

✓ Chapter 1

1. The hindsight bias refers to people's tendency to
 - A. dismiss the value of replication.
 - B. reject any ideas that can't be scientifically tested.
 - C. exaggerate their ability to have foreseen an outcome.
 - D. overestimate the extent to which others share their opinions.

Answer: C

2. The perception that psychological research findings merely verify our commonsense understanding is most clearly facilitated by
 - A. illusory correlations.
 - B. hindsight bias.
 - C. operational definitions.
 - D. the placebo effect.

Answer: B

3. Giving half the members of a group some purported psychological finding and the other half an opposite result is an easy way to demonstrate the impact of
 - A. the placebo effect.
 - B. illusory correlation.
 - C. hindsight bias.
 - D. the double-blind procedure.

Answer: C

4. Professor Smith told one class that drinking alcohol has been found to increase sexual desire. He informed another class that drinking alcohol has been found to reduce sexual appetite. The fact that neither class was surprised by the information they received best illustrates the power of
 - A. replication.
 - B. hindsight bias.
 - C. the double-blind procedure.
 - D. the placebo effect.

Answer: B

5. Several weeks after a political election, voters often exaggerate their ability to have predicted the election outcome. This best illustrates
 - A. the placebo effect.
 - B. random assignment.
 - C. illusory correlation.
 - D. hindsight bias.

Answer: D

6. Mike Crampton's stockbroker has informed him that he has suffered substantial investment losses. When Mike tells his wife, she angrily responds, "I could have told you that your investment plan would fail!" Her comment best illustrates
- A. hindsight bias.
 - B. illusory correlation.
 - C. the placebo effect.
 - D. replication.

Answer: A

7. The scientific attitude of humility is most likely to be undermined by
- A. hindsight bias.
 - B. correlational evidence.
 - C. random assignment.
 - D. operational definitions.

Answer: A

8. Formulating testable hypotheses before conducting research is most directly useful for restraining a thinking error known as
- A. random sampling.
 - B. hindsight bias.
 - C. illusory correlation.
 - D. random assignment.

Answer: B

9. Our tendency to believe we know more than we do illustrates
- A. naturalistic observation.
 - B. illusory correlation.
 - C. overconfidence.
 - D. the standard deviation.

Answer: C

10. Political officials who have no doubt that their own economic and military predictions will come true most clearly demonstrate
- A. illusory correlation.
 - B. random sampling.
 - C. overconfidence.
 - D. the placebo effect.

Answer: C

11. Megan was certain that she would never live far away from her family. However, when offered a better job in another state, she decided to move. Megan's experience best illustrates

- A. hindsight bias.
- B. illusory correlation.
- C. the placebo effect.
- D. overconfidence.

Answer: D

12. Hindsight bias and overconfidence often lead us to overestimate

- A. the placebo effect.
- B. wording effects.
- C. the standard deviation.
- D. our intuition.

Answer: D

13. By testing their predictions with the observational method of science, psychologists are using a(n)

- A. correlation coefficient.
- B. empirical approach.
- C. standard deviation.
- D. independent variable.

Answer: B

14. Three key attitudes of scientific inquiry are

- A. pride, enthusiasm, and ingenuity.
- B. ingenuity, practicality, and certainty.
- C. certainty, creativity, and curiosity.
- D. curiosity, skepticism, and humility.

Answer: D

15. Rodesia insists that Dr. Phillip's theory of aggression be checked against observable evidence. She is demonstrating the scientific attitude of

- A. pride.
- B. skepticism.
- C. practicality.
- D. enthusiasm.

Answer: B

16. The scientific attitude requires an open-minded humility because it involves a willingness to

- A. perceive order in random events.
- B. reject any ideas that can't be scientifically tested.
- C. recognize the errors in our own ideas.
- D. respect political beliefs that contradict our own.

Answer: C

17. A questioning attitude regarding psychologists' assumptions and hidden values best illustrates

- A. replication.
- B. critical thinking.
- C. hindsight bias.
- D. overconfidence.

Answer: B

18. Assessing whether conclusions are warranted by the existing evidence best illustrates

- A. critical thinking.
- B. naturalistic observation.
- C. the placebo effect.
- D. the double-blind procedure.

Answer: A

19. When you question whether anecdotal evidence can be generalized to all people, you are applying

- A. the placebo effect.
- B. hindsight bias.
- C. random assignment.
- D. critical thinking.

Answer: D

20. Professor Shalet contends that parents and children have similar levels of intelligence largely because they share common genes. His idea is best described as a(n)

- A. theory.
- B. replication.
- C. naturalistic observation.
- D. illusory correlation.

Answer: A

21. The explanatory power of a scientific theory is most closely linked to its capacity to generate testable

- A. assumptions.
- B. correlations.
- C. predictions.
- D. variables.

Answer: C

22. A hypothesis is a(n)

- A. observable relationship between specific independent and dependent variables.
- B. testable prediction that gives direction to research.
- C. set of principles that organizes observations and explains newly discovered facts.
- D. unprovable assumption about the unobservable processes that underlie psychological functioning.

Answer: B

23. Professor Delano suggests that because people are especially attracted to those who are good-looking, handsome men will be more successful than average-looking men in getting a job. The professor's prediction regarding employment success is an example of
- A. the hindsight bias.
 - B. the placebo effect.
 - C. a hypothesis.
 - D. illusory correlation.

Answer: C

24. A statement describing how a researcher measures a research variable is known as a(n)
- A. hypothesis.
 - B. control condition.
 - C. replication.
 - D. operational definition.

Answer: D

25. In a written report of their research, psychologists specify exactly how anxiety is assessed, thus providing their readers with a(n)
- A. hypothesis.
 - B. independent variable.
 - C. operational definition.
 - D. standard deviation.

Answer: C

26. Replication of a research study is most likely to be facilitated by
- A. hindsight bias.
 - B. illusory correlation.
 - C. operational definitions.
 - D. the placebo effect.

Answer: C

27. Which technique involves repeating the essence of an earlier research study with different participants and in different circumstances?
- A. replication
 - B. random sampling
 - C. naturalistic observation
 - D. the double-blind procedure

Answer: A

28. Professor Ambra was skeptical about the accuracy of recently reported research on sleep deprivation. Which

process would best enable her to assess the reliability of these findings?

- A. naturalistic observation
- B. replication
- C. random sampling
- D. the case study

Answer: B

29. The case study is a research method in which

- A. a single individual is studied in great depth.
- B. a representative sample of people are questioned regarding their opinions or behaviors.
- C. organisms are carefully observed in a laboratory environment.
- D. an investigator manipulates one or more variables that might affect behavior.

Answer: A

30. To understand the unusual behavior of an adult client, a clinical psychologist carefully investigates the client's current life situation and his physical, social-cultural, and educational history. Which research method has the psychologist used?

- A. the survey
- B. the case study
- C. experimentation
- D. naturalistic observation

Answer: B

31. The biggest danger of relying on case-study evidence is that it

- A. is based on naturalistic observation.
- B. may be unrepresentative of what is generally true.
- C. overestimates the importance of operational definitions.
- D. leads us to underestimate the causal relationships between events.

Answer: B

32. In which type of research is a representative, random sample of people asked to answer questions about their behaviors or attitudes?

- A. experimentation
- B. the survey
- C. the case study
- D. naturalistic observation

Answer: B

33. Which research method would be most appropriate for investigating the relationship between the religious beliefs of Americans and their attitudes toward abortion?

- A. the survey
- B. naturalistic observation

- C. the case study
- D. experimentation

Answer: A

34. Surveys indicate that people are much less likely to support “welfare” than “aid to the needy.” These somewhat paradoxical survey results best illustrate the importance of
- A. random sampling.
 - B. wording effects.
 - C. the placebo effect.
 - D. naturalistic observation.

Answer: B

35. People often fail to make accurate generalizations because they are unduly influenced by _____ cases.
- A. randomly selected
 - B. vivid
 - C. representative
 - D. operationally defined

Answer: B

36. After noting that a majority of professional basketball players are African-American, Ervin concluded that African-Americans are better athletes than members of other racial groups. Ervin's conclusion best illustrates the danger of
- A. replication.
 - B. hindsight bias.
 - C. the placebo effect.
 - D. generalizing from vivid cases.

Answer: D

37. Governor Donovan was greeted by large, enthusiastic crowds at all of his political rallies. As a result, he became overconfident about his chances of re-election. In this instance, the governor needs to be alerted to the value of
- A. replication.
 - B. random sampling.
 - C. experimental control.
 - D. naturalistic observation.

Answer: B

38. Which of the following is most useful for helping survey researchers avoid false generalizations?
- A. the case study
 - B. naturalistic observation
 - C. random sampling
 - D. operational definitions

Answer: C

- 39.** To learn about the TV viewing habits of all the children attending Oakbridge School, Professor DeVries randomly selected and interviewed 50 of the school's students. In this instance, all the children attending the school are considered to be a(n)
- A.** population.
 - B.** representative sample.
 - C.** independent variable.
 - D.** control condition.

