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MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1) Which of the following statements best represents a hypothesis?
A) "Extraverts are more successful as sales people than are introverts."
B) "Grocery stores sell more ice cream during the summer than during the winter."
C) "Attractive defendants will receive lower ratings of guilt than unattractive defendants."
D) "Amount of time spent studying and test performance are related."
Answer: D

2) A prediction is best represented by which of the following statements?
A) "Ratings of social desirability vary according to gender."
B) "Gender and judgments of criminal behavior are related."
C) "Cats and dogs differ in their responses to loud noises."
D) "Female defendants will receive shorter prison sentences than male defendants."
Answer: D

3) Which one of the following would NOT be found in the introduction of a research report?
A) A review of an existing theory relevant to the research
B) A description of how participants were selected and assigned to groups
C) A summary of past research
D) A prediction about the results
Answer: B

4) Michael Lynn's study on tipping behavior in restaurants and hotels, described in the text, was designed to determine whether factors such as posture and communication influence tips left by customers. The idea for his study was based on
A) past research.
B) common sense.
C) everyday problem.
D) a theory.
Answer: C

5) Research articles formatted in APA are comprised of the following sections in which order?
A) abstract, method, introduction, discussion, results, references.
B) abstract, method, introduction, results, discussion, references.
C) abstract, introduction, method, results, discussion, references.
D) abstract, introduction, method, discussion, results, references.
Answer: C

6) Which one of the following would not always be found when you search the PsycINFO abstracting system?
A) Author and title of journal article
B) Journal reference
C) Brief description of contents
D) Complete article
Answer: D

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7) Which of the following would a researcher be least likely to do in order to find prior research on a specific topic?
A) Consult Psychological Bulletin
B) Look in the published Psychological Abstracts
C) Conduct a computer search with PsycINFO
D) Randomly select a psychological journal and search the table of contents for the topic
Answer: D

8) A(n) _____ consists of a system of logical ideas proposed to explain a particular topic or phenomenon.
A) hypothesis B) distinction C) inquisition D) theory
Answer: D

9) Which one of the following statements would be appropriate for the discussion section of a research report?
A) Drivers who had consumed alcohol had their license suspended an average of six months compared to one month for those who had consumed coffee.
B) The present findings suggest that evaluation of the seriousness of an alcohol-related crash may be influenced by the severity of the injuries received by the victim.
C) The average age of participants was 18.7 years.
D) The participants read an account of an alcohol-related crash in which a victim received mild or severe injuries.
Answer: B

10) A(n) _____ is a statement about the expected relationship between variables. A(n) _____ is a statement about the outcome of a particular experiment.
A) law; educated guess B) educated guess; law
C) prediction; hypothesis D) hypothesis; prediction
Answer: D

11) A hypothesis is a
A) tentative statement that something may be true.
B) small research report.
C) fact.
D) prediction of results.
Answer: A

12) What is the name of the principle that states that "where multiple theories can explain observed results, the best theory to adopt is the simplest one"?
A) Parsimony B) Regression C) Falsifiability D) Natural selection
Answer: A

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13) The scientific meaning of the term "theory" is
A) "just an idea."
B) essentially the same as a hypothesis.
C) grounded in data from prior research.
D) valid only if the theory can be proven.
Answer: C

14) The statement "Females will report greater incidences of sexual harassment than will males" is an example of a _____, while the statement "Reported incidences of sexual harassment will vary according to gender" is an example of a _____.
A) hypothesis; prediction
B) prediction; hypothesis
C) rule; guess
D) guess; rule
Answer: B

15) The statement "Punishment will be harsher for drunk drivers who cause serious injuries than for drivers who cause mild injuries" is an example of a
A) rule.
B) question.
C) prediction.
D) hypothesis.
Answer: C

16) A theory
A) categorizes data into distinct groups.
B) is proven after many studies support its predictions.
C) is an established fact after being confirmed at least 100 times.
D) generates new knowledge by guiding our observations.
Answer: D

17) A scientist should consider a hypothesis to be supported if
A) it is not possible to falsify the hypothesis.
B) they receive financial support for research to be conducted into the hypothesis.
C) observed data are consistent with the hypothesis.
D) there is a general belief that the hypothesis is probably correct.
Answer: C

