Research Methods 3rd edition Passer Test Bank

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Name:_____ Class:_____ Date:_____

Chapter 01: Scenarios

Scenario I

Scenario I is based on and presents fabricated data inspired by the following study:

Pieschl, S., & Fegers, S. (2016). Violent lyrics = Aggressive listeners? Effects of song lyrics and tempo on cognition, affect, and self-reported arousal. *Journal of Media Psychology, 28,* 32–41. https://doi.org/10.1027/1864-1105/a000144

Violent Lyrics

Pieschl and Fegers were interested in examining musical parameters related to time, pitch, texture, and voice to cognitions and affect related to music exposure. Subsequently, they conducted a 2 × 2 between-subjects research design where 120 university students listened to four versions of an experimentally manipulated song with violent or prosocial lyrics presented in either a slow or fast tempo. Researchers assessed both aggressive and prosocial cognitions and affect after music exposure. Results of the study are depicted in Figure 1.1.

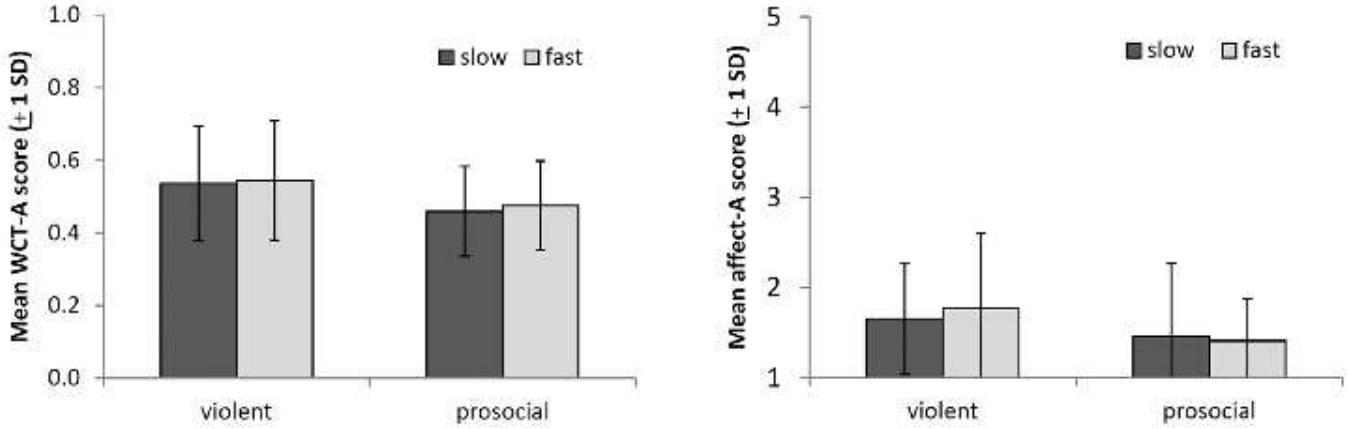


Figure 1.1 Aggressive cognition (left panel, Word Completion Task for aggression [WCT-A]) and aggressive affect (right panel, affect-A) by lyrics (*x*-axis: violent vs. prosocial) and tempo (bars: slow vs. fast); main effects of lyrics were significant.

1. (Scenario I) What basic goal of science was addressed in this study?
    a. description
    b. explanation
    c. prediction
    d. control

ANSWER: a

2. (Scenario I) Pieschl and Fegers used an experimentally manipulated song in their research study. The use of such a song is a good example of:
    a. assumption.
    b. semantic encoding.

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c. tenacity.
d. operationalism.

ANSWER: d

3. (Scenario I) Which term BEST describes Pieschl and Fegers' research?
a. basic
b. clinical
c. applied
d. ethical

ANSWER: a

4. (Scenario I) Based on the previously given information, which conclusion could reasonably be supported by the results of the study?
a. Prosocial lyrics increased prosocial cognitions and prosocial affect in comparison with violent lyrics.
b. Slow tempo increased prosocial cognitions and prosocial affect in comparison with fast tempo.
c. Fast tempo increased aggressive cognitions and aggressive affect in comparison with slow tempo.
d. Violent lyrics increased aggressive cognitions and aggressive affect in comparison with prosocial lyrics.

ANSWER: d

Scenario II

Scenario II is based on and presents fabricated data inspired by the following study:

Nawijn, J., Marchand, M. A., Veenhoven, R., & Vingerhoets, A. J. (2010). Vacationers happier, but most not happier after a holiday. *Applied Research in Quality of Life, 5,* 35–47. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11482-009-9091-9

Vacation Time

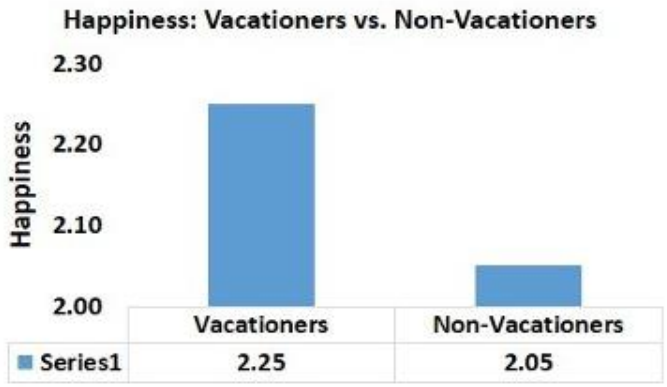
Nawijn, Marchand, Veenhoven and Vingerhoets conducted a study with two parts. In the first part of the study, 1,500 Dutch individuals were tested to determine if people who take vacations (n = 500) are happier than people who merely continue their everyday lives (n = 1,000). The second part of the study focused on 900 vacationers who answered questions about their happiness before and after a holiday trip, which consisted of traveling to and staying in places outside the participants' usual environments and specifically for leisure purposes for a duration of 5 to 21 days. The goal of the second part of the study was to determine if vacationers are happier before versus after their vacations. In both parts of the study, happiness was calculated by participants' responses to three questions: one positive item (enjoyment of daily tasks), minus two negative items (feeling unhappy; feeling gloomy and dejected). Possible answers were "never," "almost never," "sometimes," "very often," and "always." Results are shown in the following figures.

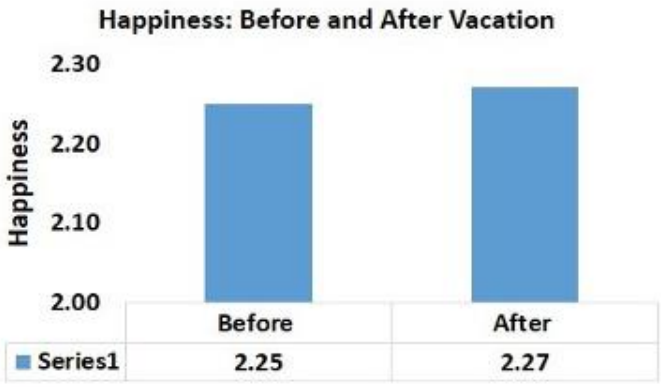
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5. (Scenario II) Consider this sentence: "Happiness was calculated by participants' responses to three questions: one positive item (enjoyment of daily tasks), minus two negative items (feeling unhappy; feeling gloomy and dejected)." Inclusion of this sentence in the methodological section of Nawijn et al.'s research article is a good example of:

a. assumption.
b. semantic encoding.
c. falsifiability.
d. operationalism.

ANSWER: d

6. (Scenario II) Which term BEST describes Nawijn et al.'s research?

a. basic
b. clinical
c. applied
d. ethical

ANSWER: c

7. (Scenario II) What additional information not previously included would be essential for assessing the validity of Nawijn et al.'s claims as they apply to everyday life?

a. participants' ratings of how relaxing the vacations were
b. where the participants' traveled on their vacations
c. standard household living income
d. participants' daily routine before and after their vacations

ANSWER: a

8. (Scenario II) Based on the previously given information, which conclusion could reasonably be supported by the results of the study?

a. Vacations are a great way to reduce stress all over the world.
b. Vacations are a great way to increase happiness all over the world.
c. In the Netherlands, people who take vacations may report greater happiness than those who do not

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take vacations.

d. Despite relatively lengthy vacations, people in the Netherlands are generally stressed out by taking time off from work.