Answer: A

- 40.** To assess reactions to a proposed tuition hike at her school, Ariana sent a questionnaire to every fifteenth person in the registrar's alphabetical listing of all currently enrolled students. Ariana is ensuring that her survey results are accurate by using
- A.** random assignment.
 - B.** naturalistic observation.
 - C.** replication.
 - D.** random sampling.

Answer: D

- 41.** In a survey, psychologists select a random sample of research participants in order to ensure that
- A.** the participants are representative of the population they are interested in studying.
 - B.** there will be a large number of participants in the research study.
 - C.** the study will not be influenced by the researcher's personal values.
 - D.** the same number of participants will be assigned to each of the experimental conditions.

Answer: A

- 42.** Psychologists who carefully watch the behavior of chimpanzee societies in the jungle are using a research method known as
- A.** the survey.
 - B.** experimentation.
 - C.** naturalistic observation.
 - D.** the case study.

Answer: C

- 43.** Professor Ober carefully observes and records the behaviors of children in their classrooms in order to track the development of their social and intellectual skills. Professor Ober is most clearly engaged in
- A.** survey research.
 - B.** naturalistic observation.
 - C.** experimentation.
 - D.** replication.

Answer: B

44. University of Texas students were fitted with belt-worn tape recorders for up to four days so that researchers could sample their daily activities. The researchers employed a scientific method known as
- A. naturalistic observation.
 - B. the double-blind procedure.
 - C. the standard deviation.
 - D. the case study.

Answer: A

45. To compare the pace of life in different countries, investigators measured the speed with which postal clerks completed a simple request. Which research method did this illustrate?
- A. the case study
 - B. naturalistic observation
 - C. the double-blind procedure
 - D. the survey

Answer: B

46. Correlation is a measure of the extent to which two variables
- A. vary together.
 - B. are random samples.
 - C. influence each other.
 - D. show statistically significant differences.

Answer: A

47. Correlational research is most useful for purposes of
- A. explanation.
 - B. prediction.
 - C. control.
 - D. replication.

Answer: B

48. To discover the extent to which economic status can be used to predict political preferences, researchers are most likely to use
- A. the case study approach.
 - B. naturalistic observation.
 - C. correlational measures.
 - D. experimental research.

Answer: C

49. Which of the following is a statistical measure of both the direction and the strength of a relationship between two variables?
- A. correlation coefficient
 - B. standard deviation

- C. range
- D. mean

Answer: A

50. To determine whether the strength of people's self-esteem is related to their income levels, researchers would most likely make use of
- A. case studies.
 - B. correlational research.
 - C. experimentation.
 - D. naturalistic observation.

Answer: B

51. To represent graphically the correlation between two variables, researchers often construct a
- A. skewed distribution.
 - B. scatterplot.
 - C. standard deviation.
 - D. bar graph.

Answer: B

52. A researcher would be most likely to discover a positive correlation between
- A. intelligence and academic success.
 - B. financial poverty and physical health.
 - C. self-esteem and depression.
 - D. school grades and school absences.

Answer: A

53. If psychologists discovered that wealthy people are less satisfied with their marriages than poor people are, this would indicate that wealth and marital satisfaction are
- A. causally related.
 - B. negatively correlated.
 - C. independent variables.
 - D. positively correlated.

Answer: B

54. If the correlation between the physical weight and reading ability of children is +0.85, this would indicate that
- A. there is very little statistical relationship between weight and reading ability among children.
 - B. low body weight has a negative effect on the reading abilities of children.
 - C. better reading ability is associated with greater physical weight among children.
 - D. body weight has no causal influence on the reading abilities of children.

Answer: C

55. A correlation between physical attractiveness and dating frequency of +0.60 would indicate that

- A. physical attractiveness has no causal influence on dating frequency.
- B. more frequent dating is associated with lower levels of physical attractiveness.
- C. it is impossible to predict levels of physical attractiveness based on knowledge of dating frequency.
- D. less frequent dating is associated with lower levels of physical attractiveness.

Answer: D

56. If the points on a scatterplot are clustered in a pattern that extends from the upper left to the lower right, this would suggest that the two variables depicted are
- A. normally distributed.
 - B. positively correlated.
 - C. negatively correlated.
 - D. not correlated.

Answer: C

57. Which of the following correlations between self-esteem and body weight would enable you to most accurately predict body weight from knowledge of level of self-esteem?
- A. +0.60
 - B. +0.01
 - C. -0.10
 - D. -0.06

Answer: A

58. Which of the following correlation coefficients expresses the weakest degree of relationship between two variables?
- A. -0.12
 - B. -0.99
 - C. +0.25
 - D. -0.50

Answer: A

59. Suppose that people who watch a lot of violence on TV are also particularly likely to behave aggressively. This relationship would NOT necessarily indicate that watching violence influences aggressive behavior because
- A. random sequences often don't look random.
 - B. correlation does not prove causation.
 - C. sampling extreme cases leads to false generalizations.
 - D. events often seem more probable in hindsight.

Answer: B

60. An extensive survey revealed that children with relatively high self-esteem tend to picture God as kind and loving, whereas those with lower self-esteem tend to perceive God as angry. The researchers concluded that the children's self-esteem had apparently influenced their views of God. This conclusion best illustrates the danger of
- A. perceiving order in random events.

- B. generalizing from extreme examples.
- C. exaggerating the extent to which others share our beliefs.
- D. assuming that association proves causation.

Answer: D

61. If psychologists discovered that more intelligent parents have smarter children than less intelligent parents, this would demonstrate that
- A. intelligence is inherited.
 - B. more intelligent parents provide their children with greater educational opportunities than do less intelligent parents.
 - C. the intelligence of parents and children is positively correlated.
 - D. all of these statements are correct.

Answer: C

62. A negative correlation between degree of wealth and likelihood of suffering from a psychological disorder would indicate that
- A. poverty makes people vulnerable to psychological disorders.
 - B. people who are poor are more likely to have a psychological disorder than are wealthy people.
 - C. psychological disorders usually prevent people from accumulating wealth.
 - D. all of these statements are correct.

Answer: B

63. Illusory correlation refers to
- A. the perception of a relationship between two variables that does not exist.
 - B. a correlation that exceeds the value of +1.00.
 - C. a random cluster of points on a scatterplot.
 - D. a correlation that is not statistically significant.

Answer: A

64. Karen mistakenly believes that her test grades are negatively correlated with the amount of time she studies for her tests. Research on illusory correlation suggests that she is especially likely to notice instances in which
- A. poor grades follow either brief study or lengthy study.
 - B. either poor grades or good grades follow lengthy study.
 - C. good grades follow lengthy study and poor grades follow brief study.
 - D. poor grades follow lengthy study and good grades follow brief study.

Answer: D

65. The perception that seemingly infertile couples who adopt a child are subsequently more likely to conceive a child themselves best illustrates
- A. the process of replication.
 - B. random assignment.
 - C. an illusory correlation.

D. the placebo effect.

Answer: C

66. Our tendency to notice and remember instances in which a premonition of an unlikely phone call is actually followed by the call most clearly contributes to

- A. random assignment.
- B. an illusory correlation.
- C. replication.
- D. the placebo effect.

Answer: B

67. Akira dreamed that a handsome young man she had met the previous day asked her for a date. When he actually did call for a date several days later, Akira concluded that dreams accurately predict future events. Her belief best illustrates

- A. the placebo effect.
- B. an illusory correlation.
- C. random assignment.
- D. replication.

Answer: B

68. If the total number of boys and girls born each year is exactly equal, which of the following would be the most likely sequence of boys (B) and girls (G) for the next six births?

- A. G G G G G G
- B. G G G B B B
- C. G B G B B G
- D. All of these sequences are equally likely.

Answer: D

69. On a series of coin tosses, Oleg has correctly predicted heads or tails seven times in a row. In this instance, we can reasonably conclude that Oleg's predictive accuracy

- A. defies the laws of statistical probability.
- B. illustrates the phenomenon of illusory correlation.
- C. is inconsistent with the placebo effect.
- D. is a random and coincidental occurrence.

Answer: D

70. Six of the children in Mr. Myer's class were born on exactly the same day. This strikes him as astonishing and improbable. In this instance, he should be reminded that

- A. random sequences of events often don't look random.
- B. events often seem more probable in hindsight.
- C. sampling extreme cases leads to false generalizations.
- D. the median is typically smaller than the mean.

Answer: A

71. To find out whether breast-milk feeding contributes to the intellectual development of children, psychologists used
- A. case studies.
 - B. surveys.
 - C. naturalistic observations.
 - D. experiments.

