

Chapter 2 - The Research Enterprise in Psychology

1. Tina and Jake are conducting a study to look at what happens to skydivers when they jump out of an airplane. Tina is measuring the heart rates and cortisol levels of the participants, before and after a jump. Jake is interviewing the participants so that they can describe their experiences. Which of the following terms describes Jake's component of the study?
- qualitative
 - retrospective
 - theoretical
 - quantitative

ANSWER: a

2. Tina and Jake are conducting a study to look at what happens to skydivers when they jump out of an airplane. Tina is measuring the heart rates and cortisol levels of the participants, before and after a jump. Jake is interviewing the participants so that they can describe their experiences. Which of the following terms describes Tina's component of the study?
- qualitative
 - quantitative
 - retrospective
 - theoretical

ANSWER: b

3. Which science goal is a researcher pursuing by studying child development in order to help teachers develop better teaching methods?
- measurement and description
 - application and control
 - understanding and prediction
 - construction and revision

ANSWER: b

4. Which science goal is a researcher pursuing by studying stress reactions in elderly people in order to determine risk factors for subsequent heart attacks and depression?
- construction and revision
 - measurement and description
 - understanding and prediction
 - application and control

ANSWER: c

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5. Which science goal is a researcher pursuing by creating an operational definition of creativity?
- construction and revision
 - application and control
 - understanding and prediction
 - measurement and description

ANSWER: d

6. With which goal of science is scientists' work most closely associated when they attempt to explain WHY something happened?
- application and control
 - measurement and description
 - construction and revision
 - understanding and prediction

ANSWER: d

7. Which science goal is reflected in psychologists' hopes that their research will help to solve some practical problem?
- understanding and prediction
 - measurement and description
 - construction and revision
 - application and control

ANSWER: d

8. Which term refers to a tentative statement about the relationship between two or more variables?
- hypothesis
 - research method
 - cause
 - theory

ANSWER: a

9. Mrs. Sanjay, an elementary school teacher, believes that girls are smarter than boys. She predicts that the girls in her class will learn more than the boys during the school year. At the end of the year, her prediction could be supported or rejected. What would we call her prediction?
- a fact
 - a hypothesis
 - an opinion
 - a theory

ANSWER: b

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10. In terms of the scientific method, what are variables?
- factors that change unpredictably within a study
 - measures of variability within a study
 - measurable items that are controlled or observed in a study
 - factors that are affected by experimental manipulation

ANSWER: c

11. If Patrick hypothesizes that minor sleep deprivation will enhance his video-game playing skills, then what are the variables in his hypothesis?
- any factors, other than sleep deprivation, that affect his measurements
 - sleep deprivation and video-game skills
 - his scores on his favourite video games
 - varying amounts of sleep deprivation

ANSWER: b

12. What is a theory?
- a system of interrelated ideas used to explain a set of observations
 - an objective description of behaviour
 - the application of research to practical problems
 - a statement about the relationship between two or more variables

ANSWER: a

13. With which goal of science are scientific theories most directly associated?
- application and control
 - understanding and prediction
 - construction and revision
 - measurement and description

ANSWER: b

14. Dr. Tremblay is a clinical psychologist who notes that an unusually large number of depressed or anxious people tend to gain weight. She offers an explanation that the hormones associated with stress lead to changes in metabolism that cause weight gain. What is the term for her explanation?
- a variable
 - an educated opinion
 - a verifiable fact
 - a theory

ANSWER: d

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15. Theresa is going to conduct a study as part of her honours thesis for her psychology degree. What will her first step be if she follows the steps associated with the scientific method?
- develop a theory
 - formulate a testable hypothesis
 - select the research method and design the study
 - collect the data

ANSWER: b

16. In scientific investigations, a researcher must clearly outline the variables under study by precisely describing how they will be measured or controlled. What are these descriptions called?
- independent variables
 - objective definitions
 - operational definitions
 - dependent variables

