Social Research v3 1st edition Blackstone Test Bank

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Chapter 1
Social Inquiry

True/False Questions

1. The problem with informal observation is that sometimes it is right and sometimes it is wrong.
   True; Easy

2. Informal observation occurs when we make observations without any systematic process for observing or assessing accuracy of what is observed.
   True; Easy

3. Selective observations involve observations without any systematic process for observing or assessing accuracy of what is observed.
   False; Easy

4. Overgeneralization is a socially defined source of knowledge that might shape our beliefs about what is true and what is not true.
   False; Easy

5. Sociology seldom relies on a systematic process of inquiry for gaining knowledge.
   False; Easy

6. Overgeneralization is a source of knowledge that might shape our own beliefs about what is true and what is not true.
   False; Easy

7. A research method is an organized, logical way of learning and knowing about our social world.
   True; Easy

8. Authority occurs when we assume that broad patterns exist even when our observations have been limited.
   False; Easy

9. Ontology deals with research questions about "how" we know what is, rather than "what is."
   False; Easy

10. A person's ontological perspective shapes her or his beliefs about the nature of reality.
    True; Easy

11. Epistemology deals with research questions about "what is", rather than "how" we know what is.
    False; Easy

12. The scientific study of human groups is better known as sociology.
    True; Easy

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13. Basic research is conducted for some purpose beyond or in addition to researcher interest.
False; Easy

14. Applied research is motivated solely by the researcher's interest.
False; Easy

15. Public sociology lies near the middle of the basic/applied continuum.
True; Easy

16. Qualitative methods of data collection can be represented by and condensed into numbers.
False; Easy

17. Sociology is a social science focused on patterns in society.
True; Easy

18. While individuals make up social patterns, every individual need not be a part of a pattern in order for a pattern to exist.
True; Easy

19. An individual's life is seldom shaped by social scientific research.
False; Easy

20. Evaluation research is the research conducted to assess the effects of specific programs or policies.
True; Easy

Multiple Choice Questions

21. Which of the following involves processes that are not deliberate?
    a. ontology
    b. authority
    c. contingent observation
    d. informal observation
    e. selective observation
    d; Easy

22. While conducting a research on the eating habits of kids aged between 5 and 8, Reuben accidently discovered that kids aged between 5 and 8 are emotionally attached to their parents than the kids aged below 5. Reuben's accidental discovery is an example of a(n):
    a. placebo effect
    b. authority observation
    c. contingent observation
    d. informal observation
    e. selective observation
    d; Moderate

23. Selective observation differs from informal observation in that selective observation
    a. makes observation without any systematic process for observing or assessing accuracy of what is observed.
    b. notices only patterns that one has experienced directly or wishes to find.
    c. assumes that broad patterns exist based on very limited observations.

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d. does not assume that broad patterns exist based on very limited observations.
e. involves research methods that are not deliberate.

b; Moderate

24. Which of the following is true of informal observation?
    a. It is a systematic process of observing a process or group of people.
    b. It is seldom shaped by the beliefs and values of the researcher.
    c. It is a way of knowing that attempts to systematically collect and categorize facts or truths.
    d. It rarely contributes to the research fraternity.
    e. It occurs when observations are made without any preconceived system or process.

    e; Easy

25. Which of the following is an example of an informal observation?
    a. John in his research study on women and their driving habits reported that women are skeptical drivers while driving in crowded streets.
    b. While conducting a research on the market demand for bedspreads, Deborah–a market research analyst–stumbled upon the information that the market demand for toilet accessories are in greater demand than bedspreads.
    c. While conducting a research on teens and their drinking habits, Benny–a psychologist–observed that all teens after turning 18 consume alcohol at a greater rate than their parents.
    d. Sue, a trade market analyst, predicts the trends observed in the market based on the performances of few multinational corporations.
    e. Kelly who works in the sales department of Oscorp Inc., a gaming console manufacturer, observed that the demand in the market for gaming consoles from Oscorp Inc. showed a steep decline.

    b; Hard

26. Informal observation differs from selective observation in that informal observation
    a. makes observation without any systematic process for observing or assessing accuracy of what is observed.
    b. notices only patterns that one has experienced directly or wishes to find.
    c. assumes that broad patterns exist based on very limited observations.
    d. does not assume that broad patterns exist based on very limited observations.
    e. attempts to systematically collect and categorize facts or truths.

    a; Moderate

27. _____ is the assumption that broad patterns exist based on very limited observations.
    a. Temporality
    b. Authority
    c. Ontology
    d. Epistemology
    e. Overgeneralization

    e; Easy

28. Based on few experiences, Connor assumed that all the respondents in his research study are generally stressed because they are addicted to smoking. Connor's assumption is an example of:
    a. ornithology
    b. authority