Answer: D

72. Which of the following methods is most helpful for revealing cause-effect relationships?
- A. the survey
 - B. the experiment
 - C. correlational research
 - D. naturalistic observation

Answer: B

73. Researchers use experiments rather than other research methods in order to distinguish between
- A. facts and theories.
 - B. causes and effects.
 - C. case studies and surveys.
 - D. random samples and representative samples.

Answer: B

74. Which research method provides the best way of assessing whether cigarette smoking boosts mental alertness?
- A. the case study
 - B. the survey
 - C. naturalistic observation
 - D. the experiment

Answer: D

75. In which type of research would an investigator manipulate one factor in order to observe its effect on some behavior or mental process?
- A. the survey
 - B. the case study
 - C. experimentation
 - D. naturalistic observation

Answer: C

76. In a test of the effects of sleep deprivation on problem-solving skills, research participants are allowed to sleep either 4 or 8 hours on each of three consecutive nights. This research is an example of
- A. naturalistic observation.

- B. survey research.
- C. a case study.
- D. an experiment.

Answer: D

77. Being randomly assigned to the experimental group in a research project involves being assigned
- A. to that group by chance.
 - B. to the group in which participants are representative of people in general.
 - C. in a fashion that ensures that the independent variable will have a strong effect on the dependent variable.
 - D. to the group in which participants are all very similar in personality characteristics.

Answer: A

78. To accurately infer cause and effect, experimenters should use
- A. random assignment.
 - B. naturalistic observation.
 - C. case studies.
 - D. correlation coefficients.

Answer: A

79. To assess the impact of test difficulty on persistence of effort, researchers plan to give one group of children relatively easy tests and another group more difficult tests. To reduce the chance that the children in one group are more intelligent than those in the other group, the researchers should make use of
- A. random assignment.
 - B. the double-blind procedure.
 - C. naturalistic observations.
 - D. operational definitions.

Answer: A

80. Research participants are randomly assigned to different groups in an experiment in order to
- A. reduce the likelihood that participants within any group know each other.
 - B. increase the likelihood that research participants are representative of people in general.
 - C. reduce the likelihood of any preexisting differences between groups of participants.
 - D. increase the likelihood that the different groups have the same number of participants.

Answer: C

81. The most foolproof way of testing whether a newly introduced method of psychological therapy is truly effective is to use
- A. survey research.
 - B. naturalistic observation.
 - C. correlational research.
 - D. experimental research.

Answer: D

82. Participants in an experiment are said to be *blind* if they are uninformed about
- A. the experimental hypothesis being tested.
 - B. whether the experimental findings will be statistically significant.
 - C. how the dependent variable is measured.
 - D. which experimental treatment, if any, they are receiving.

Answer: D

83. Both the researchers and the participants in a memory study are ignorant about which participants have actually received a potentially memory-enhancing drug and which have received a placebo. This investigation involves the use of
- A. naturalistic observation.
 - B. random sampling.
 - C. the double-blind procedure.
 - D. replication.

Answer: C

84. Commonly used in drug-evaluation studies, _____ ensures that research participants' belief in a drug's healing powers will not bias the results
- A. random sampling
 - B. the double-blind procedure
 - C. random assignment
 - D. operational definitions

Answer: B

85. The group exposed to a newly created drug that is being tested in an experiment is called the _____ group.
- A. control.
 - B. standardized
 - C. baseline
 - D. experimental

Answer: D

86. An inert substance that may be administered instead of a drug to see if it produces any of the same effects as the drug is called a
- A. placebo.
 - B. median.
 - C. case study.
 - D. replication.

Answer: A

87. In a study of the effects of drinking alcohol, some participants drank a nonalcoholic beverage that actually smelled and tasted like alcohol. This nonalcoholic drink was a

- A. dependent variable.
- B. replication.
- C. placebo.
- D. double blind.

Answer: C

88. If research participants given an inert substance that is presumed to have medicinal benefits experience pain relief, this illustrates
- A. random assignment.
 - B. hindsight bias.
 - C. an illusory correlation.
 - D. the placebo effect.

Answer: D

89. The placebo effect best illustrates the impact of _____ on feelings and behaviors.
- A. the double-blind procedure
 - B. random sampling
 - C. positive expectations
 - D. statistical significance

Answer: C

90. Which of the following is true for those assigned to a control group?
- A. The experimenter exerts the greatest influence on participants' behavior.
 - B. The research participants are exposed to all the different experimental treatments.
 - C. The research participants are exposed to the most favorable levels of experimental treatment.
 - D. The experimental treatment is absent.

Answer: D

91. To study the potential effects of social interaction on problem solving, some research participants were instructed to solve problems working together; other participants were told to solve problems working alone. Those who worked alone were assigned to the _____ group.
- A. experimental
 - B. survey
 - C. control
 - D. correlational

Answer: C

92. Random assignment minimizes _____ between experimental and control groups. Random sampling minimizes _____ between a sample and a population.
- A. similarities; differences
 - B. differences; similarities
 - C. similarities; similarities

D. differences; differences

Answer: D

93. In an experimental study, men with erectile dysfunction received either Viagra or a placebo. In this study, the drug dosage (none versus peak dose) was the

- A.** random sample.
- B.** dependent variable.
- C.** standard deviation.
- D.** independent variable.

Answer: D

94. In a psychological experiment, the experimental factor that is manipulated by the investigator is called the _____ variable.

- A.** dependent
- B.** independent
- C.** control
- D.** experimental

Answer: B

95. In an experimental study of the effects of anxiety on self-esteem, anxiety would be the _____ variable.

- A.** experimental
- B.** dependent
- C.** correlational
- D.** independent

Answer: D

96. In a psychological experiment, the factor that may be influenced by the manipulated experimental treatment is called the _____ variable.

- A.** dependent
- B.** experimental
- C.** control
- D.** independent

Answer: A

97. To assess the influence of self-esteem on interpersonal attraction, researchers either insulted or complimented students about their physical appearance just before they went on a blind date. In this research, the dependent variable was

- A.** insults or compliments.
- B.** physical appearance.
- C.** interpersonal attraction.
- D.** feelings of self-esteem.

Answer: C

98. An experiment was designed to study the potential impact of alcohol consumption on emotional stability. A specification of the procedures used to measure emotional stability illustrates
- A. the independent variable.
 - B. an operational definition.
 - C. the double-blind procedure.
 - D. random assignment.

Answer: B

99. Any factor such as infant nutrition which can vary in its quality or quantity is called a
- A. sample.
 - B. median.
 - C. variable.
 - D. coefficient.

Answer: C

100. Which research method assesses how well one variable predicts another without specifying a cause and effect relationship between the variables?
- A. naturalistic observation
 - B. the correlational method
 - C. the case study
 - D. the experimental method

Answer: B

101. Statistics are tools that help us to avoid
- A. operational definitions.
 - B. random sampling.
 - C. illusory correlations.
 - D. random assignment.

Answer: C

102. The average price for different brands of toothpaste could be visually displayed in a
- A. correlation coefficient.
 - B. scatterplot.
 - C. standard deviation.
 - D. bar graph.

Answer: D

103. When you read a bar graph, it is most important for you to
- A. mentally transform the data into a scatterplot.
 - B. identify the value of the standard deviation.
 - C. note the range and size of the scale values.

D. remember that correlation facilitates prediction.

Answer: C

104. The most frequently occurring score in a distribution of scores is the

- A.** mode.
- B.** median.
- C.** standard deviation.
- D.** mean.

Answer: A

105. In a group of five individuals, two report annual incomes of \$10,000, and the other three report incomes of \$14,000, \$15,000, and \$31,000, respectively. The mode of this group's distribution of annual incomes is

- A.** \$10,000.
- B.** \$15,000.
- C.** \$16,000.
- D.** \$31,000.

Answer: A

106. The mean of a distribution of scores is the

- A.** most frequently occurring score.
- B.** arithmetic average of all the scores.
- C.** least frequently occurring score.
- D.** score exceeded by 50 percent of all the scores.

Answer: B

107. Which measure of central tendency is used to calculate the average of your school grades?

- A.** standard deviation
- B.** median
- C.** mean
- D.** mode

Answer: C

108. Mr. and Mrs. Klostreich have six children aged 5, 6, 6, 7, 8, and 16. The mean age of the Klostreich children is

- A.** 5.
- B.** 6.
- C.** 7.
- D.** 8.

Answer: D

109. The median of a distribution of scores is the

- A.** most frequently occurring score.

- B. difference between the highest and lowest scores.
- C. arithmetic average of all the scores.
- D. middle score in a distribution of scores.

Answer: D

110. During the past year, Zara and Ivan each read 2 books, but George read 9, Ali read 12, and Marsha read 25. The median number of books read by these individuals was

- A. 2.
- B. 10.
- C. 12.
- D. 9.

Answer: D

111. When a statistical average is reported in the news, it is most important for readers to

- A. determine whether it is statistically significant.
- B. consider whether it is distorted by a few extreme cases.
- C. be sure that it describes a truly random sample.
- D. recognize the potential for illusory correlation.

