Marriages and Families in the 21st Century A Bioecological Approach 2nd edition Howe Test Bank

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Chapter 2: How We Study the Family: Theories and Research Methods

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. A researcher who incorporates parts of several different theories into his or her work is using _____.
a. bioecological theory
b. the scientific method
c. an eclectic approach
d. a structural-functionalist approach
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Theoretical Frameworks
Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Which term describes a series of steps a researcher must follow to ensure that the results of a study are valid?
a. scientific validity
b. scientific method
c. scientific reliability
d. scientific model
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Overview: The Need for Good Theory and Research Design
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. A therapist who considers the power structures, communication styles, and boundaries of each family member, as well as how they interact, is applying _____.
a. bioecological theory
b. family systems theory
c. conflict theory
d. structural-functionalism
Ans: B

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Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Family Systems Theory
Difficulty Level: Hard

4. A researcher working from a female deficit perspective would be likely to _____.
a. consider the female experience to be pathological
b. include both the male and female points of view
c. view all experience from a conflict perspective
d. emphasize patriarchy and oppression as causes of behavior
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Feminist Theory
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Which the mental template we carry within us that defines both ourselves and others and guides our interactions?
a. schema
b. internal working model
c. metanarrative
d. cognitive domain
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Attachment Theory
Difficulty Level: Hard

6. The three levels of analysis in the bioecological model are _____.
a. brain, body, microsystem
b. gene, chromosome, body
c. structure, function, process
d. person, process, context
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Bioecological Model
Difficulty Level: Medium

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7. In the bioecological model, the system of influence in which members of your immediate system interact with each other to affect your development is the _____.
a. mesosystem
b. microsystem
c. exosystem
d. macrosystem
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Processes and Contexts
Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Due to a recession, your partner has recently lost a job, which puts a severe strain on your family dynamics. This is an example of a(n) _____.
a. mesosystem influence.
b. microsystem influence.
c. exosystem influence.
d. macrosystem influence.
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Processes and Contexts
Difficulty Level: Medium

9. The first step in the scientific method is to _____.
a. replicate a previous study
b. choose an experimental model
c. formulate a hypothesis
d. formulate operational definitions
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Research Methodology
Difficulty Level: Medium

10. The only way to determine causality is to _____.
a. replicate a previous study
b. perform a controlled experiment
c. formulate a clear hypothesis
d. formulate correct operational definitions

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Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Experimental Procedures
Difficulty Level: Medium

11. The independent variable in an experiment is the variable that is _____.
a. manipulated in the study
b. operationalized at the end of the study
c. measured at the beginning of the study
d. measured at the end of the study
Ans: A
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Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Variables
Difficulty Level: Easy

12. To perform a baseline assessment, a researcher would measure the _____.
a. independent variable after performing the experiment
b. independent variable before performing the experiment
c. dependent variable after performing the experiment
d. dependent variable before performing the experiment
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Experimental Design
Difficulty Level: Hard

13. Which group of people are similar to the larger population a researcher wants to study?
a. random sample
b. distributed sample
c. purposeful sample
d. representative sample
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss

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the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Experimental Design
Difficulty Level: Hard

14. Experimental results that can be applied to a wide population are said to be _____.
a. reliable
b. valid
c. representative
d. generalizable
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Examining Results
Difficulty Level: Hard

15. To say that two variables are correlated means that _____.
a. they are related in some way
b. one variable causes the other
c. one variable does not cause the other
d. as one variable increases, the other decreases
Ans: A
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Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Correlational Procedures
Difficulty Level: Hard

16. An *etic approach* refers to a(n)_____.
a. qualitative method
b. quantitative method
c. outsider's viewpoint
d. insider's viewpoint
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. |

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2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Etic and Emic Approaches
Difficulty Level: Hard

17. The term *ethnicity* refers to a person's _____.
a. physical appearance
b. country of origin
c. family structure
d. cultural background
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-5: Discuss the importance of demographic variables and intersectional identities on individual and family development.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Race and Ethnicity
Difficulty Level: Medium

18. Which term refers to a person's choice of intimate partners?
a. mate selection
b. attachment theory
c. sexual orientation
d. romantic attachment
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-5: Discuss the importance of demographic variables and intersectional identities on individual and family development.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Sex, Gender, and Sexual Orientation
Difficulty Level: Easy

19. The term *social class* refers primarily to a person's _____.
a. occupation
b. wealth and income
c. level of education
d. race and ethnicity
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-5: Discuss the importance of demographic variables and intersectional identities on individual and family development.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

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Answer Location: Social Class
Difficulty Level: Medium

20. How are ethnocentrism and heterosexism similar?
a. Both make assumptions about what is right and normal.
b. Both rely on social class to make judgments about people.
c. Both are primarily associated with people of color.
d. Both are valid components of ethnographic research.
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-5: Discuss the importance of demographic variables and intersectional identities on individual and family development.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Sex, Gender, and Sexual Orientation
Difficulty Level: Hard

True/False

1. Cross-sectional studies measure groups of people all at one point in time.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Choosing a Research Time Frame
Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Longitudinal studies do not have as many problems as other studies do.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Choosing a Research Time Frame
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. The benefits of a longitudinal study include a real developmental picture of change over time and the ability to assess the same people in a lot of depth.
Ans: T

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Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Choosing a Research Time Frame
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Generalizability means that our experimental results must be narrowed to a small population of people.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Examining Results
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. While nonexperimental procedures can tell us about many important variables related to family health and success, most research studies related to families are experimental in nature.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Correlational Procedures
Difficulty Level: Hard