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c. overgeneralization
d. ontology
e. epistemology
c; Moderate

29. ____ is known as a socially defined source of knowledge.
a. Belief
b. Authority
c. Value
d. Inheritance
e. Intuition
b; Easy

30. Ontology differs from epistemology in that ontology
a. seldom deals with formal observational research.
b. does not deal with studies in sociology.
c. deals with studies in sociology.
d. deals with research questions of how we know what is.
e. deals with research questions about what is.
e; Moderate

31. A person's _____ perspective can shape their beliefs about what "is," or the actual nature of reality.
a. ontological
b. sociological
c. qualitative
d. quantitative
e. epistemological
a; Moderate

32. Epistemology differs from ontology in that epistemology
a. seldom deals with formal observational research.
b. does not deal with studies in sociology.
c. deals with studies in sociology.
d. deals with research questions of how we know what is.
e. deals with research questions about what is.
d; Moderate

33. _____ is a particular way of knowing that attempts to systematically collect and categorize facts or truths.
a. A value
b. A belief
c. Science
d. Religion
e. Informal observation
c; Easy

34. _____ is the scientific study of humans in groups.
a. Sociology
b. Ornithology
c. Zoology

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d. Botany
e. Ethology

a; Easy

35. Basic research differs from applied research in that basic research
    a. is motivated solely by researcher interest.
    b. is conducted for some purpose beyond or in addition to researcher interest.
    c. seldom deals with formal observational research.
    d. seldom deals with informal observational research.
    e. deals with the scientific study of humans in groups.

    a; Moderate

36. Which of the following is true of basic research?
    a. It is often client focused.
    b. In sociology, basic research is sociology for sociology's sake.
    c. It is seldom motivated solely by researcher interest.
    d. It lies somewhere in between applied research and public sociology.
    e. It seldom collects facts or truths systematically.

    b; Easy

37. Applied research differs from basic research in that applied research
    a. is motivated solely by researcher interest.
    b. is conducted for some purpose beyond researcher interest.
    c. seldom deals with formal observational research.
    d. seldom deals with informal observational research.
    e. deals with the scientific study of humans in groups.

    b; Moderate

38. Which of the following is true of applied research?
    a. It is often client focused.
    b. In sociology, applied research is sociology for sociology's sake.
    c. It is motivated solely by researcher interest.
    d. It lies somewhere in between basic research and public sociology.
    e. It seldom collects facts or truths systematically.

    a; Easy

39. Which of the following accurately describes a researcher whose main purpose is to understand the consequences of industrialization?
    a. a gatekeeper
    b. a philosopher
    c. a public sociologist
    d. an epistemologist
    e. an ontologist

    c; Easy

40. Qualitative research differs from quantitative research in that qualitative research:
    a. collects data that yields results such as words or pictures.
    b. collects data that can be represented by and condensed into numbers.
    c. collects data that aims at gaining a shallow understanding about the research topic.
    d. is a data collection method that focuses on a large number of cases.
    e. is a data collection method that uses questionnaires to gather data.

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a; Easy

41. Quantitative research differs from qualitative research in that quantitative research:
    a. collects data that yields results such as words or pictures.
    b. collects data that can be represented by and condensed into numbers.
    c. collects data that aims at gaining a shallow understanding about the research topic.
    d. is a data collection method that focuses on a large number of cases.
    e. is a data collection method that uses questionnaires to gather data.

    b; Moderate

42. Which of the following is true of qualitative research?
    a. It aims to gain an in-depth understanding of a relatively small number of cases.
    b. It results in data that can be represented by and condensed into numbers.
    c. It seldom involves the use of selective observations.
    d. It seldom involves the use of informal observations.
    e. It offers less depth but more breadth because it typically focuses on a larger number of cases.

    a; Easy

43. Which of the following is true of quantitative research?
    a. It aims to gain an in-depth understanding of a relatively small number of cases.
    b. It collects data that yield results such as words or pictures.
    c. It seldom involves the use of selective observations.
    d. It seldom involves the use of informal observations.
    e. It offers less depth but more breadth because it typically focuses on a larger number of cases.

    e; Easy

44. Which of the following is true of the considerations that social scientists should be aware of?
    a. Social science is seldom concerned with patterns in society.
    b. While individuals make up patterns, every individual need not be a part of a pattern in order for a pattern to exist.
    c. Sociological research projects do not fall on a continuum from basic research to public sociology to applied research.
    d. Qualitative methods are those that yield data such as numbers; quantitative methods are those that yield data such as words or pictures.
    e. Epistemology is an analytic philosophy concerning the nature of reality; ontology is an analytic philosophy concerning how we know what we know.