Answer: B

112. Seven members of a boys' club reported the following individual earnings from their sale of cookies: \$2, \$9, \$8, \$10, \$4, \$9, and \$7. In this distribution of individual earnings

- A. the median is greater than the mean and greater than the mode.
- B. the median is less than the mean and less than the mode.
- C. the median is greater than the mean and less than the mode.
- D. the median is less than the mean and greater than the mode.

Answer: C

113. Seven members of a Girl Scout troop report the following individual earnings from their sale of candy: \$4, \$1, \$7, \$6, \$8, \$2, and \$7. In this distribution of individual earnings

- A. the mean is less than the mode and equal to the median.
- B. the mean is equal to the mode and greater than the median.
- C. the mean is greater than the mode and greater than the median.
- D. the mean is less than the mode and less than the median.

Answer: D

114. For which of the following distributions of scores would the median most clearly be a more appropriate measure of central tendency than the mean?

- A. 10, 22, 8, 9, 6
- B. 12, 6, 8, 5, 4
- C. 12, 15, 12, 9, 12
- D. 23, 7, 3, 27, 16

Answer: A

115. When Mr. Adams calculated his students' algebra test scores, he noticed that two students had extremely low scores. Which measure of central tendency is affected most by the scores of these two students?

- A. mean
- B. standard deviation
- C. mode
- D. median

Answer: A

116. A lopsided distribution of scores in which the mean is much larger than both the mode and median is said to be

- A. statistically significant.
- B. a random sample.
- C. a scatterplot.
- D. skewed.

Answer: D

117. Median is to range as central tendency is to _____.

- A. skewed distribution
- B. mode
- C. correlation
- D. variation

Answer: D

118. Central tendency is to variation as _____ is to _____.

- A. scatterplot; correlation
- B. range; skewed distribution
- C. mean; standard deviation
- D. median; mode

Answer: C

119. The difference between the highest and lowest scores in a distribution is the

- A. mean.
- B. range.
- C. median.
- D. standard deviation.

Answer: B

120. During the last Central High School basketball game, the starting five players scored 11, 7, 21, 14, and 7 points, respectively. For this distribution of scores, the range is

- A. 7.
- B. 11.

- C. 14.
- D. 21.

Answer: C

121. Which measure of variation is affected most by a few extreme scores?

- A. standard deviation
- B. mean
- C. median
- D. range

Answer: D

122. Which of the following is a measure of the degree of variation among a set of scores?

- A. mean
- B. scatterplot
- C. standard deviation
- D. correlation coefficient

Answer: C

123. Evelyn wants to know how consistent her bowling scores have been during the past season. Which of the following measures would tell her what she wants to know?

- A. mean
- B. median
- C. standard deviation
- D. correlation coefficient

Answer: C

124. The standard deviation is the square root of the average squared deviation of scores from the

- A. normal curve.
- B. median.
- C. mean.
- D. range.

Answer: C

125. On a 10-item test, three students in Professor Hsin's advanced chemistry seminar received scores of 2, 5, and 8, respectively. For this distribution of test scores, the standard deviation is equal to the square root of

- A. 4.
- B. 5.
- C. 6.
- D. 9

Answer: C

126. Although Dominick's psychology class is sometimes longer or shorter than usual, on the average each class is 50

minutes. If the lengths of these classes form a normal curve, which statistic would enable Dominick to estimate the probability that any single class will last somewhere between 47 and 53 minutes?

- A. range
- B. median
- C. correlation coefficient
- D. standard deviation

Answer: D

127. The symmetrical bellshaped figure used to represent the distribution of many physical and psychological characteristics is called a

- A. bar graph.
- B. normal curve.
- C. correlation.
- D. scatterplot.

Answer: B

128. A normal curve would approximate the distribution of

- A. males and females in the total American population.
- B. American children enrolled in each of the first through sixth grades.
- C. the physical heights of all American women.
- D. all of these data.

Answer: C

129. Approximately what percentage of the cases represented by the normal curve fall between -1 and $+1$ standard deviations from the mean?

- A. 16
- B. 34
- C. 68
- D. 95

Answer: C

130. If a set of standardized test scores is normally distributed, having a mean of 50 and a standard deviation of 10, approximately 68 percent of the group members receive scores somewhere between

- A. 50 and 60.
- B. 45 and 55.
- C. 40 and 60.
- D. 35 and 65.

Answer: C

131. Approximately 95 percent of the cases represented by the normal curve fall within _____ standard deviation(s) from the mean.
- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 5

Answer: B

132. Statistical reasoning can help us to generalize correctly from a
- A. range to a standard deviation.
 - B. standard deviation to a mean.
 - C. sample to a population.
 - D. scatterplot to a skewed distribution.

Answer: C

133. The precision with which a sample average approximates a population average increases as
- A. the standard deviation of the sample increases.
 - B. the standard deviation of the sample decreases.
 - C. the mean of the sample increases.
 - D. the mean of the sample decreases.

Answer: B

134. A sample average can be used to estimate a population average with greater precision if the sample is
- A. large.
 - B. a skewed distribution.
 - C. highly variable.
 - D. vivid and memorable.

Answer: A

135. Which of the following events is the most probable?
- A. flipping 6 or more heads in 10 coin flips
 - B. flipping 60 or more heads in 100 coin flips
 - C. flipping 600 or more heads in 1000 coin flips
 - D. All these events are equally probable.

Answer: A

- 136.** In a single day, 45 babies were born in hospital X, 65 babies in hospital Y, and 25 babies in hospital Z. At which hospital is there the greatest probability that more than 60 percent of the babies are of the same sex?
- A. hospital X
 - B. hospital Y
 - C. hospital Z
 - D. The probability is the same at all three hospitals.

Answer: C

- 137.** As the size of a representative sample increases, the _____ of that sample is most likely to decrease.
- A. range
 - B. mean
 - C. standard deviation
 - D. median

Answer: C

- 138.** Differences between two sample averages are most likely to be statistically significant if
- A. the difference between the samples is large.
 - B. the standard deviations of the samples are large.
 - C. both samples are drawn from the same population.
 - D. the sample means are larger than the sample medians.

Answer: A

- 139.** To decide whether observed differences between samples reflect actual differences between populations, you should determine the _____ of the observed differences.
- A. mean
 - B. median
 - C. standard deviation
 - D. statistical significance

Answer: D

- 140.** A statistically significant difference between two sample groups is NOT likely to be
- A. a reflection of differences between the populations they represent.
 - B. due to chance variation within and between the sample groups.
 - C. observed more than 5 percent of the time the groups are compared.
 - D. observed when the two groups are very large.

Answer: B

- 141.** To clarify whether a statistically significant difference is of any practical importance, researchers indicate a finding's
- A. predict human behavior in a variety of situations.
 - B. perceive order in completely random events.

- C. develop general principles that help explain behavior.
- D. observe random samples of human conduct.

Answer: C

142. The simplified reality of laboratory experiments is most helpful in enabling psychologists to

- A. predict human behavior in a variety of situations.
- B. perceive order in completely random events.
- C. develop general principles that help explain behavior.
- D. observe random samples of human conduct.

Answer: C

143. The enduring traditions, attitudes, and behaviors shared by a large group of people constitutes their

- A. culture.
- B. normal curve.
- C. wording effects.
- D. statistical significance.

Answer: A

144. Studying people of all races and cultures is most helpful for

- A. avoiding operational definitions.
- B. making psychology free of value judgments.
- C. discerning human similarities and differences.
- D. reducing the need for random assignment.

Answer: C

145. Psychological differences between the genders are

- A. of little interest to contemporary psychologists.
- B. simply reflections of biological differences between the sexes.
- C. no longer evident in contemporary Western societies.
- D. far outweighed by gender similarities.

Answer: D

146. Psychologists study animals because

- A. animal behavior is just as complex as human behavior.

- B. experiments on people are generally considered to be unethical.
- C. the ethical treatment of animals is not mandated by professional guidelines.
- D. similar processes often underlie animal and human behavior.

Answer: D

147. Some animal protection organizations want to replace the use of animals in research involving _____ with research involving _____.
- A. experimentation; replication
 - B. experimentation; naturalistic observation
 - C. case studies; naturalistic observation
 - D. random assignment; case studies

Answer: B

148. The first major issue that emerges in debates over experimenting on animals centers around the
- A. usefulness of studying biological processes in animals.
 - B. ethics of placing the well-being of humans above that of animals.
 - C. obligation to treat information about individual animals with confidentiality.
 - D. need to obtain the informed consent of animals used in research.

Answer: B

149. In an effort to prevent participants in an experiment from trying to confirm the researchers' predictions, psychologists sometimes
- A. obtain written promises from participants to respond honestly.
 - B. treat information about individual participants confidentially.
 - C. deceive participants about the true purpose of an experiment.
 - D. allow people to decide for themselves whether they want to participate in an experiment.