18) A major problem with using Internet search engines such as Google as a method of obtaining research information is
A) they include online discussions and book reviews.
B) it is too expensive to use.
C) it does not allow you to limit your search to peer reviewed articles.
D) they are difficult to use.
Answer: C

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19) When the results of an experiment are consistent with a prediction developed from a theory, we conclude that the theory is
A) neither supported nor challenged by the results.
B) supported by the results.
C) less likely to be true.
D) proven true.
Answer: B

20) In which section of a research article would a reader find a summary of the entire project?
A) Abstract B) Results C) Introduction D) Method
Answer: A

21) Which section of the research article summarizes the hypothesis, the procedure, and results usually in 120 words or less?
A) Method B) Results C) Abstract D) Introduction
Answer: C

22) In which section of a research article would a reader find a description of what was done in the past and why the present study is being conducted?
A) Introduction B) Abstract C) Results D) Method
Answer: A

23) In which section of a research article would a reader find a description of the findings using statistical language?
A) Introduction B) Abstract C) Results D) Method
Answer: C

24) The following could be an excerpt from a scientific article. From which section is it most likely to have been derived? "Patients (N = 328) were selected from 10 different hospice centers located within the Greater Toronto Area. Participants ranged in age from 50 to 78, and were 58% female. They identified their ethnicity as Caucasian (79%), Pacific Rim (6%), Aboriginal (5%), African descent (2%), or other or unknown (8%).
A) Discussion B) Introduction C) Methods D) Results
Answer: C

25) Why is it inadvisable to use Wikipedia as the only source of information when conducting a review of the scientific literature?
A) The primary goal of Wikipedia is to be a source of entertainment, and not a source of information.
B) Wikipedia is not intended nor considered a credible source for academic research.
C) None of the articles written in Wikipedia contain enough depth of information to be of interest to scientific researchers.
D) Most of the contents of Wikipedia are factually incorrect.
Answer: B

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26) Because of tension between the police department and the citizens of Metropolis, the city council surveys residents for suggestions on how to improve police-community relations. This example best illustrates _____ as a source of research ideas.

A) past research
B) observation of the world around us
C) theories
D) practical problems

Answer: D

27) As Joan becomes familiar with the literature examining the influence of physical attractiveness on judgments of criminal behavior, she notes inconsistencies in the results. She concludes that this area of study needs to be further investigated. This example best represents _____ as a source of ideas for research.

A) observation of the world around us
B) past research
C) theories
D) practical problems

Answer: B

28) At the beginning of any research project, it is necessary to explore thoroughly prior research on the topic of interest because

A) using someone else's research methods is plagiarism.
B) prior findings are useful for clarifying and generating research ideas.
C) one should never replicate another study.
D) it is unethical for researchers to begin work in a new field without first publishing a related review article.

Answer: B

29) To find out how many authors have cited a particular article in the years since it was published, you would consult

A) Psychological Abstracts.
B) Web of Science.
C) Pubmed.
D) Wikipedia.

Answer: B

30) A researcher makes the statement, "Breed of dog and ability to learn guide dog skills are related." This statement is called a

A) question.
B) prediction.
C) moral judgment.
D) hypothesis.

Answer: D

31) A researcher designs a study to examine the relationship between gender and time spent talking in a group. The researcher states, "In a balanced mixed gender group, males will talk more than females." This is an example of a

A) prediction.
B) hypothesis.
C) moral judgment.
D) question.

Answer: A

32) Hypotheses are scientifically meaningful only if they can be

A) repeated in multiple studies.
B) cited by other researchers.
C) supported.
D) falsified.