    b; Moderate

45. The plaintiffs of a gender bias suit enlisted Professor Rebecca to conduct an analysis of B&G Inc's personnel policies in order to support their claim that B&G engages in gender discriminatory practices. Rebecca's analysis shows that B&G Inc's compensation and promotion decisions may indeed have been vulnerable to gender bias. This gender bias suit is an example of
    a. available employment opportunities.
    b. ontology versus epistemology.
    c. sociological research in action.
    d. qualitative research versus quantitative research.
    e. the assumption that broad patterns exist based on very limited observations.

    c; Moderate

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46. What is evaluation research?
    a. It is conducted to assess the effects of specific programs or policies.
    b. It is the assumption that broad patterns exist based on very limited observations.
    c. It is the observations made without any systematic process for observing or assessing accuracy of what is observed.
    d. It is an interdisciplinary review committee tasked with protecting the rights of human research subjects.
    e. It is a subject's voluntary agreement to participate in research based on a full understanding of the research.

    a; Easy

47. What is General Social Survey?
    a. It is a type of research conducted to assess the effects of specific programs or policies.
    b. It is a way of collecting data that yield results such as words or pictures.
    c. It is a way of collecting data that can be represented by and condensed into numbers.
    d. It is one of the largest sources of social scientific data in the United States.
    e. It is the application of sociological theories and research to matters of public interest.

    d; Easy

Short Answer Questions

48. What are the different ways of gaining knowledge?
    Informal observation—Occurs when we make observations without any systematic process for observing or assessing accuracy of what we observed.
    Selective observation—Occurs when we see only those patterns that we want to see or when we assume that only the patterns we have experienced directly exist.
    Overgeneralization—Occurs when we assume that broad patterns exist even when our observations have been limited.
    Authority—A socially defined source of knowledge that might shape our own beliefs about what is true and what is not true.
    Research methods—An organized, logical way of learning and knowing about our social world.
    Easy

49. What is ontology and epistemology?
    Ontology refers to one's analytic philosophy of the nature of reality. In sociology, a researcher's ontological position might shape the sorts of research questions they ask and how those questions are posed.
    Like ontology, epistemology has to do with knowledge. But rather than dealing with questions about what is, epistemology deals with questions of how we know what is.
    Easy

50. Describe what the phrase "sociology is a social science" means.
    Sociology uses organized and intentional procedures to uncover facts or truths about society. Sociologists study how individuals shape, are shaped by, and create and maintain their social groups.
    Easy

51. Describe the specific considerations of which social scientists should be aware.
    - Social science is concerned with patterns in society.

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- While individuals make up patterns, every individual need not be a part of a pattern in order for a pattern to exist.
- Sociological research projects typically rest somewhere on a continuum from basic research to public sociology to applied research.
- Qualitative methods are those that yield data such as words or pictures; quantitative methods are those that yield data such as numbers.

Moderate

52. Define basic and applied research.
Basic research is the research that is motivated solely by researcher interest. In sociology, basic research is sociology for sociology's sake.
In sociology, applied research refers to sociology that is conducted for some purpose beyond or in addition to a researcher's interest in a topic. Applied research is often client focused, meaning that the researcher is investigating a question posed by someone other than her or himself.
Easy

53. What is public sociology?
Public sociology refers to the application of sociological theories and research to matters of public interest.
Easy

54. Differentiate qualitative from quantitative methods of data collection.
Qualitative methods aim to gain an in-depth understanding of a relatively small number of cases, while quantitative methods offer less depth but more breadth because they typically focus on a much larger number of cases.
Easy

55. Write a brief note on General Social Survey.
The General Social Survey (GSS) is one of the largest sources of social scientific data in the United States. Since 1972, GSS researchers have collected data on social trends, demographics, behaviors, beliefs, and change using survey interview techniques.
Easy

56. Give two reasons why students should care about social scientific research methods.
- Research methods are regularly applied to solve social problems and issues that shape how our society is organized, thus we have to live with the results of research methods every day of our life.
- Understanding research methods might actually help students land a job.

Easy

Fill in the Blanks

57. Observing only patters that one wishes to find or has actually experienced is _____.
selective observation; Easy

58. _____ is a socially defined source of knowledge which could shape our beliefs regarding what it or is not true.
Authority; Easy

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59. _____ refers to one's analytic philosophy of the nature of reality.
Ontology; Easy

60. Rather than dealing with research questions about what is, _____ deals with questions of how we know what is.
epistemology; Easy

61. _____ is a particular way of knowing that attempts to systematically collect and categorize facts or truths.
Science; Easy

62. _____ is research that is motivated solely by researcher interest.
Basic research; Easy

63. The application of sociological theories and research to matters of public interest is _____.
public sociology; Easy

64. When research is conducted with the goal of assessing the effects of specific policies or programs, that is _____.
evaluation research; Easy

65. _____ are ways of collecting data that can be represented by and condensed into numbers.
Quantitative methods; Easy

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