Answer: C

150. The American Psychological Association and British Psychological Society have developed ethical principles urging investigators to
- A. avoid the use of monetary incentives in recruiting people to participate in research.
 - B. forewarn potential research participants of the exact hypotheses that the research will test.
 - C. avoid the manipulation of independent variables in research involving human participants.
 - D. explain the research to the participants after the study has been completed.

Answer: D

151. Psychologists' personal values and goals
- A. are carefully tested by means of observation and experimentation.
 - B. lead them to avoid experiments involving human participants.
 - C. can bias their observations and interpretations.
 - D. have very little influence on the process of scientific observation.

Answer: C

152. The study of psychology is potentially dangerous because

- A. psychological knowledge can be used for destructive purposes.
- B. psychologists generally believe that people are not personally responsible for their actions.
- C. psychological research necessitates performing stressful experiments on people.
- D. psychological research typically violates personal privacy rights.

Answer: A

153. After the U.S. occupation of Iraq led to a civil war rather than a peaceful democracy, some commentators perceived the result as inevitable. This perception best illustrates

- A. the placebo effect.
- B. hindsight bias.
- C. illusory correlation.
- D. the standard deviation.

Answer: B

154. Hindsight bias most directly contributes to the perception that

- A. psychological theories are simply reflections of researchers' personal values.
- B. psychological experiments are simplified versions of reality.
- C. psychological theories and observations are merely common sense.
- D. psychology is potentially dangerous.

Answer: C

155. Hindsight bias leads people to perceive research findings as

- A. unpredictable.
- B. inexplicable.
- C. unreplicable.
- D. unsurprising.

Answer: D

156. Alexandra is told that research supports the value of cosmetic surgery for boosting self-esteem. Belinda is told that the esteem-enhancing value of cosmetic surgery has been refuted by research. Both women consider the research findings to be common sense. This best illustrates the power of

- A. the placebo effect.
- B. hindsight bias.
- C. illusory correlation.
- D. the double-blind procedure.

Answer: B

157. According to Emily's grandfather, Adolf Hitler's obvious emotional instability made it clear from the beginning days of his international conflicts that Germany would inevitably lose World War II. The grandfather's claim best illustrates

- A. hindsight bias.
- B. illusory correlation.
- C. naturalistic observation.
- D. random sampling.

Answer: A

- 158.** Dr. Donelian wants to reduce his students' perception that psychological experiments merely document the obvious. His best strategy would be to ask the students to
- A. describe how experimental hypotheses were derived from basic psychological principles.
 - B. predict the outcomes of experiments before they are told the actual results.
 - C. explain the outcomes of experiments after they are told the actual results.
 - D. personally engage in naturalistic observation.

Answer: B

- 159.** When provided with the unscrambled solutions to anagrams, people underestimate the difficulty of solving the anagrams. This best illustrates
- A. illusory correlation.
 - B. random assignment.
 - C. wording effects.
 - D. overconfidence.

Answer: D

- 160.** As students prepare for a test, they often believe that they understand the course material better than they actually do. This best illustrates
- A. overconfidence.
 - B. illusory correlation.
 - C. the placebo effect.
 - D. critical thinking.

Answer: A

- 161.** Thinking that she had outperformed most of her classmates, Glenda was surprised to receive just an average grade on her psychology test. Glenda's experience best illustrates
- A. overconfidence.
 - B. hindsight bias.
 - C. the placebo effect.
 - D. negative correlation.

Answer: A

- 162.** After predicting world events, such as whether Quebec would separate from Canada, experts maintained that they were "almost right." This attitude is an example of
- A. overconfidence.
 - B. scatterplots.

- C. random assignment.
- D. the double-blind procedure.

Answer: A

163. Which of the following is most likely to inhibit critical thinking?

- A. operational definitions
- B. overconfidence
- C. random assignment
- D. the double-blind procedure

Answer: B

164. Psychologists attempt to let the facts speak for themselves by using an approach that is best described as

- A. empirical.
- B. correlational.
- C. operational.
- D. naturalistic.

Answer: A

165. As scientists, psychologists adopt an attitude of skepticism because they believe that

- A. people are unlikely to reveal what they are really thinking.
- B. most commonsense ideas about human behavior are wrong.
- C. claims about human behavior need to be supported with evidence.
- D. events never occur randomly.

Answer: C

166. When psychologists insist that “the rat is always right,” they are emphasizing the scientific attitude of

- A. humility.
- B. respect for animals.
- C. ecological sensitivity.
- D. enthusiasm for animal research studies.

Answer: A

167. Critical thinkers can best be described as

- A. questioning.
- B. cynical.
- C. pessimistic.
- D. impatient.

Answer: A

168. Professor O'Brian has used correlational evidence to reach a potentially incorrect conclusion about a cause-effect relationship. Questioning the validity of drawing this conclusion from the evidence best illustrates

- A. critical thinking.
- B. the placebo effect.
- C. naturalistic observation.
- D. the double-blind procedure.

Answer: A

- 169.** An explanation using an integrated set of principles that organizes observations and predicts behaviors or events is called a(n)
- A. independent variable.
 - B. hypothesis.
 - C. theory.
 - D. scatterplot.

Answer: C

- 170.** According to Professor Fayad, we like people who like us because their affection for us boosts our own self-esteem. His idea is an example of
- A. illusory correlation.
 - B. hindsight bias.
 - C. replication.
 - D. a theory.

Answer: D

- 171.** Hypotheses are best described as
- A. assumptions.
 - B. replications.
 - C. explanations.
 - D. predictions.

Answer: D

- 172.** A statement describing how a researcher manipulates an independent variable is known as a(n)
- A. control condition.
 - B. replication.
 - C. operational definition.
 - D. hypothesis.

Answer: C

- 173.** In reporting the effect of drinking alcohol on self-consciousness, psychological researchers would specify exactly how they measured self-consciousness. They are thereby providing a(n)
- A. experimental hypothesis.
 - B. case study.
 - C. double-blind procedure.
 - D. operational definition.

Answer: D

174. Operational definitions are most likely to facilitate

- A. replication.
- B. illusory correlation.
- C. hindsight bias.
- D. the placebo effect.

Answer: A

175. Replication involves

- A. the selection of random samples.
- B. perceiving order in random events.
- C. repeating an earlier research study.
- D. rejecting ideas that cannot be scientifically tested.

Answer: C

176. To verify the reliability of a new scientific finding, psychological researchers are most likely to engage in

- A. naturalistic observation.
- B. random sampling.
- C. replication.
- D. positive correlation.

Answer: C

177. Professor Bolden claims that his experimental research demonstrates that eating an apple every day improves children's reading skills. How might he best offer further support for the reliability of this finding?

- A. replication
- B. naturalistic observation
- C. case studies
- D. correlational research

Answer: A

178. To better understand how brain malfunctions influence behavior, Dr. Mosher extensively and carefully observes and questions two stroke victims. Which research method is Dr. Mosher using?

- A. random sampling
- B. the survey
- C. the case study
- D. experimentation

Answer: C

179. Jean Piaget developed his ideas about children's thinking after carefully observing and questioning only a few children. Which research method did he use?

- A. the survey

- B. the double-blind procedure
- C. the case study
- D. experimentation

Answer: C

- 180.** Those who rely on the case-study method need to be especially alert to the dangers of
- A. hindsight bias.
 - B. replication.
 - C. random assignment.
 - D. false generalization.

Answer: D

- 181.** After carefully studying how three single parents dealt with the loss of their jobs, Dr. Phong began to overestimate the national rate of unemployment. In this instance, Dr. Phong should be warned that _____ may be misleading.
- A. surveys
 - B. case studies
 - C. dependent variables
 - D. random samples

Answer: B

- 182.** The survey is a research method in which
- A. individuals are carefully observed in their natural environments.
 - B. a representative, random sample of individuals are questioned regarding their attitudes or behaviors.
 - C. an individual is studied in great depth.
 - D. an investigator determines the extent to which two variables influence each other.

Answer: B

- 183.** Which of the following techniques would be the most effective way of investigating the relationship between the political attitudes and the economic status of North Americans?
- A. the survey
 - B. naturalistic observation
 - C. experimentation
 - D. the case study

Answer: A

- 184.** A majority of respondents in a national survey agreed that “classroom prayer should not be allowed in public schools.” Only 33 percent of respondents in a similar survey agreed that “classroom prayer in public schools should be banned.” These differing findings best illustrate the importance of
- A. hindsight bias.
 - B. the placebo effect.
 - C. random assignment.

D. wording effects.

Answer: D

185. Researchers observe random samples because they are likely to be

- A. vivid.
- B. homogeneous.
- C. representative.
- D. statistically significant.

Answer: C

186. The children in Mrs. Shashoua's neighborhood make fun of her limp. She concludes that today's kids are typically cruel and insensitive. Mrs. Shashoua ought to remind herself that reasonable generalizations depend on

- A. observing representative samples.
- B. recognizing that others may not share our opinions.
- C. confusing causation with correlation.
- D. realizing that random events may not look random.