ANSWER: c

9. (Scenario II) Suppose that Nawijn et al. wished to describe their findings in the larger context of people all over the world. Which statement would best describe their work?

a. Employers should increase yearly vacation time to promote workers' happiness.

b. Worker productivity could be increased by providing employees with paid vacation time.

c. If the Dutch vacation model were replicated all over the world, it is possible that vacationers might report greater happiness compared to nonvacationers.

d. People outside of the Netherlands tend to report higher levels of stress because they don't take lengthy vacations.

ANSWER: c

Scenario III

Scenario III is based on and presents fabricated data inspired by the following study:

Shaffer, D. M., Krauchunas, S. M., Eddy, M., & McBeath, M. K. (2004). How dogs navigate to catch Frisbees. *Psychological Science, 15,* 437–441. https://doi.org10.1111/j.0956-7976.2004.00698.x

How Are Dogs Like Baseball Players?

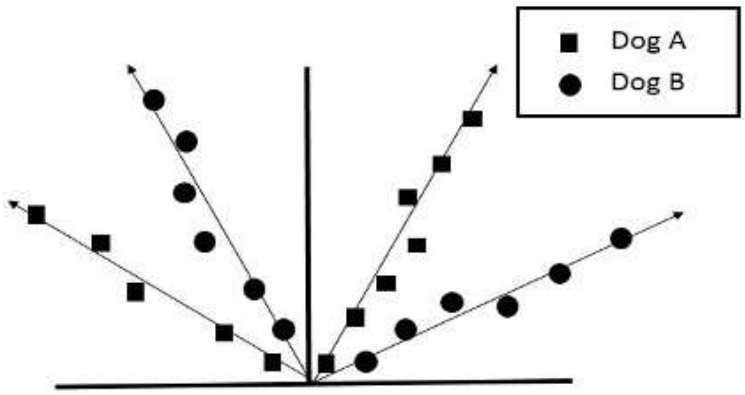
Previous studies have established the mechanisms by which human baseball players are able to visually track fly balls with complex trajectories and directional changes by maintaining a constant optical angle between themselves and their target. Shaffer, Krauchunas, Eddy, and McBeath conducted a study to determine to what extent nonhuman species might use similar mechanisms to intercept another common type of target—a Frisbee. Participants in this study included two dogs, one springer spaniel (Dog A) and one border collie (Dog B), both of which were experienced in catching Frisbees. Micro-video cameras were attached to the heads of the dogs using ace bandages. Battery packs and transmitters were attached on the dogs' backs. This camera setup enabled researchers to record the optical trajectories of the Frisbees as the dogs moved toward them. The Frisbees were launched with varying forces and trajectories, sometimes resulting in dramatic changes in speed and direction mid-flight. Sixty trials were recorded in which the dogs successfully caught the Frisbees. Results indicated that the viewer-based navigational strategies of dogs involved maintaining a constant optical angle between themselves and the Frisbees. Example trajectories are shown in Figure 1.2.

Figure 1.2 Examples of dogs tracking Frisbees. Solid lines represent vertical and horizontal axes. Lines with arrows indicate the paths of the Frisbees. Squares and circles represent the paths of the dogs.

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10. (Scenario III) Philosopher and scientist Charles Peirce described four methods by which people come to hold beliefs about the world. Which of these methods was used by Shaffer and colleagues?
    a. tenacity
    b. authority
    c. reason
    d. empiricism

ANSWER: d

11. (Scenario III) Which term BEST describes Shaffer et al.'s research?
    a. basic
    b. athletic
    c. applied
    d. unethical

ANSWER: a

12. (Scenario III) Which conclusion could reasonably be supported by the results of the study?
    a. Human baseball players and dogs share a common evolutionary origin.
    b. Human baseball players in the previously published study and the two dogs in this study used similar strategies to apprehend target objects.
    c. Regardless of species, all animals use similar mechanisms for apprehending targets.
    d. Regardless of species, the accuracy of target apprehension increases with practice.

ANSWER: b

13. (Scenario III) What additional information might help you to interpret the results of this study?
    a. the ages of the dogs
    b. the type of Frisbee
    c. the visual acuity of the researcher
    d. the age of the researcher

ANSWER: a

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14. (Scenario III) Suppose the researchers wanted to improve the design of their study. Which strategy would you suggest?

a. studying only one dog breed
b. including a wider variety of dog breeds
c. including a wider variety of dog toys
d. using different sizes of Frisbees

ANSWER: b

Scenario IV

Scenario IV is based on and presents fabricated data inspired by the following study:

Halloy, J., Sempo, G., Caprari, G., Rivault, C., Asadpour, M., Tache, F., . . . Deneubourg, J. L. (2007). Social integration of robots into groups of cockroaches to control self-organized choices. *Science, 318,* 1155–1158. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1144259

Robotic Cockroach Study

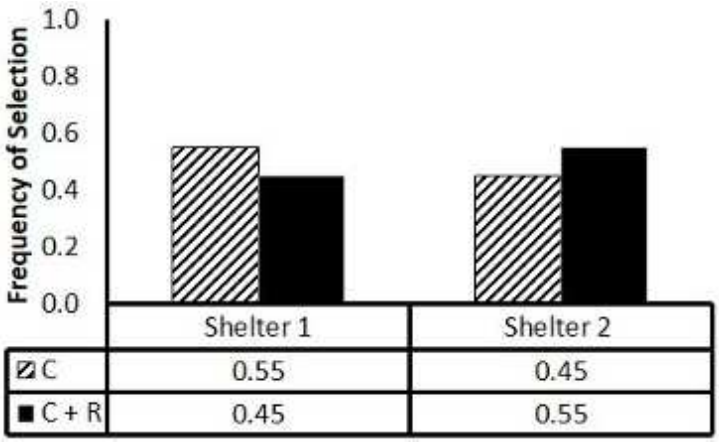
Halloy and colleagues were interested in studying collective decision making. To this end, the researchers created autonomous robots that could act as interactive decoys to infiltrate animal groups and then respond and adapt to the animals' behavior. The researchers tailored their robots for introduction to a group of cockroaches. The robots did not physically resemble cockroaches; they looked more like small boxes of kitchen matches on wheels. To facilitate their acceptance within the cockroach group, the robots were dressed with filter paper containing the proper concentration of the main molecules constituting male cockroach odor. In this way, the robots projected the appropriate chemical message for the cockroaches to recognize them as one of their group. The researchers introduced the robots and cockroaches to the experimental setup, which included a circular arena that housed two rest areas. The rest areas were made of plastic disks covered by red film, suspended 30 mm above the floor of the arena. This provided dark spaces under which the cockroaches and their robotic counterparts could rest or hide. The cockroaches and robots were free to move about the arena, spending their time in the lighted areas of the arena or under the darkened shelters as they saw fit. Two different conditions were used: (1) groups of 16 cockroaches only, and (2) mixed groups of 12 cockroaches and 4 robots. In each case, researchers observed the movements of group members, paying careful attention to issues of shared collective choice of time spent between the two identical shelters. Average results for 30 trials are shown in Figure 1.3.

Figure 1.3 Shelter occupancy of cockroach (C) and cockroach plus robot (C+R) groups. Mean differences shown were not statistically significant.

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	Shelter 1	Shelter 2
C	0.55	0.45
C + R	0.45	0.55

15. (Scenario IV) Which term BEST describes Halloy and colleagues' research?
    a. basic
    b. robotic
    c. applied
    d. unethical

ANSWER: a

16. (Scenario IV) The information gleaned in this study could be used in a variety of contexts. Based on the previously given information, which application seems like the MOST reasonable next step in this type of research?
    a. This procedure could be used to teach computer science students about the importance of cockroach–robot communication.
    b. This procedure could be used to develop new pest control strategies in which robots chase cockroaches out of people's homes.
    c. This procedure could be used to test hypotheses about the origin of cooperation among group members.
    d. This procedure could be used to train insects to coexist more harmoniously with human beings.

