Research Methods in Psychology 1st edition Earnshaw Test Bank

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Testbank

Chapter 1: What is research and why do we do it?

1. Who opened the first psychology laboratory at Leipzig University in 1879?

a. Sigmund Freud

b. Wilhelm Wundt

c. Gordon Allport

d. B.F. Skinner

Ans: B – Wilhelm Wundt

Wundt is often considered to be the founding father of Experimental Psychology and opened the first psychology laboratory at Leipzig University in 1879.

2. The systematic collection and evaluation of evidence and by answering questions through the testing of hypotheses is better known as

a. The scientific method (or hypothetic-deductive method)

b. The unscientific method

c. Operant conditioning

d. Associative learning

Ans: A – The scientific method (or hypothetic-deductive method)

In general, psychological research follows the scientific (or hypothetico-deductive method) that focuses on the systematic collection and evaluation of evidence and answers questions through the testing of hypotheses.

3. Which of the following is NOT a key stage in the scientific method in psychology?

a. Question

b. Hypothesis

c. Analysis

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d. Teamworking

Ans: D – Teamworking

Whilst teamworking is a key skill that you will develop in doing research, it is not one of the key stages of the scientific method.

4. Which of the following statements is true?

a. Applied research focuses on addressing a practical problem, making a societal impact or changing policies as a result of the findings

b. Applied research is better than basic research

c. There is no value in doing basic research

d. Applied research is unscientific

Ans: A – Applied research focuses on addressing a practical problem, making a societal impact or changing policies as a result of the findings

The main difference between basic and applied research is that applied research focuses on addressing a practical problem, making a societal impact or changing policies as a result of the findings. This does not mean that it is necessarily better than basic research.

5. What is the first step in the research process?

a. Gain ethical clearance to carry out the research

b. Identify a topic or area of interest

c. Recruit participants

d. Analyse the data

Ans: B – Identify a topic or area of interest

The crucial first stage of the research process is to identify a topic or area of interest that you have. You need to think about this before you can move on to do any further stages of the research process.

6. A research question is…

a. Not necessary when doing research

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b. The same as an interview question

c. The same as a hypothesis

d. A question about what you want to find out from doing the research

Ans: D – A question about what you want to find out from doing the research

A research question is the question you are aiming to answer from doing your research, i.e. it is what you want to find out. It is not the same thing as a hypothesis (prediction) about what you will find out or the same as an interview question.

7. What does validity mean in psychological research?

a. Whether the measure that we have used in our research actually measures what we claim it does

b. The degree to which a measure or procedure yields the same results on repeated trials

c. That we should be able to repeat (replicate) the research and get the same findings

d. That our research is accessible

Ans: A – Whether the measure that we have used in our research actually measures what we claim it does

It is important that psychological measures are valid and measure what they claim to measure. There are different types of validity that are discussed in psychological research that you need to consider.

8. What does WEIRD stand for in relation to a critique of participants in psychological research?

a. White, Educated, Industrialised, Rich and Dynamic

b. Western, Effective, Inconsiderate, Rude and Democratic

c. White, Eager, Inclusive, Rich and Democratic

d. Western, Educated, Industrialised, Rich and Democratic

Ans: D – Western, Educated, Industrialised, Rich and Democratic

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WEIRD stands for Western, Educated, Industrialised, Rich and Democratic and has been used as a way of describing the typical participants in psychological research historically and to highlight why this might be a problem.

9. Which of the following is NOT a suggestion for increasing transparency and trustworthiness when doing research in psychology following the 'replication crisis'?

a. Pre-registering hypotheses
b. Making data available to others
c. Following principles of Open Science
d. Only doing mixed methods research

Ans: D – Only doing mixed methods research

The move towards Open Science principles is seen as a way of addressing some of the problematic findings associated with the Replication Crisis and included pre-registering hypotheses and making data available but does not make requirements about the type of research we should be doing as psychologists.

10. Which of the following best describes the purpose of keeping a reflexive skills journal during your undergraduate research journey?

a. To record the grades received in each research module
b. To track the number of hours spent on research activities
c. To reflect on and document the skills developed through research for future job or study applications
d. To compare your research progress with that of your peers

Ans: C – To reflect on and document the skills developed through research for future job or study applications

Carrying out your own research is a great way of developing important skills that are valued by employers, and using a reflexive journal is a great way to document this for use when you are applying for jobs or further study.

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