay]*

Kai wants is interested in finding out how students at his school view professors who have visible tattoos on their arms. What type of research design should Kai use? Why?

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Kai should use descriptive research because he is trying to describe phenomena rather than determine cause-and-effect. More specifically, he should use a survey method because surveys are a good way to assess a person’s attitudes and opinions about professors with tattoos.*

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