ANSWER: c

17. (Scenario IV) Given the previous background information, which statement BEST describes the data shown in Figure 1.3?
    a. Based on the distributions shown in Figure 1.3, it is clear that, with or without robots, cockroaches prefer to hide in the dark.
    b. Based on the distributions shown in Figure 1.3, mixed groups of cockroaches plus robots made collective sheltering decisions that were statistically similar to those of the cockroaches only group.
    c. The introduction of robots into the existing cockroach group caused significant numbers of the cockroaches to move from Shelter 1 to Shelter 2.
    d. The introduction of robots into the existing cockroach group caused significant numbers of the cockroaches to move from Shelter 2 to Shelter 1.

ANSWER: b

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18. (Scenario IV) Which of these would make the BEST alternative title for this study?
    a. A new robotic infiltration system could make insecticide obsolete.
    b. Robots and cockroaches may interact to make collective decisions.
    c. Robotic infiltration may improve social relationships in group-living animals.
    d. Robots could train insects to avoid humans.

ANSWER: b

19. (Scenario IV) What additional information not previously given would most likely aid your interpretation of the study results?
    a. how the cockroaches behaved around unscented robots
    b. how the robots behaved when the cockroaches were not around
    c. how researcher-programmed, shelter-to-shelter moves by the robots might have impacted cockroach behavior
    d. information on the specific type of cockroach that was used in this study (i.e., American, German, broadbanded)

ANSWER: c

Scenario V

Scenario V is based on and presents fabricated data inspired by the following study:

Davis, S. D., & Meade, M. L. (2013). Both young and older adults discount suggestions from older adults on a social memory test. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review, 20,* 760–765. https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-013-0392-5

Listen to Your Elders

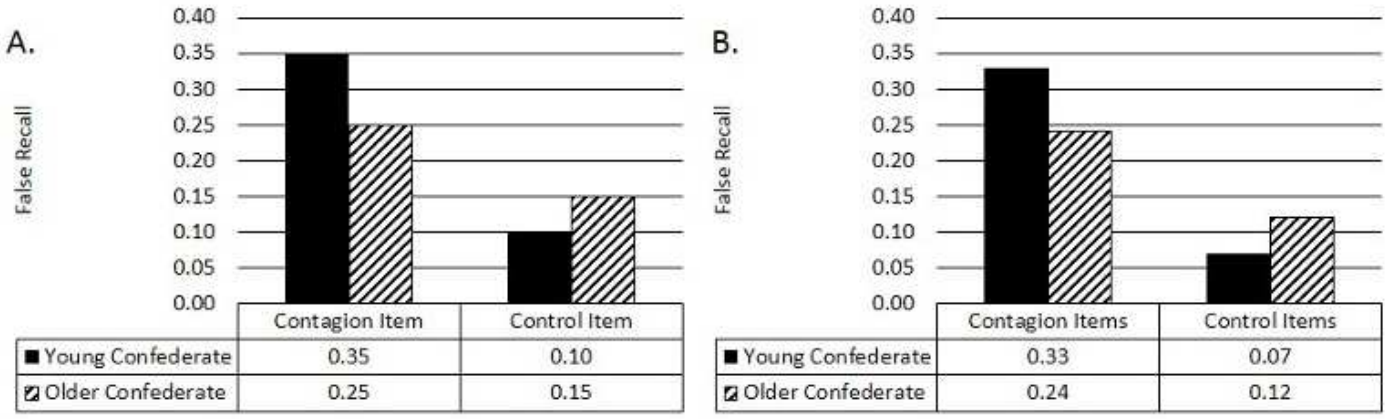
Davis and Meade conducted a study to determine the influence of age on social memory processes. Specifically, they wondered whether or not participants' memory reports on an individual recall test would be influenced by information presented by either a younger (mean age 21 years) adult confederate or older (mean age 75 years) adult confederate. In this study, the confederate pretended to be just another participant enrolled in the study. In fact, the confederates were not participants in the study, but rather were employed to make erroneous suggestions during collaborative recall sessions in an attempt to influence the participants' individual recall test scores. True participants in the study were 40 undergraduate psychology students ranging in age from 18 to 35 years, as well as 40 older adults from the community ranging in age from 65 to 85 years. Memory testing occurred in participant–confederate pairs and involved images of six household scenes containing an average of 24 items. Participant–confederate pairs were told to study the slides in preparation for a memory test. Then, they were given a break during which they were instructed to practice by taking turns recalling six items from each memory scene. It was during this practice session that confederates made their erroneous suggestions; that is, they pretended to recall items that were not actually in the scene (e.g., the nonpresent contagion items), along with some valid items that had been present in the scene. Next, participants were separated from their confederates and completed individual recall tests in separate rooms. The recall tests involved recalling as many items as possible for each scene with a two-minute time limit per scene. Subsequent statistical analyses focused on the contagion effect, expressed as the difference in the proportions of contagion and control items recalled. False recall data from the participants' individual recall tests are shown in Figure 1.4. It is important to

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remember that, because they were merely pretending to be participants, the confederates did not complete recall tests.

Figure 1.4 Mean proportions of false recall for contagion and control items in (a) younger participants (18–35-year-olds) and (b) older participants (65–85-year-olds).



	Contagion Item	Control Item
Young Confederate	0.35	0.10
Older Confederate	0.25	0.15

	Contagion Items	Control Items
Young Confederate	0.33	0.07
Older Confederate	0.24	0.12

20. (Scenario V) Consider this sentence: "The contagion effect was expressed as the difference in the proportions of contagion and control items recalled." Inclusion of this sentence in the methodological section of Davis and Meade's research article is a good example of:

a. assumption.
b. semantic encoding.
c. tenacity.
d. operationalism.

ANSWER: d

21. (Scenario V) What additional information not previously included would aid your assessment of Davis and Meade's results?

a. the gender of the confederate(s)
b. whether or not the same confederate was used for each participant
c. the age range of the confederate(s)
d. the political preferences of the confederate(s)

ANSWER: b

22. (Scenario V) Which statement about the data shown in Figure 1.4 is true?

a. Younger adults performed more poorly on the memory test.
b. Younger adults were less susceptible to the contagion effect.
c. Young and older participants were equally susceptible to the contagion effect.
d. Older adults were more susceptible to the contagion effect.

ANSWER: c

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23. (Scenario V) Which statement about the data shown in Figure 1.4 is true?
    a. Confederate age had no influence on the contagion effect.
    b. Younger adults were more susceptible to contagion from older (versus younger) confederates.
    c. Younger adults were less susceptible to contagion from older (versus younger) confederates.
    d. Older adults were more susceptible to contagion from older (versus younger) confederates.

ANSWER: c

24. (Scenario V) Which overall conclusion would be BEST supported by the data shown in Figure 1.4?
    a. In this study, young people did not listen to suggestions from their peers.
    b. In this study, elderly people did not listen to suggestions from young people.
    c. In this study, the generation gap appeared to widen with each passing year.
    d. In this study, participants were less likely to listen to suggestions from older people.

ANSWER: d

Scenario VI

Scenario VI is based on and presents fabricated data inspired by the following study:

Rubin, M., & Wright, C. L. (2017). Time and money explain social class differences in students' social integration at university. *Studies in Higher Education, 42,* 315–330.

Social Integration at University

Rubin and Wright examined differences in social integration at universities among undergraduate students from various social class backgrounds. They proposed that working-class students tend to be less socially integrated at their university when compared to middle-class students. However, they wanted to know why this was so. In their study, they collected data from undergraduate students in both the United States and Australia. In addition to administering measures of social class and social integration among participants, they also examined participants satisfaction with their finances for socializing at their university and how often they worked off campus or assisted with the care of someone else. Travel time to the university was also examined. Additionally, participants answered questions related to their accommodations, enrollment status, which campus they attended, their degree program, financial assistance, gender, and age. Through their analyses, Rubin and Wright found that undergraduate students from working-class backgrounds had fewer finances available to them to participate in social activities on campus. They also found that working-class students were generally older than students from middle-class families and were more likely to work off campus or be responsible for the care of someone else. Rubin and Wright concluded that these differences helped explain why working-class students were less socially integrated at their universities compared to middle-class students.