ANSWER: c

17. Dr. McDougall is a researcher who measures blood alcohol level to determine intoxication. In this example, how is “blood alcohol level” being used?
- as a hypothetical variable
 - as an independent variable
 - as an operational definition
 - as a covariant

ANSWER: c

18. Theresa has decided to test whether listening to music while studying improves retention of the studied information. Now that she knows what she wants to test, what is the next step in the scientific method?
- selecting a research method and designing the study
 - collecting the data
 - formulating a testable hypothesis
 - analyzing the data and drawing conclusions

ANSWER: a

19. Psychologists use a variety of data collection techniques. Which of the following is well suited for studying attitudes?
- direct observations
 - psychological tests
 - physiological recordings
 - questionnaires

ANSWER: d

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20. Monica is conducting a study to determine whether there are IQ differences between people who go to private school and people who go to public school. Which data collection technique should she use?
- physiological recordings
 - questionnaires
 - psychological tests
 - direct observations

ANSWER: c

21. In the Featured Study by Dutton and Aron (1974), the authors hypothesized that an attractive woman (who was a research confederate) would be perceived as more attractive by men on a “fear-arousing” bridge, than by men on a “control” bridge. Further, if a man crossed the “fear-arousing” bridge prior to meeting a woman, he would be more likely to phone her later. In this study, what is the dependent variable?
- whether a male subject crossed a bridge, or not
 - the baseline attractiveness of the confederate
 - the “fear-arousing” bridge
 - whether the subjects phoned the confederate

ANSWER: d

22. In the Featured Study by Dutton and Aron (1974), the authors hypothesized that an attractive woman (who was a research confederate) would be perceived as more attractive by men on a “fear-arousing” bridge, than by men on a “control” bridge. Further, if a man crossed the “fear-arousing” bridge prior to meeting a woman, he would be more likely to phone her later. In this study, what is the independent variable?
- whether the subjects phoned the confederate
 - which bridge a subject crossed
 - the “control” bridge
 - the baseline attractiveness of the confederate

ANSWER: b

23. While researching the effects music listening has on study retention, Theresa has documented her own study habits and music listening, and has tested herself weekly for retention. As she continues using the scientific method, what is her next step?
- analyzing the data and drawing conclusions
 - selecting a research method and designing the study
 - reporting the findings
 - collecting the data

ANSWER: a

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24. Most typically, how do researchers report their findings?

- a. in a journal
- b. in a book
- c. by holding a press conference
- d. in a scientific magazine

ANSWER: a

25. What are the two main advantages of the scientific approach?

- a. the use of common sense, and easy acceptance of the research findings of others
- b. the use of common sense, and intolerance of error
- c. clarity, and easy acceptance of the research findings of others
- d. precision, and intolerance of error

ANSWER: d

26. With which major advantage of the scientific approach are operational definitions most closely associated?

- a. the commonsense approach
- b. intolerance of error
- c. clarity and precision
- d. tolerance of error

ANSWER: c

27. What are the two main types of research methods used in psychology?

- a. experimental and case study research methods
- b. descriptive/correlational and case study research methods
- c. descriptive and correlational research methods
- d. experimental and descriptive/correlational research methods

ANSWER: d

28. What research method is being used if a researcher manipulates a variable under carefully controlled conditions and observes whether any changes occur in a second variable?

- a. correlational method
- b. descriptive method
- c. experimental method
- d. observational method

ANSWER: c

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29. In the experimental method, the investigator manipulates a variable under carefully controlled conditions. What does the researcher do next?
- correlate the resulting behaviour
 - survey participants to learn their assessment of the variable
 - observe whether any changes occur in a second variable
 - observe behaviour in its natural environment

ANSWER: c

30. In experimental research, which variable is manipulated by the researcher so that its impact on another variable may be assessed?
- controlled variable
 - independent variable
 - extraneous variable
 - dependent variable

ANSWER: b

31. Theresa has conducted research on the effects listening to music has on study retention. In this case, what is "listening to music"?
- extraneous variable
 - dependent variable
 - independent variable
 - controlled variable