Answer: D

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33) Which section of a research article includes a description of prior findings in the area of study?
A) Results B) Discussion C) Introduction D) Method
Answer: C

34) Which section of a research article includes a description of exactly how the study was conducted?
A) Introduction B) Results C) Method D) Discussion
Answer: C

35) Which section of a research article includes the interpretation of a study's findings?
A) Introduction B) Discussion C) Method D) Results
Answer: B

36) In which section of a research article would a reader find an explanation for the findings?
A) Introduction B) Results C) Discussion D) Method
Answer: C

37) Victor has written a section of a research report that shows how past research and theory are connected to the current research problem and expected results. Victor has most likely written the _____ section.
A) discussion B) results C) introduction D) method
Answer: C

38) Juan has written a section of a research report that describes who participated in the research along with a description of how the study was conducted. Juan has most likely written the _____ section.
A) method B) introduction C) discussion D) results
Answer: A

39) Kathy has written a section of a research report in which she explains the possible reasons for results in her study and suggestions for practical applications of the research and future research ideas. Kathy has most likely written the _____ section.
A) discussion B) introduction C) results D) method
Answer: A

40) In which section of the research report would you describe the practical application of the experiment's results?
A) Introduction B) Results C) Discussion D) Method
Answer: C

41) When an interesting discovery, such as Pavlov's phenomenon of classical conditioning, is a result of an accident or luck, this finding can be attributed to
A) directive research. B) purposeful research.
C) inquisition. D) serendipity.
Answer: D

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42) Testing common sense ideas
A) is valuable because such notions often turn out to be incorrect.
B) should only be done if a theory has been developed.
C) are of little value because it consists of things we already know are true.
D) results in no new knowledge.
Answer: A

43) Which of the following search terms in PsycINFO is most likely to retrieve the greatest number of references?
A) Stress AND depression
B) Stress OR depression
C) Stress NOT depression
D) Stress FOR depression
Answer: D

44) Which one of the following statements would be appropriate for the results section of a research report?
A) Past research suggests that differences exist in ratings of social desirability assigned to attractive versus unattractive individuals.
B) The difference between social desirability ratings of attractive versus unattractive individuals may be explained by the Cognitive Consistency Theory.
C) Future research should examine the effect of attractiveness on judgments of criminal behavior.
D) The average social desirability rating for attractive individuals was 6.4; however, the average rating for unattractive individuals was 3.2.
Answer: D

45) Which of the following is NOT true of theories?
A) It is sometimes necessary to modify a theory.
B) If a large number of studies provide support for the hypothesis, the theory is proven.
C) Theories help generate new knowledge.
D) Theories help organize and explain a variety of facts.
Answer: B

46) The Meaning Maintenance Model
A) is not a valid and recognized theory.
B) is a specific theory that explains an array of findings.
C) triggers a biologically neutral state of general physiological arousal.
D) triggers a biologically aversive state of general physiological arousal.
Answer: D

47) If the prediction "participants who consume alcohol will score lower on a reaction time test than participants who do not consume alcohol" is confirmed, we can say the hypothesis is _____.
A) undecided
B) ambiguous
C) supported
D) proven
Answer: C

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48) Suppose you are conducting a literature search for articles about the relationship between right/left hand dominance and creativity. You find an article that is directly relevant to your topic. Which one of the following reference tools would you use to find other articles that cite your original article?

A) Wikipedia
B) Web of Science
C) PsycINFO
D) Psychological Abstracts

Answer: B

49) The American Psychological Association computer database that stores the contents of Psychological Abstracts is

A) PsycINFO.
B) Pubmed.
C) Web of Science.
D) Psychological Abstracts.

Answer: A

50) Which one of the following statements would be appropriate for the method section of a research report?

A) While the three men and three women discussed the issue, the experimenter measured time spent talking by starting and stopping stopwatches.
B) Past research shows men generally talk more than women.
C) For men, the average time talking was 10.7 minutes while for women the average was 7.4 minutes.
D) Contrary to popular belief, in groups of mixed gender, men talk more than women, interrupt more than women, and are more likely to direct discussion topics.

Answer: A

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1) D
2) D
3) B
4) C
5) C
6) D
7) D
8) D
9) B
10) D
11) A
12) A
13) C
14) B
15) C
16) D
17) C
18) C
19) B
20) A
21) C
22) A
23) C
24) C
25) B
26) D
27) B
28) B
29) B
30) D
31) A
32) D
33) C
34) C
35) B
36) C
37) C
38) A
39) A
40) C
41) D
42) A
43) D
44) D
45) B
46) D
47) C
48) B
49) A
50) A

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