25. (Scenario VI) What basic goal of science was addressed in this study?
    a. description
    b. explanation
    c. prediction
    d. control

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ANSWER: b

26. (Scenario VI) Which term BEST describes this research study?
    a. basic
    b. clinical
    c. applied
    d. ethical

ANSWER: c

27. (Scenario VI) Consider this sentence: "Social integration is generally explained in terms of participation in formal activities on campus as well as informal social activities on campus. Feeling a sense of belongingness and connection to the institution is also a part of social integration." This sentence provides a good example of:
    a. assumption.
    b. semantic encoding.
    c. falsifiability.
    d. operational definition.

ANSWER: d

28. (Scenario VI) In this study, social integration is:
    a. a variable.
    b. a measure.
    c. proximate.
    d. distal.

ANSWER: a

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Chapter 01: Essay

1. Describe the elements of the three-door problem and explain what lessons we can learn about research from understanding the problem and how people reacted to it.
ANSWER:

2. Define each of the five ways we acquire knowledge, and provide an example of each.
ANSWER:

3. Describe the positive and negative aspects of acquiring knowledge via reliance on authority.
ANSWER:

4. One pitfall in acquiring knowledge known to psychologists is confirmation bias. Define this term and apply it to a person's efforts to gather information as a basis for buying a new car this year.
ANSWER:

5. Define each goal of psychology and explain how each one would contribute to the following: The state police have asked psychologists for their help in gathering data that will help reduce crime in a high-crime neighborhood.
ANSWER:

6. There are several reasons that developing theories and explaining behavior are complex tasks. Describe these major reasons and give a concrete example of each of them.
ANSWER:

7. What is the major difference between a hypothesis and a theory? Apply the two terms to a psychologist's efforts to understand how technology affects learning in a college environment.
ANSWER:

8. One of the keys to acquiring knowledge is to state claims so that they meet the criterion of falsifiability. What does this term mean? Give a specific example of a falsifiable and nonfalsifiable claim.
ANSWER:

9. What are two reasons that operational definitions are so important to researchers? Give an operational definition for each of the following: depression, anxiety, and passion.
ANSWER:

10. The scientific method is not a single method of conducting research. Rather, it is a set of characteristics that typify how scientists collectively go about acquiring and applying knowledge. Discuss the characteristics of science that are described in the text and give an example of each.
ANSWER:

11. How are applied and basic research related to one another? Give an example of each from the following: the structure of the sleep cycles across the night in the average adult.
ANSWER:

12. Suppose you decide that you are interested in pursuing a career in psychology, emphasizing research. Give

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Chapter 01: Essay

three ideas that would help you enhance your credentials for possible admission to graduate school in the future.
ANSWER:

13. Describe at least three of the critical thinking questions you might pose when faced with a claim in the media, via friends, or other sources.
ANSWER:

14. Anecdotal evidence is frequently encountered in everyday life. Explain what anecdotal evidence is, why it is persuasive, and problems associated with it.
ANSWER:

15. Explain the different ways that taking a course in research methods can aid you in various areas. Several are described in the text.
ANSWER:

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Chapter 01: Multiple Choice

1. Which of these themes is NOT central to science and the research process that is highlighted in the three-door problem?
   a. the need for sound reasoning
   b. the importance of gathering relevant data in an organized manner
   c. the need for plausible alternative explanations
   d. the willingness to modify our beliefs when it becomes apparent that they are wrong

ANSWER: c

2. What is the primary reason the author introduces the three-door problem?
   a. to introduce students to the three goals of scientific research
   b. to describe the three methods psychologists use to conduct research
   c. to provide insight into how people acquire knowledge and beliefs
   d. to present an analogy that illustrates how research affects real-life decisions

ANSWER: c

3. As part of a research requirement in an introductory psychology class, Alex is taking part in the three-door game in which he might win a car or a goat. After selecting one of the three doors, he has a choice of staying with his current door or switching. What is the BEST advice that you would give Alex in order to increase his chance of winning?
   a. It is best to switch.
   b. Go with your first hunch; do not switch.
   c. If you switch, your odds of winning are only 50–50, so stay put.
   d. Your selection makes no difference, as the game is rigged in favor of the "house."

ANSWER: a

4. A student is taking part in the three-door problem as part of a research requirement. What are the odds that this student will win if he decides to switch doors?
   a. 2 to 1 in his favor
   b. equal odds of winning or losing
   c. 2 to 1 against winning
   d. just over 50% chance of winning

ANSWER: a

5. Your textbook mentions that in 1990 Marilyn vos Savant became involved in the three-door problem via her newspaper column. What was the general reaction of the public and academics to her suggestion that the best approach is to switch doors?
   a. Most people recognized she had solved the problem correctly.
   b. She was seen as having made an error in offering her solution.
   c. Academics accepted her solution, but the general public did not.
   d. Her solution was obvious to almost everyone once she explained it in detail.

ANSWER: b

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Chapter 01: Multiple Choice

6. Beth is reading an article about the 1990 three-door controversy involving the "Ask Marilyn" column, which was also mentioned in your textbook. In the article, she reads a number of potential solutions to the three-door problem. Which of these statements BEST describes Marilyn vos Savant's controversial answer to the three-door problem?

a. The participant should "switch" because this will increase his or her odds of winning to 2/3.
b. The participant should "switch" because this will increase his or her odds of winning to 50/50.
c. The participant should "stay" because this will decrease his or her odds of winning to 1/3.
d. The participant should "stay because this will increase his or her odds of winning to 50/50.

ANSWER: a

7. A neighbor believes "all this nonsense" about global warming is hype. He notes that it still snows in winter and it has always been hot in the summer. What way of knowing has the neighbor embraced?

a. tenacity
b. authority
c. reason
d. experimentation

ANSWER: a

8. Political scientists have described a group of voters who tend not to seek out new information, do not challenge their long-held beliefs, and hold to their views because they always seemed "to have worked" in the past. If these political scientists were to name this group of voters, which term would be consistent with the description in your textbook of Charles Peirce's views of how we come to hold beliefs?

a. rational self-interest
b. tenacity
c. direct experience
d. authority

ANSWER: b

9. Charles Peirce described one of the four ways we come to hold beliefs with these words: "strength, simplicity, and directness." Which method fits this description?

a. reason
b. science
c. tenacity
d. authority

ANSWER: c

10. For decades, scientists and the public were convinced that gastric ulcers resulted from a high level of difficult decision making and the treatment was a bland diet. We now know this view is simply wrong. What is one likely explanation that this incorrect view of the cause of ulcers was held for so long before being completely dismantled?

a. tenacity
b. reasoning

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Chapter 01: Multiple Choice

c. empiricism
d. operationism

ANSWER: a

11. Philosopher and scientist Charles Peirce described four methods by which people come to hold beliefs about the world. Which of these methods is one of the four described by Peirce?
a. persistence
b. diligence
c. effort
d. authority

ANSWER: d

12. Which animal analogy BEST exemplifies philosopher and scientist Charles Peirce's description of tenacity?
a. a crab burying its body in the sand for a midday nap
b. an ostrich hiding its head in the ground and no longer seeing danger
c. an opossum "playing dead" to deter dangerous predators
d. a bulldog walking through the forest without making a sound

ANSWER: b

13. We are more likely to rely on others for information when we perceive them as:
a. tenacious.
b. credible.
c. objective.
d. rationale.

ANSWER: b

14. Samantha views Dr. Stott as credible. This means that she views him as:
a. an expert.
b. trustworthy.
c. both an expert and trustworthy.
d. neither an expert nor trustworthy.