ANSWER: c

32. In experimental research, what is the variable that is measured because it is thought to be affected by the manipulation of another variable?
- independent variable
 - extraneous variable
 - controlled variable
 - dependent variable

ANSWER: d

33. In experimental research, which variable is measured during data collection?
- dependent variable
 - primary variable
 - independent variable
 - secondary variable

ANSWER: a

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34. If a researcher varies the loudness of music in a factory to observe its effect on the rate of productivity of the employees, what is the independent variable?
- loudness of music
 - factory setting
 - employees
 - rate of productivity

ANSWER: a

35. If a researcher varies the loudness of music in a factory to observe its effect on the rate of productivity of the employees, what is the dependent variable?
- loudness of music
 - rate of productivity
 - factory setting
 - the employees

ANSWER: b

36. Dr. Ostrofsky is investigating the effect of high room temperatures on aggressive behaviour in preschoolers. Half of the children are in a classroom where the temperature is 31°C (hot) and half are in a classroom where the temperature is 21°C degrees (normal). Dr. Ostrofsky measures the number of hitting incidents that occur in each classroom. In this study, what is the term for the temperature of the room?
- control group
 - dependent variable
 - independent variable
 - experimental group

ANSWER: c

37. Dr. Santiago is investigating the effect of warm room temperature on aggressive behaviour in preschoolers. Half of the children are in a classroom where the temperature is 31°C (hot) and half are in a classroom where the temperature is 21°C (normal). Dr. Santiago measures the number of hitting incidents that occur in each classroom. In this study, what is the term for the number of hitting incidents?
- control group
 - experimental group
 - independent variable
 - dependent variable

ANSWER: d

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38. In experimental research, what happens to subjects in the experimental group?
- They do not receive the dependent variable.
 - They receive some special treatment in regard to the independent variable.
 - They do not receive some special treatment in regard to the independent variable.
 - They receive the dependent variable.

ANSWER: b

39. In experimental research, which subjects receive some special treatment in regard to the independent variable?
- those in the observational group
 - those in the control group
 - those in the experimental group
 - those in the correlational group

ANSWER: c

40. In experimental research, which subjects do NOT receive some special treatment in regard to the independent variable?
- those in the correlational group
 - those in the observational group
 - those in the control group
 - those in the experimental group

ANSWER: c

41. In a study that examines the effects of stress on memory, which group would NOT be put under stress?
- the experimental group
 - the control group
 - the independent group
 - the dependent group

ANSWER: b

42. In a study that examines the effects of stress on memory, which group would be put under stress?
- the experimental group
 - the independent group
 - the control group
 - the dependent group

ANSWER: a

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43. In a study that examines the effects of a low-fat diet on mood, which group would receive a low-fat diet?
- the experimental group
 - the independent group
 - the dependent group
 - the control group

ANSWER: a

44. In a study that examines the effects of a low-fat diet on mood, which group would receive a normal diet?
- the experimental group
 - the independent group
 - the control group
 - the dependent group

ANSWER: c

45. What conditions differ between the experimental and control groups?
- nothing; conditions are perfectly controlled between the two groups
 - only the dependent variable
 - only the independent variable
 - both the dependent and independent variables

ANSWER: c

46. Dr. Engelhart is investigating the effect of high room temperature on aggressive behaviour in preschoolers. Half of the children are in a classroom where the temperature is 31°C (hot) and half are in a classroom where the temperature is 21°C (normal). Dr. Engelhart measures the number of hitting incidents that occur in each classroom. In this study, which group is in the hot classroom?
- the control group
 - the experimental group
 - the independent group
 - the dependent group

ANSWER: b

47. Dr. Wawanosh is investigating the effect of high room temperature on aggressive behaviour in preschoolers. Half of the children are in a classroom where the temperature is 31°C (hot) and half are in a classroom where the temperature is 21°C (normal). Dr. Wawanosh measures the number of hitting incidents that occur in each classroom. In this study, which group is in the classroom with the normal temperature?
- the control group
 - the independent group
 - the dependent group
 - the experimental group