Answer: A

187. Mrs. Blair concludes that boys do not read as well as girls because most of the students in her remedial reading classes are boys. Mrs. Blair's conclusion best illustrates the danger of

- A. hindsight bias.
- B. generalizing from select cases.
- C. confusing correlation with causation.
- D. random sampling.

Answer: B

188. The whole group from which samples may be drawn is called a(n)

- A. control condition.
- B. population.
- C. case study.
- D. independent variable.

Answer: B

189. To learn about the political attitudes of all students enrolled at Arizona State University, Professor Marlow randomly selected 800 of these students to complete a questionnaire. In this instance, all the students enrolled at Arizona State University are considered to be a(n)

- A. independent variable.
- B. representative sample.
- C. control condition.
- D. population.

Answer: D

190. A random sample of a large group of people is one in which

- A. the number of people included in the sample is determined by chance.
- B. every person in the large group has an equal chance of being included in the sample.
- C. personality differences among those in the sample are practically nonexistent.
- D. all of these situations are true.

Answer: B

191. Which procedure helps to ensure that the participants in a survey are representative of a larger population?

- A. random assignment
- B. replication
- C. naturalistic observation
- D. random sampling

Answer: D

192. Web site polls and call-in phone surveys often yield unrepresentative results because they fail to use

- A. operational definitions.
- B. random sampling.
- C. scatterplots.
- D. double-blind procedures.

Answer: B

193. To describe the behavior of animals in their native habitats, researchers are most likely to make use of

- A. survey research.
- B. random assignment.
- C. experimental methods.
- D. naturalistic observation.

Answer: D

194. To study the development of relationships, Dr. Rajiv carefully observed and recorded patterns of verbal and nonverbal behaviors among men and women in singles bars. Which research method did Dr. Rajiv employ?

- A. naturalistic observation
- B. the survey
- C. the case study
- D. experimentation

Answer: A

195. Naturalistic observation is most useful for

- A. describing behaviors.
- B. predicting attitudes.
- C. explaining complex emotions.
- D. detecting cause-effect relationships.

Answer: A

196. Which research method would be most effective for identifying the mating rituals of North American deer?

- A. survey research
- B. naturalistic observation
- C. experimentation
- D. the double-blind procedure

Answer: B

197. Researchers make no effort to manipulate or control variables when they engage in

- A. naturalistic observation.
- B. the double-blind procedure.
- C. replication.
- D. experimentation.

Answer: A

198. Which of the following statistical measures is most helpful for indicating the extent to which high school grades predict college or university grades?

- A. standard deviation
- B. median
- C. correlation coefficient
- D. range

Answer: C

199. A correlation coefficient is a statistical measure of the

- A. difference between the highest and lowest scores in a distribution.
- B. extent to which two factors vary together.
- C. statistical significance of a difference between two sample means.
- D. frequency of scores at each level of some measure.

Answer: B

200. To assess the extent to which mortality rates increase as people age, researchers would most likely make use of

- A. the double-blind procedure.
- B. case studies.
- C. experimentation.
- D. correlation.

Answer: D

201. A scatterplot graphically depicts the

- A. standard deviation of a distribution of scores.
- B. arithmetic average of a distribution of scores.
- C. total population from which samples may be drawn.

D. degree of relationship between two variables.

Answer: D

202. If the points on a scatterplot are clustered in a pattern that extends from lower left to upper right, this would suggest that the two variables depicted are

- A. normally distributed.
- B. positively correlated.
- C. negatively correlated.
- D. not correlated.

Answer: B

203. A researcher would be most likely to discover a negative correlation between

- A. body height and body weight.
- B. self-esteem and depression.
- C. education and personal wealth.
- D. intelligence and academic success.

Answer: B

204. If university graduates typically earn more money than high school graduates, this would indicate that level of education and income are

- A. positively correlated.
- B. independent variables.
- C. dependent variables.
- D. negatively correlated.

Answer: A

205. A correlation coefficient can range in value from

- A. 0 to 100.
- B. 0 to 1.00.
- C. 1 to 99.
- D. -1.00 to +1.00.

Answer: D

206. Which of the following correlations between annual income and education level would best enable you to predict annual income on the basis of level of education?

- A. +0.05
- B. -0.01
- C. +0.10
- D. +0.50

Answer: D

207. Which of the following correlations expresses the strongest degree of relationship between two variables?

- A. +0.10
- B. -0.67
- C. -0.10
- D. +0.59

Answer: B

- 208.** A correlation between levels of impulsiveness and annual income of -0.75 would indicate that
- A. lower levels of impulsiveness are associated with lower levels of annual income.
 - B. higher levels of annual income are associated with lower levels of impulsiveness.
 - C. it is impossible to predict annual income levels from knowledge of impulsiveness levels.
 - D. impulsiveness has no causal influence on annual income.

Answer: B

- 209.** If those with low self-esteem are also particularly likely to suffer from depression, this would not necessarily indicate that low self-esteem triggers negative emotions because
- A. sampling extreme cases leads to false generalizations.
 - B. events often seem more probable in hindsight.
 - C. correlation does not prove causation.
 - D. random sequences often don't look random.

Answer: C

- 210.** Following the scientific discovery that a specific brain structure is significantly larger in violent individuals than in those who are nonviolent, a news headline announced: "Enlarged Brain Structure Triggers Violent Acts." The headline writer should most clearly be warned about the dangers of
- A. perceiving illusory correlations.
 - B. explaining events in hindsight.
 - C. confusing association with causation.
 - D. generalizing from unrepresentative samples.

Answer: C

- 211.** If psychologists discovered that people who live at the poverty level have more aggressive children than do wealthy people, this would clearly indicate that
- A. poverty has a negative influence on children's behavior.
 - B. the factors that lead to poverty also cause aggressive behavior.
 - C. people's economic status and the aggressiveness of their children are negatively correlated.
 - D. all of these statements are correct.

Answer: C

- 212.** A positive correlation between self-esteem and academic success would indicate that
- A. a positive self-concept contributes to academic success.
 - B. academic success contributes to a favorable self-image.
 - C. those with high self-esteem are more academically successful than those with low self-esteem.

D. all of these statements are correct.

Answer: C

213. The perception of a relationship between two variables where none exists is called

- A. hindsight bias.
- B. the placebo effect.
- C. an illusion of control.
- D. illusory correlation.

Answer: D

214. The belief that weather conditions signal the onset of arthritis pain best illustrates

- A. an illusory correlation.
- B. an illusion of control.
- C. hindsight bias.
- D. random sampling.

Answer: A

215. Suppose two highly unusual events occur one immediately after the other. This event is most likely to contribute to

- A. random sampling.
- B. hindsight bias.
- C. the placebo effect.
- D. an illusory correlation.

Answer: D

216. Because she had a serious traffic accident on Friday the 13th of last month, Felicia is convinced that all Friday the 13ths will bring bad luck. Felicia's belief best illustrates

- A. the illusion of control.
- B. an illusory correlation.
- C. hindsight bias.
- D. the placebo effect.

Answer: B

217. If someone were to flip a coin six times, which of the following sequences of heads (H) and tails (T) would be most likely?

- A. H H H T T T
- B. H T T H T H
- C. H H H H H H
- D. All of these sequences would be equally likely.

Answer: D

218. Daniel and Donald are identical twins who were separated at birth and raised in different countries. When they

were finally reunited for the first time as adults, the men were amazed to discover that they were both plumbers, both avid tennis players, and both addicted to chocolates. The men would be best advised to recognize the danger of

- A. randomly sampling their life experiences.
- B. attributing these three similarities to chance.
- C. perceiving order in random events.
- D. assuming that most people share their attitudes and interests.

Answer: C

219. The King James Version of the Bible was completed when William Shakespeare was 46 years old. In Psalm 46 of this translation, the forty-sixth word is “shake,” and the forty-sixth word from the end is “spear.” Before concluding that the biblical translators were trying to be humorous with these specific word placements, you would be best advised to recognize the danger of

- A. randomly sampling biblical passages.
- B. generalizing from extreme examples.
- C. assuming that most people share your opinions.
- D. perceiving order in coincidental events.

Answer: D

220. The fact that the same individual won the New Jersey lottery on two separate occasions best illustrates

- A. a random outcome.
- B. the double-blind procedure.
- C. the placebo effect.
- D. an illusory correlation.

Answer: A

221. Incorrectly interpreting correlation as evidence of causation is best avoided by making use of

- A. experiments.
- B. survey research.
- C. case studies.
- D. naturalistic observation.

Answer: A

222. A research method in which an investigator manipulates factors that potentially produce a particular behavior is called a(n)

- A. survey.
- B. experiment.
- C. case study.
- D. correlation.

Answer: B

223. Which research method do investigators use to exercise maximum control over the factors they are interested in studying?