ANSWER: c

15. Dr. Stanley Milgram conducted a famous research study on obedience. Before revealing his findings, he asked a group of psychiatrists to predict what percentage of participants would administer 450 volts of shock to a confederate when ordered to do so by a researcher. Milgram's question is MOST consistent with which concept?
a. tenacity
b. authority
c. reason
d. experimentation

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ANSWER: b

16. What is one advantage of relying on authority to acquire knowledge?
    a. Authorities have access to more knowledge than the public.
    b. An authority is an unbiased source of information.
    c. Reliance on authority is an efficient way to pass down knowledge.
    d. Reliance on authority reduces the need to validate the claims that are made.

ANSWER: c

17. Ralph is in the army. As a result, he does whatever his commanding officer orders him to do. This situation exemplifies which method by which people come to hold beliefs about the world?
    a. tenacity
    b. authority
    c. reason
    d. science

ANSWER: b

18. In geography class, a substitute teacher misinforms her students by telling them that there are no deserts in the continental United States. The students believe her. This situation exemplifies which method by which people come to hold beliefs about the world?
    a. tenacity
    b. authority
    c. reason
    d. science

ANSWER: b

19. On a Rate My Professors website where students write reviews of their former professors, Jenny reads that Dr. Zwiebel-Pferd is the easiest professor for the neuroscience course in which she needs to enroll. Based on this review, Jenny enrolls in Dr. Zwiebel-Pferd's course. This situation exemplifies which method by which people come to hold beliefs about the world?
    a. tenacity
    b. authority
    c. reason
    d. science

ANSWER: b

20. The concept that items continue to exist even when they are out of sight is known as:
    a. tenacity
    b. reason
    c. authority
    d. object permanence

ANSWER: d

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21. In order for a conclusion to be true:
    a. its respective premise must be true.
    b. its logic must be feasible.
    c. its reasoning must hold true.
    d. it should not be phrased in probabilistic terms.

ANSWER: a

22. According to Peirce (1877), reason:
    a. is the process of forming judgments based on facts or premises.
    b. rests on the use of logic and rational arguments to reach a conclusion about how things must be.
    c. is the process of acquiring knowledge directly through observation and experience.
    d. is the process of systematically gathering and evaluating empirical evidence to answer questions and test ideas.

ANSWER: b

23. Reasoning can be defined as the:
    a. process of forming judgments based on facts or premises.
    b. process of acquiring knowledge directly through observation and experience.
    c. process of systematically gathering and evaluating empirical evidence to answer questions and test ideas.
    d. use of logic and rational arguments to reach a conclusion about how things must be.

ANSWER: a

24. What is the primary limitation of reasoning?
    a. Different logical conclusions can be drawn depending on the premises one begins with.
    b. It is based on the senses.
    c. It is the process of acquiring knowledge directly through observation and experience.
    d. It is based on personal biases.

ANSWER: a

25. Philosopher René Descartes and his contemporaries considered the mind–body problem—the question of whether the mind is an entity separate from the body. This situation exemplifies which method by which people come to hold beliefs about the world?
    a. tenacity
    b. authority
    c. reason
    d. science

ANSWER: c

26. Shawn believes that the earth is flat and selectively reviews information or interprets information in a way that supports the view that the earth is flat. Shawn is engaging in:

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a. confirmation bias.
b. empiricism.
c. object permanence.
d. reasoning.

ANSWER: a

27. Knowledge based on the senses is called:
a. empirical knowledge.
b. reason.
c. science.
d. a theory.

ANSWER: a

28. The process of acquiring knowledge directly through observation and experience is called:
a. empiricism.
b. science.
c. reasoning.
d. a theory.

ANSWER: a

29. This is the central building block of science.
a. empiricism
b. rationalism
c. authority
d. research

ANSWER: a

30. Which of these does NOT illustrate a problem with relying on our own or other people's personal experiences as a basis for drawing accurate conclusions about the natural world?
a. unrepresentative outcomes
b. precise causal explanations
c. biased memory
d. confirmation bias

ANSWER: b

31. _____ provide(s) credible reasons for why something has occurred that differ from our belief or conclusion about it.
a. Empirical evidence
b. Causal explanations
c. Plausible alternative explanations
d. Covariation

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ANSWER: c

32. Developing knowledge by collecting and assessing information directly through our senses is a description of which approach to how we gain knowledge?

a. nativism
b. sensation
c. empiricism
d. correlation

ANSWER: c

33. Our tendency to selectively seek information that supports our views and avoid disconfirming information is termed:

a. confirmation bias.
b. validation bias.
c. endorsement bias.
d. verification bias.

ANSWER: a

34. A student wants to learn the best way to solve the three-door problem. She decides to watch several individuals attempt to solve the problem and takes notes as she observes. From this data, she decides on a strategy she believes will give her the best chance of winning the car. What approach has this student used to arrive at her approach to solving the problem?

a. tenacity
b. reasoning
c. authority
d. empiricism

ANSWER: d

35. _____ is a process of systematically gathering and evaluating empirical evidence to answer questions and test ideas.

a. Empiricism
b. Reasoning
c. Science
d. Observation

ANSWER: c

36. Which important aspect of science is NOT highlighted through systematic empiricism?

a. Science relies on empirical evidence.
b. Psychology is a science.
c. Evidence is not gathered and interpreted haphazardly.
d. Science uses reasoning to draw conclusion.

ANSWER: b

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37. Most of the people who doubted the solution to the three-door problem that was published in "Ask Marilyn," even after the details of the solution were given, seemed to rely on which method of acquiring information?

a. tenacity
b. reasoning
c. authority
d. empiricism

ANSWER: a

38. What was the MOST convincing method used to demonstrate the actual odds of winning in the three-door problems?

a. reliance on reason
b. running simulations in classes
c. reading opinions of experts on probability
d. recognizing that chance is all that is involved

ANSWER: b

39. Which of these is a fundamental objective of science?

a. description
b. clarification
c. discipline
d. replication

ANSWER: a

40. Any factor or attribute that can assume two or more values is called:

a. a variable.
b. a measure.
c. proximate.
d. distal.

ANSWER: a

41. Professor Vincent is conducting a study that examines the relationship between experiencing parental divorce and adult children's attitudes regarding divorce. In his research, parents' divorce is considered:

a. a variable.
b. a measure.
c. proximate.
d. distal.

ANSWER: a

42. Jennifer is a graduate student and is interested in studying how college entrance exam scores predict academic achievement in college. In this example, academic achievement in college is:

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a. a variable.
b. a measure.
c. proximate.
d. distal.

ANSWER: a

43. A marketing researcher is videotaping shoppers as they make their way through narrow aisles of a department store. The researcher notices that each time a shopper has his or her backside "brushed," the shopper moves on, even putting back items that he or she might have been looking at. As described here, this research is MOST consistent with which goal of research?

a. description
b. explanation
c. prediction
d. control

ANSWER: a

44. Dr. Miller and a group of graduate students were interested in studying risk-taking behaviors in college students. To do this, they visited a "semester kick off" party hosted by one of the more prominent fraternities on their campus. The researchers' goal was to count the number of times male and female college students engaged in risky behaviors such as consuming alcohol to excess. What basic goal of science was addressed in this study?

a. description
b. explanation
c. prediction
d. control

ANSWER: a

45. In her research, Dr. Kelly records videos of doctor–patient interactions and then applies a coding system to categorize these interactions into analyzable units. What basic goal of science is being addressed in this scenario?

a. description
b. explanation
c. replication
d. control

ANSWER: a

46. During a seminar in the department of psychology, Arnold and his friends listened to a visiting speaker describe her research. As the speaker described how she developed a coding system for her research, Arnold thought to himself, "It sounds like this will be a talk about a(n) _____ research study."

a. descriptive
b. explanatory
c. predictive
d. controlled

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ANSWER: a

47. Which of these is the MOST likely example of the development of a coding system by a psychologist for use in research?
    a. using statistics to make a prediction about future success in class
    b. creating a system for categorizing facial expressions related to anxiety
    c. comparing the intelligence of boys and girls in the fourth grade
    d. gathering data on known predictors of heart disease in a group of retired people

ANSWER: b

48. Melanie's project for her research methods class involves standing in the health and diet section of her local supermarket and taking note of the personal characteristics of shoppers who purchase herbal diet pills. This type of research likely falls into which category?
    a. prediction
    b. description
    c. control
    d. assumption

ANSWER: b

49. Which of these is NOT a reason that the task of developing theories and explaining behavior are complex?
    a. Psychologists view causes of behavior from different perspectives.
    b. Even within a perspective, multiple causes may affect behavior simultaneously.
    c. A distinction is drawn between distal and proximal causes.
    d. Psychologists find it easy to make causal inferences.