ANSWER: a

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48. Dr. Ishtar is investigating the effect of music on the productivity of employees in a factory. Half of the employees listen to music while working and half do not listen to music. Dr. Ishtar measures the productivity of each employee. In this study, which group listens to music?
- the experimental group
 - the independent group
 - the dependent group
 - the control group

ANSWER: a

49. Dr. O'Hara is investigating the effect of music on the productivity of employees in a factory. Half of the employees listen to music while working and half do not listen to music. Dr. O'Hara measures the productivity of each employee. In this study, which group does NOT listen to music?
- the experimental group
 - the dependent group
 - the control group
 - the independent group

ANSWER: c

50. What do we call variables, other than the independent variable, that seem likely to influence the behaviour of subjects in a study?
- dependent variables
 - control variables
 - extraneous variables
 - random variables

ANSWER: c

51. A researcher tries to make sure that subjects in the experimental and control groups are very similar to each other. This is done in order to reduce the effects of which type of variables?
- independent variables
 - random variables
 - dependent variables
 - extraneous variables

ANSWER: d

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52. As part of a study examining the role of different teaching methods on children's math abilities, Dr. Garneau tested the children using a standardized math test. In Year 1, the standard teaching method was used. In Year 2, a new teaching method was used. In Year 1, the test was administered in October, near the beginning of the school year. In Year 2, the test was administered in May, near the end of the school year. Although Dr. Garneau's results suggest that children in Year 2 demonstrated more math skills than children in Year 1, why are Dr. Garneau's results not very useful?
- There was no control group.
 - Results due to teaching method are confounded by the time of year the children were tested.
 - Children in Year 2 had the benefit of a different teaching method, so you can't compare them to children in Year 1.
 - Different children were used in each group, and this is a confound.

ANSWER: b

53. What procedure would you use to ensure that experimental and control groups will be similar in most ways?
- Allow the control group to be larger than the experimental group.
 - Extensive interviewing and checklists allow you to document all potential differences.
 - Operational definitions of similarity must be created.
 - Random assignment allows groups to be fairly similar.

ANSWER: d

54. Which of the following is NOT a typical variation of the experimental method?
- using an experimental group only and no control group
 - manipulating more than one independent variable
 - using one group of subjects who serve as both the experimental group and as their own control
 - measuring more than one dependent variable

ANSWER: a

55. Tamara is conducting a study using two independent variables (music and lighting) and one dependent variable (blood pressure). Which of the following effects can she look for when she analyzes her data?
- effects of blood pressure on perception of music and lighting
 - effects of lighting on perception of music
 - interactive effects of music and lighting on blood pressure
 - interactive effects of blood pressure on perception of music and lighting

ANSWER: b

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56. Pamela is conducting a study examining test scores before and after memory training, and she will compare the results for men to results for women. What do we call the comparison of men's and women's results?
- correlation effects
 - between-subjects design
 - interaction effects
 - within-subjects design

ANSWER: b

57. Pamela is conducting a study examining test scores before and after memory training, and she will compare the results for men to results for women. What do we call the comparison of results before training to results after training?
- within-subjects design
 - correlation effects
 - between-subjects design
 - interaction effects

ANSWER: a

58. Which research method allows you to draw conclusions concerning cause-and-effect relationships?
- experimental method
 - correlational method
 - survey method
 - descriptive method

ANSWER: a

59. Compared to the other scientific research methods, what is the principal advantage of the experimental method?
- It allows for a description of behaviour.
 - It permits conclusions about cause-and-effect relationships.
 - It observes behaviour in its natural setting.
 - It can easily be used to study all research questions.

ANSWER: b

60. Which of the following is a disadvantage or limitation of the experimental research method?
- It frequently takes place under artificial circumstances.
 - The researcher has little control over the situation.
 - It does not allow for conclusions concerning cause-and-effect relationships.
 - It does not allow for a description of behaviour.