- A. case study
- B. correlation
- C. experiment
- D. survey

Answer: C

224. Which of the following research methods would most effectively demonstrate that watching TV violence causes children to act aggressively?

- A. experiment
- B. naturalistic observation
- C. survey
- D. case study

Answer: A

225. Experimentation is more useful than correlational research for testing the claim that

- A. children who view a great deal of television violence are also likely to be unusually aggressive.
- B. people who exercise frequently are less likely to suffer from depression than infrequent exercisers.
- C. people's friendliness and feelings of happiness are increased by the consumption of alcohol.
- D. people who consume excessive amounts of coffee experience higher-than-normal levels of anxiety.

Answer: C

226. Unlike correlational studies, experiments involve

- A. randomly selecting participants.
- B. manipulating the factors of interest.
- C. studying observable behaviors.
- D. replication of previous research.

Answer: B

227. The experiment is a research method in which

- A. a random sample of individuals are questioned regarding their opinions and behaviors.
- B. individuals are carefully observed in their natural environment.
- C. an investigator manipulates one or more variables that might affect behavior.
- D. an individual is studied in great depth.

Answer: C

228. The most accurate way of assessing the impact of hormone replacement therapy on women's health is by means of

- A. case studies.
- B. experiments.
- C. correlational measurement.
- D. naturalistic observations.

Answer: B

229. Random assignment is most likely to be used in _____ research.

- A. survey
- B. case study
- C. correlational
- D. experimental

Answer: D

230. Which technique most clearly minimizes the likelihood that any outcome differences between the experimental and control groups can be attributed to age or personality differences in research participants?

- A. replication
- B. random assignment
- C. operational definitions
- D. the double-blind procedure

Answer: B

231. To minimize any preexisting differences between participants who are in different conditions of an experiment, psychologists make use of

- A. random assignment.
- B. replication.
- C. random sampling.
- D. correlation.

Answer: A

232. Researchers studying the effects of noise on worker productivity have one group work in a noisy room and a second group work in a quiet room. To ensure that any differences in the two groups' productivity actually result from the different noise levels to which the groups are exposed, the researchers would use

- A. the case study.
- B. correlational measurement.
- C. naturalistic observation.
- D. random assignment.

Answer: D

233. Random sampling is to _____ as random assignment is to _____.

- A. correlational studies; case studies
- B. surveys; experiments
- C. replication; correlation
- D. description; prediction

Answer: B

234. In a drug-treatment study, participants given a pill containing no actual drug are receiving a

- A. random sample.

- B. double-blind.
- C. replication.
- D. placebo.

Answer: D

- 235.** To minimize the extent to which placebo effects contribute to outcome differences between experimental and control groups in a drug-treatment study, researchers are likely to make use of
- A. random sampling.
 - B. replication.
 - C. operational definitions.
 - D. the double-blind procedure.

Answer: D

- 236.** The double-blind procedure is most likely to be used in _____ research.
- A. survey
 - B. case study
 - C. correlational
 - D. experimental

Answer: D

- 237.** Abdul has volunteered to participate in an experiment evaluating the effectiveness of aspirin. Neither he nor the experimenters know whether the pills he takes during the experiment contain aspirin or are merely placebos. The investigators are apparently making use of
- A. naturalistic observation.
 - B. illusory correlation.
 - C. the double-blind procedure.
 - D. random sampling.

Answer: C

- 238.** The healing power of positive expectations is best illustrated by
- A. overconfidence.
 - B. illusory correlation.
 - C. the placebo effect.
 - D. hindsight bias.

Answer: C

- 239.** In an experiment designed to study the effectiveness of a new drug for treating diabetes, research participants who receive a placebo have been assigned to the _____ group.
- A. dependent variable
 - B. correlational
 - C. experimental
 - D. control

Answer: D

- 240.** To provide a baseline against which they can evaluate the effects of a specific treatment, experimenters make use of a(n)
- A. dependent variable.
 - B. independent variable.
 - C. control group.
 - D. experimental group.

Answer: C

- 241.** Research participants drank either caffeinated or decaffeinated beverages in a study of the effects of caffeine on anxiety levels. Those who received the caffeinated drinks were assigned to the _____ group.
- A. survey
 - B. experimental
 - C. correlational
 - D. control

Answer: B

- 242.** To assess the effectiveness of flu vaccine for county residents, Mr. Carlson wants to administer vaccine injections to all county residents rather than give half of them a placebo injection. Mr. Carlson is most clearly underestimating the importance of
- A. testing a large sample.
 - B. operationally defining his procedures.
 - C. replicating observations of other researchers.
 - D. creating a control group.

Answer: D

- 243.** In a test of the effects of cigarette smoking on physical health and development, groups of monkeys were raised in either a smoke-free or smokeinfested environment. Monkeys in the smoke-infested environment were assigned to the _____ group.
- A. correlational
 - B. survey
 - C. control
 - D. experimental

Answer: D

- 244.** In a psychological experiment, researchers are interested in studying the potential effects of the _____ variable.
- A. dependent
 - B. control
 - C. independent
 - D. random

Answer: C

- 245.** Knowing the difference between an experimental group and a control group is most relevant to understanding the nature of
- A. random sampling.
 - B. replication.
 - C. hindsight bias.
 - D. independent variables.

Answer: D

- 246.** To study some effects of alcohol consumption, Dr. Chu tested the physical coordination skills of 21-year-old men who had just drunk either 4, 2, or 0 ounces of alcohol. In this study, the independent variable consisted of
- A. the age of the research participants.
 - B. the physical coordination skills of the research participants.
 - C. the amount of alcohol consumed.
 - D. the effects of alcohol consumption.

Answer: C

- 247.** The dependent variable in an experiment is the factor
- A. that is directly manipulated by the investigator.
 - B. that may be influenced by the experimental treatment.
 - C. whose effect is being studied.
 - D. that causes the behavior being studied.

Answer: B

- 248.** In an experimental study of the extent to which sexual arousal is stimulated by laughter, sexual arousal would be the
- A. control condition.
 - B. experimental condition.
 - C. independent variable.
 - D. dependent variable.

Answer: D

- 249.** The percentage of students whose average grades fall into various performance levels could be represented on a
- A. standard deviation.
 - B. bar graph.
 - C. scatterplot.
 - D. correlation coefficient.

Answer: B

- 250.** Measures of central tendency are most useful for
- A. random sampling.

- B. summarizing data.
- C. random assignment.
- D. constructing scatterplots.

Answer: B

251. The mode, median, and mean are measures of

- A. central tendency.
- B. variation.
- C. correlation.
- D. statistical significance.

Answer: A

252. The mode of a distribution of scores is the

- A. score exceeded by 50 percent of all the scores.
- B. most frequently occurring score.
- C. arithmetic average of all the scores.
- D. difference between the highest and lowest scores.

Answer: B

253. Six different students spent \$10, \$13, \$2, \$12, \$13, and \$4, respectively, on entertainment. The mode of this group's entertainment expenditures is

- A. \$9.
- B. \$11.
- C. \$12.
- D. \$13.

Answer: D

254. The arithmetic average of a distribution of scores is the

- A. mode.
- B. median.
- C. standard deviation.
- D. mean.

Answer: D

255. The most commonly reported measure of central tendency is the

- A. mode.
- B. mean.
- C. median.
- D. standard deviation.

Answer: B

256. During the past month, Henri and Sylvia each ate 10 candy bars, while Jerry ate 8, Tricia ate 6, and Tahli ate

only 1. The mean number of candy bars eaten by these individuals was

- A. 5.
- B. 7.
- C. 8.
- D. 10.

Answer: B

257. In any distribution of scores, an equal number of scores are both greater than and less than

- A. the mode.
- B. the mean.
- C. the median.
- D. any of these measures of central tendency.

Answer: C

258. Mr. and Mrs. Berry have five children aged 2, 3, 7, 9, and 9. The median age of the Berry children is

- A. 6.
- B. 7.
- C. 8.
- D. 9.

Answer: B

259. Seven members of a girls' club reported the following individual earnings from their sale of raffle tickets: \$5, \$9, \$4, \$11, \$6, \$4, and \$3. In this distribution of individual earnings, the

- A. median is greater than the mean and greater than the mode.
- B. median is less than the mean and less than the mode.
- C. median is greater than the mean and less than the mode.
- D. median is less than the mean and greater than the mode.

Answer: D

260. Seven members of a debate club reported the following individual earnings from their sale of cakes: \$7, \$13, \$3, \$5, \$2, \$9, and \$3. In this distribution of individual earnings, the

- A. mean is greater than the mode and greater than the median.
- B. mean is equal to the mode and less than the median.
- C. mean is greater than the mode and equal to the median.
- D. mean is less than the mode and less than the median.

Answer: A

261. In a distribution of test scores, which measure of central tendency would likely be the most affected by a couple of extremely high scores?