ANSWER: d

50. Remote causes are also referred to as:
    a. variables.
    b. distal causes.
    c. proximal causes.
    d. empirical evidence.

ANSWER: b

51. Immediate causes are also referred to as:
    a. variables.
    b. distal causes.
    c. proximal causes.
    d. empirical evidence.

ANSWER: c

52. To conclude that one variable had a causal effect on another variable is to make a(n):
    a. conclusion.

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b. explanation.
c. causal inference.
d. covariation conclusion.

ANSWER: c

53. Which condition does NOT need to be met in order to make a causal inference?
a. covariation
b. temporal order
c. causal inference
d. the absence of plausible alternative explanations

ANSWER: c

54. Based on previous studies, Dr. Sharma hypothesizes that a family history of alcoholism will predispose students to binge drink during college. What basic goal of science is being addressed in this scenario?
a. description
b. explanation
c. replication
d. control

ANSWER: b

55. Dr. Graham is interested in understanding brain reward mechanisms. In her research, she records participants' brain activity as they view a variety of tasty desserts. What basic goal of science is being addressed in this scenario?
a. description
b. explanation
c. replication
d. control

ANSWER: b

56. A tentative proposition about the causes or outcome of an event is a(n):
a. theory.
b. hypothesis.
c. causal chain.
d. assumption.

ANSWER: b

57. A set of formal statements that specifies how and why variables or events are related is a(n):
a. theory.
b. hypothesis.
c. causal chain.
d. assumption.

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Chapter 01: Multiple Choice

ANSWER: a

58. In this scientific perspective, explanations of human behavior typically involve genes, hormones, and brain functioning.
    a. psychological
    b. biopsychological
    c. environmental
    d. cognitive

ANSWER: b

59. In this scientific perspective, explanations of human behavior typically focus on the effects of physical stimuli and social experiences.
    a. psychological
    b. biopsychological
    c. environmental
    d. cognitive

ANSWER: c

60. In this scientific perspective, explanations of human behavior typically focus on participants' conscious and unconscious motivations.
    a. psychological
    b. biopsychological
    c. environmental
    d. cognitive

ANSWER: a

61. In this scientific perspective, explanations of human behavior typically focus on processes of attention, memory, and decision making.
    a. psychological
    b. biopsychological
    c. environmental
    d. cognitive

ANSWER: d

62. Based on a review of the existing literature on night terrors in children, a psychologist suggests that the disorder may have a biological cause related to heart rate. This statement is BEST described by which term?
    a. hypothesis
    b. theory
    c. control
    d. falsifiable

ANSWER: a

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Chapter 01: Multiple Choice

63. Which statement is the BEST description of the relation of hypotheses and theories?
    a. Theories are more focused than hypotheses.
    b. A theory can be used to derive many new, more specific hypotheses.
    c. Hypotheses can lead to theories, but theories cannot lead to hypotheses.
    d. Hypotheses are mere hunches; theories are more sophisticated and well developed.

ANSWER: b

64. Which of these is the BEST example of a theory?
    a. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.
    b. The volume of sound can be measure by units called decibels.
    c. A psychologist believes that humans possess a gene for evil.
    d. Freud's effort to explain the structure and workings of human personality.

ANSWER: d

65. A lawyer is borrowing some terminology he heard in a psychology course. It seems that a client was involved in an accident in which the client had consumed some sleep medication earlier in the day. The accident involved crossing a double yellow line due to excessive speed. The lawyer argued that the side effects of the drug were, in part, responsible for the accident. In making this argument, the lawyer is focused on what type of cause?
    a. distal
    b. proximate
    c. personal
    d. correlated

ANSWER: a

66. The statement that variable X caused variable Y is an example of:
    a. causal inference.
    b. plausible alternative explanation.
    c. causal assumption.
    d. cognitive dissonance.

ANSWER: a

67. An otherwise healthy but alcohol dependent adult patient exhibits abnormalities of brain electrophysiology. Suppose that brain electrophysiology was not measured before this patient began his drinking career. This situation illustrates a case in which causal inference is not possible because the condition of _____ has not been established.
    a. covariation
    b. temporal order
    c. absence of plausible alternative explanation
    d. replication

ANSWER: b

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Chapter 01: Multiple Choice

68. A psychologist has found a relation between levels of extraversion and the amount of insurance policies sold by a group of insurance salespeople. The psychologist suggests that the human resources office might be able to make use of this information in personnel selection. Assume that the human resources office makes use of this research, this would be a good example of which goal of research?

a. control
b. description
c. explanation
d. prediction

ANSWER: c

69. A researcher recently found that students who take notes on a laptop tend to perform better than those who take notes by hand. Suppose the researcher concludes that the use of a laptop causes the better grades. What might you suggest that the researcher consider before making such a claim?

a. The use of a laptop makes it easier to organize notes, which may be responsible for the better grades.
b. Students might be using the laptops to check their email instead of taking notes.
c. Students may be distracted by the presence of laptops in class.
d. Laptops enable students to engage in social networking during class.

ANSWER: a

70. Jennifer is a graduate student who is conducting research on the relationship between college entrance exam scores and academic achievement among undergraduate students. She believes that higher college entrance exam scores will be related to higher academic achievement. This is her:

a. hypothesis.
b. theory.
c. variable.
d. operational definition.

ANSWER: a

71. Dr. Stevenson is conducting a study on the impact of violent video games and aggression among children. He believes that if children play more violent video games they are more likely to be aggressive. This is his:

a. hypothesis.
b. theory.
c. variable.
d. operational definition.

ANSWER: a

72. Dr. Stevenson believes that any relationship between playing violent video games and aggression in children is associated with psychological, biological, and social-cultural factors. This premise makes up his:

a. control.
b. theory.
c. variable.
d. operational definition.

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ANSWER: b

73. The idea that father absence hinders child development due to a deprivation of attachment would be a:
    a. hypothesis.
    b. theory.
    c. variable.
    d. operational definition.

ANSWER: a

74. Which of the following is not considered to be a distal cause of schizophrenia, proposed by Walker and colleagues (2010)?
    a. genetic inheritance
    b. genetic mutations
    c. pubertal changes
    d. prenatal insults

ANSWER: c

75. As X changes, Y also changes. This is known as:
    a. covariation.
    b. temporal order.
    c. the absence of plausible alternative explanations.
    d. a hypothesis.

ANSWER: a

76. As college entrance exams increase, so does academic achievement among undergraduate college students. This is known as:
    a. covariation.
    b. temporal order.
    c. the absence of plausible alternative explanations.
    d. a variable.

ANSWER: a

77. "If children play violent video games, then they will be more likely to behave aggressively." This is known as:
    a. an if-then statement.
    b. causal inference.
    c. covariation.
    d. temporal order.

ANSWER: a

78. "If teams have stronger cohesion, then this will cause them to perform better than teams with weaker cohesion" is:

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a. an if-then statement.
b. causal inference.
c. covariation.
d. temporal order.

ANSWER: a

79. What are two of the major roles that prediction serves in research?
a. hypothesis/theory testing and applied prediction
b. description and control
c. identifying provable hypotheses and explaining phenomena
d. developing operational definitions and using hypotheses to develop theories

ANSWER: a

80. Consider the following sentence: If people consume an excessive number of calories each day, then they will be more likely to gain weight. This sentence illustrates which concept?
a. prediction
b. description
c. control
d. assumption

ANSWER: a

81. Consider the following sentence: If people eat less and exercise more, then they will be more likely to lose weight. This sentence illustrates:
a. prediction.
b. description.
c. control.
d. assumption.