ANSWER: a

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61. Which of the following is a disadvantage or limitation of the experimental research method?
- The researcher has little control over the situation.
 - It does not allow for a description of behaviour.
 - It does not allow for conclusions concerning cause-and-effect relationships.
 - For practical or ethical reasons it cannot be used to study some research questions.

ANSWER: d

62. Which research method would likely be chosen when it is impractical to manipulate the variables of interest?
- an experimental method
 - a common-sense method
 - the logical method
 - a descriptive/correlational method

ANSWER: d

63. What do descriptive and correlational research methods allow researchers to do?
- exert precise control over the variables being studied
 - draw conclusions concerning cause-and-effect relationships
 - manipulate several variables at the same time
 - examine whether there is an association between variables being studied

ANSWER: d

64. What do naturalistic observations, case studies, and surveys all have in common?
- They involve manipulating the variables of interest in the study.
 - They show cause-and-effect relationships.
 - They take place in an artificial setting.
 - They involve describing behaviour.

ANSWER: d

65. What is the research method in which a researcher engages in careful recording of behaviour without intervening directly with the subjects?
- case study method
 - survey method
 - naturalistic observation method
 - correlation method

ANSWER: c

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66. What does the researcher do when using the naturalistic observation method?
- conduct an in-depth investigation of an individual subject
 - engage in careful surveillance of behaviour without intervening directly with subjects
 - manipulate a variable under carefully controlled conditions
 - use questionnaires or interviews to gather information about specific aspects of participants' behaviour

ANSWER: b

67. A researcher sits on a park bench and records the number of joggers who are wearing headphones. What research method is this?
- naturalistic observation method
 - experimental method
 - survey method
 - case study method

ANSWER: a

68. What is the research method in which a researcher conducts an in-depth investigation of an individual subject?
- case study method
 - survey method
 - naturalistic observation method
 - correlational method

ANSWER: a

69. What does the researcher do when using the case study method?
- manipulate a variable under carefully controlled conditions
 - use questionnaires or interviews to gather information about specific aspects of participants' behaviour
 - conduct an in-depth investigation of an individual subject
 - engage in careful observation of behaviour without intervening directly with subjects

ANSWER: c

70. If Dr. Conrad is interested in an in-depth study concerning the long-term consequences of serious injury on the psychological adjustment of a patient and his family, then which of the following research methods would Dr. Conrad be most likely to use?
- case study method
 - experimental method
 - naturalistic observation method
 - survey method

ANSWER: a

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71. For which of the following methods might a researcher employ a number of techniques such as interviews, direct observations, and psychological testing?
- a survey
 - naturalistic observation
 - a correlation
 - a case study

ANSWER: d

72. What is the research method in which a researcher uses questionnaires or interviews to gather information about specific aspects of behaviour in a sample of participants?
- naturalistic observation method
 - survey method
 - case study method
 - correlation method

ANSWER: b

73. What does a researcher do when using the survey method?
- conduct an in-depth investigation of an individual subject
 - manipulate a variable under carefully controlled conditions
 - use questionnaires or interviews to gather information about participants' behaviour
 - engage in careful observation of behaviour without intervening directly with subjects

ANSWER: c

74. If researchers were interested in studying common attitudes toward "animal rights issues," which of the following would they be most likely to use?
- a case study
 - a correlation
 - a survey
 - a naturalistic observation

ANSWER: c

75. What is the principal advantage of descriptive/correlational research methods?
- They allow the researcher a high level of control over the variables of interest.
 - They can examine research questions that because of practical and ethical reasons cannot be studied with other methods.
 - They permit conclusions concerning cause-and-effect relationships.
 - They often observe behaviour in artificial situations.

ANSWER: b

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76. Dr. Rosenfeld plans to study the relationship between people's smoking behaviour and their tendency to have minor physical illnesses (such as colds or the flu). Why might she be most likely to choose correlational research for this study?
- Correlational studies allow the researcher to draw strong cause-and-effect conclusions.
 - The university does not allow smoking in the psychology building.
 - It is not practical or ethical to manipulate people's smoking behaviour.
 - Correlational studies are always the "first choice" of researchers.