- A. median
- B. mode

- C. standard deviation
- D. mean

Answer: D

262. The mode, median, and mean are most likely to have different values when they
- A. describe a skewed distribution.
 - B. are derived from a limited range of scores.
 - C. represent the central tendency of a random sample.
 - D. represent the central tendency of an entire population.

Answer: A

263. In order to understand the British newspaper headline “Income for 62% Is Below Average,” a reader needs to appreciate the distinction between the _____ and the mean.
- A. range
 - B. standard deviation
 - C. mode
 - D. median

Answer: D

264. For which of the following distributions of scores would the median most clearly be a more appropriate measure of central tendency than the mean?
- A. 16, 28, 4, 8, 24
 - B. 9, 6, 9, 12, 9
 - C. 8, 9, 12, 10, 16
 - D. 6, 18, 4, 5, 2

Answer: D

265. Variation is to central tendency as range is to _____.
- A. mode
 - B. bar graph
 - C. scatterplot
 - D. correlation

Answer: A

266. Standard deviation is to mean as _____ is to _____.
- A. median; mode
 - B. variation; central tendency
 - C. scatterplot; bar graph
 - D. correlation; scatterplot

Answer: B

267. Which of the following provides a rough indication of the degree of variation among a set of scores?

- A. correlation coefficient
- B. scatterplot
- C. range
- D. median

Answer: C

268. The range is

- A. the difference between the highest and lowest scores in a distribution.
- B. the most commonly used measure of variation.
- C. the average deviation of scores from the mean.
- D. the most frequently occurring score in a distribution of scores.

Answer: A

269. The IQ scores of the five members of the Duluth family are 100, 82, 104, 96, and 118. For this distribution of scores, the range is

- A. 14.
- B. 36.
- C. 48.
- D. 100.

Answer: B

270. Two students in an art class are at least 20 years older than the others. Which measure of variation of class members' ages is most affected by the ages of these two students?

- A. standard deviation
- B. mode
- C. median
- D. range

Answer: D

271. The standard deviation is a measure of

- A. central tendency.
- B. variation.
- C. statistical significance.
- D. correlation.

Answer: B

272. Professor Woo noticed that the distribution of students' scores on her last biology test had an extremely small standard deviation. This indicates that the

- A. test was given to a very small class of students.
- B. test was a poor measure of the students' knowledge.
- C. students generally performed very well on the test.

D. students' scores tended to be very similar to one another.

Answer: D

273. To calculate the numerical value of the standard deviation, you should first compute the value of the

- A. mean.
- B. mode.
- C. correlation coefficient.
- D. median.

Answer: A

274. During the season, four members of the Salem baseball team made 4, 2, 6, and 4 home runs, respectively. For this distribution of home runs, the standard deviation is equal to the square root of

- A. 2.
- B. 4.
- C. 6.
- D. 8.

Answer: A

275. A normal curve would be LEAST likely to characterize a large random sample of

- A. body weights.
- B. intelligence scores.
- C. family incomes.
- D. professional baseball batting averages.

Answer: C

276. On average, Caryl's school bus arrives on time, although sometimes it is a bit early or late. If the arrival times are distributed on a normal curve, which of the following statistics would enable Caryl to estimate the probability that her bus will arrive within 5 minutes of its scheduled arrival time on any given day?

- A. median
- B. mean
- C. standard deviation
- D. correlation coefficient

Answer: C

277. Approximately 68 percent of the cases represented by the normal curve fall within _____ standard deviation(s) from the mean.

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 34

Answer: A

278. Approximately what percentage of the cases represented by the normal curve fall between -2 and $+2$ standard deviations from the mean?

- A. 34
- B. 68
- C. 95
- D. 100

Answer: C

279. If a set of standardized test scores is normally distributed, having a mean of 75 and a standard deviation of 6, approximately 95 percent of the scores are somewhere between

- A. 72 and 78.
- B. 75 and 87.
- C. 69 and 81.
- D. 63 and 87.

Answer: D

280. Statistical tests are useful for making _____ regarding differences between groups.

- A. scatterplots
- B. case studies
- C. inferences
- D. surveys

Answer: C

281. After his property was vandalized by a small group of teenagers, Mr. Mahmood concluded that most teenagers are irresponsible and delinquent. Mr. Mahmood ought to be reminded that accurate generalizations depend on

- A. a realization that random events may not look random.
- B. detecting cause-effect relationships.
- C. the observation of representative samples.
- D. the selection of samples from a skewed population.

Answer: C

282. We can MOST accurately estimate the mean of a population if

- A. a sample is large in size and low in variability.
- B. a sample is small in size and high in variability.
- C. a sample is large in size and high in variability.
- D. a sample is small in size and low in variability.

Answer: A

283. The average scores of two samples taken from the same population are most likely to differ if

- A. the samples are both small.
- B. the standard deviations of the samples are both small.
the samples differ from each other in size.

- C.
- D. the sample means are both similar to the sample medians.

Answer: A

284. Faustin, a member of his school's golf team, has an opportunity to play against a nationally acclaimed professional golfer. How many holes of golf should Faustin choose to play with the professional in order to maximize his own slim chances of winning?

- A. 9
- B. 18
- C. 27
- D. 36

Answer: A

285. If half the students at Quincy University have blue eyes, which of the following events is most probable?

- A. In a class consisting of 15 students, 80% or more have blue eyes.
- B. In a class consisting of 30 students, 80% or more have blue eyes.
- C. In a class consisting of 45 students, 80% or more have blue eyes.
- D. All of these answers are equally probable.

Answer: A

286. Statistical significance refers to whether research

- A. variables are causally related.
- B. participants were randomly assigned to conditions.
- C. findings are due to chance variations.
- D. results add support to previous findings.

Answer: C

287. A random sample of females was observed to exhibit a lower average level of self-esteem than a random sample of males. To assess the likelihood that this observed difference reflects a real difference in the average self-esteem of the total population of males and females, you should

- A. construct a scatterplot.
- B. calculate a correlation coefficient.
- C. plot the distribution of self-esteem levels among all males and females.
- D. conduct a test of statistical significance.

Answer: D

288. An observed difference between two sample groups is more likely to be statistically significant if

- A. the observed difference is small.
- B. the sample groups are small.
- C. the standard deviations of the sample groups are small.
- D. both samples are drawn from the same population.

Answer: C

289. Psychology experiments are typically designed to

- A. test principles that help explain behavior.
- B. observe behaviors that are unobservable outside the laboratory.
- C. re-create the naturally occurring conditions that influence people's daily behaviors.
- D. observe a truly random sample of human or animal behavior.

Answer: A

290. The transmission of political practices and religious customs from one generation to the next best illustrates the importance of

- A. the normal curve.
- B. the empirical approach.
- C. the placebo effect.
- D. culture.

Answer: D

291. Slender women are considered especially beautiful in one country; in another country, stout women are seen as particularly attractive. In both countries, however, women perceived as very beautiful receive preferential treatment. This best illustrates that _____ often underlie cultural differences.

- A. common psychological processes
- B. gender differences
- C. unconscious preferences
- D. genetic dissimilarities

Answer: A

292. Psychologists report that genders differ in their risk of

- A. alcohol dependence.
- B. depression.
- C. eating disorders.
- D. all of these problems.

Answer: D

293. Psychologists study animals because

- A. they want to understand how different species think and behave.
- B. animal physiology is often simpler and easier to understand than human physiology is.
- C. it is more permissible to conduct certain types of research with animals than with humans.
- D. of all of these reasons.

Answer: D

294. Scientists who defend the use of animals in experimental research typically claim that

- A. the well-being of humans should be placed above the well-being of animals.
- B. competent scientists have no justifiable reason to end the lives of animals.

- C. animals should be used only in research that directly benefits the animals involved.
- D. allegations that laboratory animals are sometimes exposed to stress are simply untrue.

Answer: A

295. Animal researchers are more likely to support regulations protecting

- A. the well-being of birds than the well-being of dogs.
- B. the well-being of cats than the well-being of mice.
- C. the well-being of insects than the well-being of fish.
- D. the well-being of snakes than the well-being of rats.

Answer: B

296. Psychologists occasionally deceive research participants about the true purpose of an experiment in order to prevent them from

- A. worrying about the potential harm or discomfort they may experience.
- B. realizing that their privacy is being violated.
- C. deciding that they really don't want to take part in the experiment.
- D. trying to confirm the experimenters' predictions.

Answer: D

297. Ethical principles developed by the American Psychological Association and the British Psychological Society urge psychological investigators to

- A. forewarn potential research participants of the exact hypotheses that the research will test.
- B. avoid the use of laboratory experiments when the behaviors of interest can be directly observed in natural settings.
- C. ensure that research participants give informed consent before participating in the research.
- D. avoid the use of monetary incentives in recruiting people to participate in research.

Answer: C

298. The personal values of psychologists are likely to influence their choice of

- A. topics of investigation.
- B. research methods.
- C. explanatory theories.
- D. all of these.

Answer: D