ANSWER: a

82. College admissions officers are interested in determining the impact of high school grade point average on subsequent college performance. This type of research likely falls into which category?
a. prediction
b. description
c. control
d. assumption

ANSWER: a

83. Suppose that a researcher hypothesizes that high temperatures in the classroom are related to poor test performance. If the researcher hopes to perform the study with a high level of control, which of the following study designs would you suggest?
a. Obtain daily temperature reports for a given university region in 2012 and see if these correlate with that university's test scores during the same time period.

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b. Gradually increase the classroom temperature over the course of a semester and see if anyone notices.
c. In a laboratory setting, administer a series of recall tests to research participants under different temperature conditions, such that each participant completes the test at four different temperature settings, and see if higher temperatures correspond with lower recall scores across the group.
d. Compare test scores from a warm region of the country with those from a cold region of the country to see if the test scores from the colder region will be higher.

ANSWER: c

84. Connie is designing a research study in which she will compare the standardized test performance of two groups of 18-year-old women. All of the tests will occur on Wednesday at 2 p.m. in a brightly lit laboratory, which has been meticulously decorated to look like a classroom. Participants will have a maximum of 50 minutes to complete their testing session. The same female research assistant will administer all of the tests. The way in which Connie is designing her study suggests that she is MOST interested in:
a. prediction.
b. description.
c. control.
d. assumption.

ANSWER: c

85. Which of these is the BEST example of a psychologist focused on the control of behavior?
a. implementing a program of relaxation to reduce the incidence of insomnia
b. checking the relation between time spent studying and grades on an exam
c. collecting data on when children use two-word "sentences" for the first time
d. determining the relation between cholesterol levels and the probability of developing cardiac problems

ANSWER: a

86. The fact that 139.8 million people in the United States consumed alcohol within the past 30 days is an example of which goal of science?
a. description
b. explanation
c. prediction
d. control

ANSWER: a

87. Researchers focus on biological, psychological, and situational factors to explain alcohol consumption and its behavior effects. This demonstrates which goal of science?
a. description
b. explanation
c. prediction
d. control

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ANSWER: b

88. "If people believe they have consumed alcohol, then their behavior will change in accordance with their alcohol expectations." This demonstrates which goal of science?
    a. description
    b. explanation
    c. prediction
    d. control

ANSWER: c

89. When people take a substance that they believe contains certain chemicals or components, when in fact it does not, they have consumed a(n)
    a. placebo
    b. factor
    c. drink
    d. design

ANSWER: a

90. Which sentence is a basic scientific assumption about the natural world?
    a. Events are not random.
    b. Patterns are independent of underlying causes.
    c. Underlying causes are related to replication.
    d. Replication of findings is mandatory.

ANSWER: a

91. Agent Mulder believes that "The truth is out there." This is an example of a scientific:
    a. assumption.
    b. explanation.
    c. description.
    d. causation.

ANSWER: a

92. Which of these statements is a scientific assumption about the natural world?
    a. Events are random.
    b. Patterns have underlying causes.
    c. It is not possible to discover the causes of patterns.
    d. All events can be predicted.

ANSWER: b

93. What is the cornerstone of science?
    a. systematic empiricism

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b. educated assumptions
c. description
d. prediction

ANSWER: a

94. A(n) _____ is one that can be tested through observation.
a. empirical question
b. assumption
c. theory
d. hypothesis

ANSWER: a

95. An empirical question is also called a(n):
a. assumption.
b. empirical claim.
c. theory.
d. hypothesis.

ANSWER: b

96. When a claim can be tested through observation it is:
a. assumptive.
b. empirical.
c. tenacious.
d. reasonable.

ANSWER: b

97. A psychic claims to be able to predict the future and is willing to demonstrate his skills. He looks at your hand and begins, "You have a great need to be admired. I see success in your future. You are sometimes introverted and sometimes extroverted." A psychologist who wishes to test this psychic's ability will need to focus especially on which concept in formulating a research effort?
a. falsifiability
b. correlation
c. empiricism
d. objectivity

ANSWER: a

98. Which pairing of an individual and that person's contribution to science is correct?
a. Karl Popper and falsifiability
b. John Locke and nativism
c. Marilyn vos Savant and the laws of probability
d. Charles Peirce and the experimental method

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ANSWER: a

99. In principle, an assertion is testable if we can envision gathering some type of empirical evidence that will reveal the assertion to be false. This is the definition of:

a. false prediction.
b. falsifiability.
c. faulty operationalism.
d. falsification.

ANSWER: b

100. In addition to precautionary steps that researchers take in a study, the scientific process has features that promote the building of a body of knowledge that is:

a. objective.
b. hypothetical.
c. empirical.
d. scientific.

ANSWER: a

101. Imagine a psychologist who films a basketball game in which a referee is making one of the most difficult calls, a block or a charge. Half of the fans in the arena are from Central High and the other half are from North High. They react predictably to the call. This psychologist is most likely creating an example that illustrates the importance of:

a. objectivity.
b. tenacity.
c. control.
d. prediction.

ANSWER: a

102. A highly experienced teacher is giving lectures on what it takes to be an excellent teacher. One of the teacher's keys is to be passionate. In order to clearly describe his point, he makes a list of the specific behaviors that indicate passion for the course material. Clearly, this experienced teacher has an excellent grip on which of these concepts?

a. prediction
b. falsifiability
c. operational definitions
d. quantitative analysis

ANSWER: c

103. Your class requires each student to give a 20-minute presentation on a proposed research project. After your teacher says he is looking for "good presentations," you ask for a definition of "good." You seem to have a proper understanding of which concept?

a. reductionism

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b. falsifiability
c. operationism
d. reliability

ANSWER: c

104. Your coworker invites you to make a wager regarding how long it will take before the new manager gets angry at one of her employees. Before agreeing to the wager, you first ask your coworker for a specific definition of "getting angry." You seem to have a good understanding of which concept?

a. reductionism
b. falsifiability
c. operationism
d. reliability

ANSWER: c

105. Nadia and Vladimir are writing a research paper. Which reference should they choose as their source of up-to-date scientific information?

a. a recently published textbook
b. a recently published peer-reviewed journal
c. a recently published non-peer-reviewed journal
d. the web page of a scientific organization

ANSWER: b

106. What is one of the MOST important and defensible reasons that research is reported publicly?

a. to provide a basis for granting tenure and promotion to faculty
b. to allow all citizens to know how government grant money has been spent
c. to provide a forum for evaluating the claims that have been made
d. to train future scientists by actively taking part in the process

ANSWER: c

107. A journal editor sends potential articles out to be read by other experts in the field and then takes into account their comments when making decisions about publication. This is the definition of a _____ journal.

a. peer-reviewed
b. scientific
c. scholarly
d. non-peer-reviewed

ANSWER: a

108. What is the MOST likely range of rejection of an article submitted to a peer-reviewed journal?

a. 10%–20%
b. 30%–40%
c. 75%–85%

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d. 95%–98%

ANSWER: c

109. One advantage of science is it is designed to correct its past errors. Which of these errors has since been corrected?

a. Negative reinforcement is more effective than positive reinforcement.
b. Children do not develop object permanence until age 12 months.
c. Humans are the only species that makes use of tools.
d. Schizophrenia has a genetic basis.

ANSWER: c

110. For generations, college and medical students were taught that the adult human brain did not produce new neurons. However, we now know that neurogenesis occurs in some region of the adult human brain demonstrating that

a. scientific knowledge is tentative
b. science involves public reporting
c. science requires clear definitions
d. science strives for accuracy

ANSWER: a

111. The fact that current scientific theories may need to be refined to account for new information or that they may need to be discarded if newer theories do a better job of explaining and predicting a phenomena indicates that science is:

a. objective.
b. self-correcting.
c. systematic.
d. empirical.

ANSWER: b

112. _____ is the process of repeating a study to determine whether the original findings will be upheld.

a. Replication
b. Self-correcting
c. Empiricism
d. Science

ANSWER: a

113. Dr. Stetson is interested in repeating a study that found a positive relationship between playing violent video games and aggression in children. This is an example of:

a. replication.
b. self-correcting.
c. empiricism.
d. science.