6. A natural or quasi-experiment is an experiment in which almost everything is controlled, except for the assignment to groups.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Correlational Procedures
Difficulty Level: Hard

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7. Most social science research is of this correlational nature (rather than controlled laboratory experiments).
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Correlational Procedures
Difficulty Level: Hard

8. With correlational results, we may consistently make inferences that causality is at play.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Correlational Procedures
Difficulty Level: Hard

9. Quantitative research studies are those in which the phenomena under study have been turned into numbers.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods
Difficulty Level: Medium

10. If we want to understand variables from a more nuanced perspective, we might try to collect qualitative data.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods

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Difficulty Level: Medium

11. Quantitative data are usually gathered from open-ended questions or interviews which allow people to talk freely about the topic of interest.
Ans: F
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Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods
Difficulty Level: Medium

12. Many researchers in the social sciences use a quantitative approach called ethnography.
Ans: F
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Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Etic and Emic Approaches
Difficulty Level: Medium

13. An emic perspective is when a researcher is able to study his or her research question from an “inside” perspective, through the eyes of the inhabitants, their history, beliefs, and world view.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Etic and Emic Approaches
Difficulty Level: Medium

14. Fortunately, qualitative data involve a great deal of control over extraneous variables.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. |

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2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Etic and Emic Approaches
Difficulty Level: Medium

15. An ethnic characteristic is some trait the setting contains or the researcher possesses which may influence the study participant's responses.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research. | 2-5: Discuss the importance of demographic variables and intersectional identities on individual and family development.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Demand Characteristics
Difficulty Level: Medium

16. Intersectional identity refers to the idea that individuals in families are completely unaffected by the interactions between our gender, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, religion, and social class, yet many believe this myth.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-5: Discuss the importance of demographic variables and intersectional identities on individual and family development.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Social Class
Difficulty Level: Hard

Short Answer

1. When we imitate or simulate real world conditions, we conduct this kind of experiment.
Ans: analog
Learning Objective: 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research. | 2-4: Identify the basic steps and techniques used in the scientific method.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Experimental Procedures
Difficulty Level: Medium

2. What certainty that one variable causes a specific outcome or change in the other variable?
Ans: causality

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Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Experimental Procedures
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. These are carefully controlled studies in which the researcher manipulates the participants' experiences.
Ans: experiments
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Experimental Procedures
Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Which variable is operationally defined and then manipulated in the experiment?
Ans: independent variable
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Variables
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Which variable we measure at the end of the study?
Ans: dependent variable
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Variables
Difficulty Level: Medium

6. A technique that is invaluable for making sure our experiment is highly controlled is known as _____.
Ans: random assignment
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Experimental Design
Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Which group doesn't receive the experimental manipulation?

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Ans: control group
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Experimental Design
Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Which group receives the experimental manipulation?
Ans: experimental group
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Experimental Design
Difficulty Level: Medium

9. In this type of assessment, we measure the dependent variable *before* we do the experiment.
Ans: baseline
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Experimental Design
Difficulty Level: Medium

10. The type of study in which we follow the same people over a long period of time is known as a(n) _____.
Ans: longitudinal
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Choosing a Research Time Frame
Difficulty Level: Medium

Essay

1. Explain the relationship between Communist theory and structural-functionalism.
Ans: According to Communist theory, conflict always exists between groups with less power and groups with more power. Structural-functionalism accepts this view of society and argues that social groups, such as families, have an established structure that allows them to function as a cohesive whole. Families and societies continue the same structure and functioning over time because there is an equilibrium, or interdependence,

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between the parts. However, sometimes these conflicts lead to revolutions so the structure or function is forced to change. This is true in both societies and families.
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Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Structural–Functionalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Explain the gradual development of attachment theory and the various strands that make up the theory.
Ans: Attachment theory's founder, John Bowlby, was a psychoanalyst trained in the Freudian tradition, which emphasizes the influence of early childhood experiences on adult personality as well as the importance of the unconscious mind. Another important influence is ethology, which studies animals to draw conclusions about humans. For example, non-human primates cling to their caregivers for safety. Studies of children in orphanages suggest that affection is as important as food and shelter for normal development. Evolutionary theory shows that adults and infants are naturally inclined to bond. The internal working model is an unconscious mental template developed in childhood that directs our attention and influences our adult relationships.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-5: Discuss the importance of demographic variables and intersectional identities on individual and family development.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Attachment Theory
Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Explain the difference between correlation and causality.
Ans: Correlation means that two variables are related, not that one causes the other. Causation means that one variable causes the other. Causation can be determined only through a controlled experiment. Most social science research is correlational in nature so we cannot make causal assumptions when relationships between variables are found.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-5: Discuss the importance of demographic variables and intersectional identities on individual and family development.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Correlations Versus Causal Inferences
Difficulty Level: Hard

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4. Define demand characteristics and explain how they can influence the results of a study. Give at least one specific example.
Ans: Demand characteristics are traits of the setting or the researcher that may influence the study participant's responses. For example, the room may be too hot, which may make the respondent uncomfortable, or the researcher may be sexually attractive, which may distract the respondent.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain the importance of theoretical perspectives and summarize key theories that organize thinking and research on families. | 2-2: Discuss the tenets of the bioecological perspective, the key organizing framework of this book. | 2-3: Explain the importance of careful design and implementation strategies for conducting research. | 2-5: Discuss the importance of demographic variables and intersectional identities on individual and family development.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Demand Characteristics
Difficulty Level: Hard

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