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ANSWER: a

114. Which of the questions below is one that scientists are BEST equipped to answer?
a. Should people be more religious than they are now?
b. How many people consider themselves to be religious?
c. What is the scientific basis for belief in an afterlife?
d. Which religious belief should more people follow?

ANSWER: b

115. Dr. West is a researcher who studies the molecular anatomy of the developing limbs in a specific type of frog. This sort of study is likely to be classified as _____ research.
a. applied
b. animal
c. basic
d. genetic

ANSWER: c

116. Dr. North is conducting a study entitled "Stereociliary Motion in Hair Bundles." This sort of study is likely to be classified as _____ research.
a. applied
b. animal
c. basic
d. genetic

ANSWER: c

117. Dr. East is writing a grant entitled "Association Between Happiness and Quality of Life After Abdominal Surgery." This sort of study is likely to be classified as _____ research.
a. applied
b. animal
c. basic
d. genetic

ANSWER: a

118. Dr. South has published an article entitled "Patient"s Perceptions of Nursing Care in Small Private Hospitals." This sort of study is likely to be classified as _____ research.
a. applied
b. animal
c. basic
d. genetic

ANSWER: a

119. A group of scientists asked, "What is the absolute threshold at which humans can detect horizontal

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acceleration?" How was this study categorized?

a. applied
b. clinical
c. basic
d. genetic

ANSWER: c

120. A group of scientists asked, "How would horizontal sway in tall office buildings affect the workers in those buildings?" How would this study be categorized?

a. applied
b. clinical
c. basic
d. genetic

ANSWER: a

121. Psychologists studied the degree to which people could detect the sway of very tall buildings such as the World Trade Center in New York City. As a result of this research, what change was made in the building design?

a. Architects reduced the number of windows to reduce the feeling of sway.
b. Structural reinforcement was added to the building to deal with potential sway.
c. The walls of the buildings were painted in more "earth" colors to calm occupants who might find the sway uncomfortable.
d. Additional speakers were installed to carry music at louder levels to distract from the sense of sway.

ANSWER: b

122. Which of these is the BEST description of the relation between basic and applied research efforts?

a. the two exist on a continuum
b. the two typically are independent of one another
c. applied research typically feeds and directs basic research
d. basic research must be completed before applied research can be conducted

ANSWER: a

123. Prior to building the World Trade Center buildings in New York City, engineers were concerned about how people would react to the swaying of such tall buildings. A psychologist was able to inform their work by conducting research that focused on which major area of psychology?

a. learning
b. consciousness
c. brain anatomy
d. sensation/perception

ANSWER: d

124. Which of the following is NOT a component of critical thinking?

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a. the ability to generate questions
b. the ability to draw inappropriate conclusions
c. the ability to define problems precisely
d. the ability to recognize when problems formulated by others are imprecise

ANSWER: b

125. Which of the following is NOT a way in which taking research methods can aid you?
a. It can enhance your critical thinking skills.
b. It can help you understand research covered in other courses.
c. It can help prepare you for a career in research.
d. It can expose you to the diverse subfields in psychology.

ANSWER: d

126. Charlotte has just completed her sophomore year of college. After graduation, she plans to apply to a PhD program in biological psychology. She has a 3.75 overall grade point average (GPA), and she has received high scores for her research methods and statistics courses. Based on her usual standardized test performance, she expects that her Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores will meet or exceed the requirements for a PhD program. As she embarks on her last 2 years of college, which activity would be MOST likely to improve Charlotte's chances of being accepted to graduate school in biological psychology?
a. improving her overall GPA
b. taking an expensive GRE prep course
c. gaining research experience in the laboratory setting
d. interning with a charitable organization to help tornado victims

ANSWER: c

127. A freshman in an introductory psychology class is so excited about the material that she decides to major in psychology and plans to go to graduate school. Her adviser would be certain to tell her to be sure that which courses are part of her undergraduate program of study?
a. abnormal and cognitive psychology
b. learning and physiology
c. research methods and statistics
d. testing and measurement

ANSWER: c

128. According to a survey of graduate school programs in psychology, which course is MOST often listed by these programs as either required or preferred for admission?
a. statistics
b. abnormal psychology
c. theories of learning
d. physiological psychology

ANSWER: a

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129. Carla, a psychology major, is watching a television infomercial in which a salesman describes a new method for cutting vegetables. The product is supposedly cheaper, safer, and more efficient than the cumbersome, traditional methods. Which of Carla's classes is MOST likely to provide her with the skills she will need to critically evaluate this infomercial?

a. developmental psychology
b. abnormal psychology
c. research methods
d. sensation and perception

ANSWER: c

130. Which of these recommendation letters would carry the MOST weight in an application to a graduate program in psychology?

a. a letter from a psychology professor in whose course you received an A
b. a letter from your cousin, who is an instructor in modern languages at Harvard
c. a letter from your manager at your after-school job working for a charitable organization
d. a letter from your research adviser with whom you have completed several projects

ANSWER: d

131. Lance and Carla are watching a television infomercial in which a salesman describes a new method for cutting vegetables. The product is supposedly cheaper, safer, and more efficient than the cumbersome, traditional methods. Carla questions the validity of the claims before deciding whether or not to accept them. Carla is MOST likely to endorse which outlook?

a. skepticism
b. cynicism
c. opportunism
d. nihilism

ANSWER: a

132. Imagine that the governor of Missouri is a big fan of psychology and decides to use his state's motto, "The Show-Me State," to advertise a key concept of psychological research efforts on Missouri license plates. Which concept might he select?

a. operationism
b. authority
c. reasoning
d. skepticism

ANSWER: d

133. Lance and Carla are watching a television infomercial in which a salesman describes a new method for cutting vegetables. The product is supposedly cheaper, safer, and more efficient than traditional methods. From the outset, Lance disbelieves and distrusts everything that the salesman says. Lance is MOST likely to endorse which outlook?

a. skepticism
b. cynicism

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c. opportunism
d. nihilism

ANSWER: b

134. Which of the following is an outlook that involves questioning the validity of claims before deciding whether to accept them?
a. skepticism
b. authority
c. replication
d. science

ANSWER: a

135. Which of the following is directly related to critical thinking?
a. skepticism
b. authority
c. basic research
d. replication

ANSWER: a

136. Samantha just read on the Internet that if infants receive vaccines they will develop autism. Which of these questions should NOT be used to evaluate this information?
a. What claim is being made?
b. What is the source of the claim?
c. Why didn't anyone tell me this before?
d. What evidence is presented to support the claim?

ANSWER: c

137. Bree is in class and just heard her professor say that climate change is a myth. Which of these questions should NOT be used to evaluate this information?
a. Can I gather information about the credibility of the source?
b. What is the quality of evidence?
c. Why didn't anyone tell me this before?
d. Are there plausible alternative explanations for the finding?

ANSWER: c

138. Craig was just told that the idea that smoking cigarettes causes cancer is a myth because researchers could not conduct an experiment on this topic due to ethical issues. Which of these questions should NOT be used to evaluate this information?
a. Are the interpretations of the findings reasonable?
b. What additional evidence is needed to reach a clearer conclusion?
c. Why didn't anyone tell me this before?
d. Given the current state of the evidence, what conclusion is most reasonable?

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ANSWER: c

139. What type of evidence offers brief stories or descriptions about personal experiences, other people, or events as facts to support or refute a claim?
a. distal
b. empirical
c. proximal
d. anecdotal

ANSWER: d

140. When a disorder, illness, or other condition ends on its own, it is called:
a. spontaneous remission.
b. the history effect.
c. the placebo effect.
d. skepticism.

ANSWER: a

141. When events unrelated to a treatment cause a change in the behavior of interest, a(n) _____ has occurred.
a. spontaneous remission
b. history effect
c. placebo effect
d. skepticism

ANSWER: b

142. Which of these is NOT a problem with anecdotal evidence.
a. It may represent an atypical case.
b. It may be based on unsystematic observation.
c. There may be a plausible alternative explanation.
d. It may represent a covariation conclusion.

ANSWER: d

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