ANSWER: c

77. What is the principal disadvantage of the descriptive and correlational research methods?
- Because of practical or ethical reasons, they cannot be used to study some research questions.
 - They do not allow the researcher to describe behaviour.
 - They frequently observe behaviour in artificial situations.
 - Because researchers cannot control variables of interest, conclusions concerning cause-and-effect relationships are not appropriate.

ANSWER: d

78. What is the primary reason that descriptive and correlational research cannot determine conclusively that variables have a cause-and-effect relationship?
- The researcher observes behaviour under artificial situations.
 - The data collected frequently comes from direct observations or statements made by subjects.
 - Only an experimental group is used.
 - The researcher cannot control events or manipulate variables.

ANSWER: d

79. Henri wants to determine whether infant birth weight predicts the age at which children begin to walk and run. Which of the following designs would be most appropriate for this research?
- case study
 - naturalistic observation
 - experimental method
 - correlational method

ANSWER: d

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80. Eline wants to determine whether scented candles can help people relax. She plans to take two groups of students who have just finished difficult exams, and have one group sit in a room with scented candles while the other group sits in a room without scented candles. Both groups will be monitored for heart rate. Which type of design is Eline planning for her research?
- case study
 - correlational method
 - naturalistic observation
 - experimental method

ANSWER: d

81. What are descriptive statistics?
- numerical indexes of the degree of relationship between two variables
 - indicators of the probability that the observed findings are due to chance
 - calculations used to organize and summarize data
 - summaries used to interpret data and draw conclusions

ANSWER: c

82. Which of the following is NOT a measure of central tendency?
- mode
 - median
 - mean
 - medium

ANSWER: d

83. What is the term for the most frequent score in a distribution?
- mean
 - medium
 - median
 - mode

ANSWER: d

84. What is the median of the following distribution of scores: 1, 2, 3, 7, 7?
- 3
 - 4
 - 5
 - 7

ANSWER: a

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85. What is the mode of the following distribution of scores: 1, 2, 3, 7, 7?

- a. 3
- b. 4
- c. 5
- d. 7

ANSWER: d

86. What is the mean of the following distribution of scores: 1, 2, 3, 7, 7?

- a. 3
- b. 4
- c. 5
- d. 7

ANSWER: b

87. Which term describes the following distribution of scores: 1, 2, 3, 7, 7?

- a. symmetrical tendency
- b. negatively skewed
- c. non-central tendency
- d. positively skewed

ANSWER: b

88. Which measure of central tendency is most sensitive to (or most influenced by) extreme scores in a distribution?

- a. median
- b. medium
- c. mode
- d. mean

ANSWER: d

89. Which term is used to describe how much the scores in a data set differ from each other and from the mean?

- a. correlation
- b. mode
- c. variability
- d. central tendency

ANSWER: c

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90. Which of the following is an index of the amount of variability in a set of data?
- correlation coefficient
 - central tendency
 - statistical significance
 - standard deviation

ANSWER: d

91. If test scores for your midterm are normally distributed, what percentage of people scored higher than the mean?
- 66 percent
 - 50 percent
 - 33 percent
 - 25 percent

ANSWER: b

92. If your test score is at the 70th percentile, what proportion of the class got a higher score than you did?
- 3 percent
 - 7 percent
 - 30 percent
 - 70 percent

ANSWER: c

93. Which of the following statements illustrates a correlation between two variables?
- Scores on one variable are related to scores on the second variable.
 - Scores on either variable cause scores on the other variable.
 - Scores on one variable are different from the scores on the second variable.
 - Scores on one variable are independent from the scores on the second variable.

ANSWER: a

94. What do we call a numerical index of the degree of relationship between two variables?
- variable coefficient
 - experimental coefficient
 - correlation coefficient
 - causation coefficient

ANSWER: c

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95. If two variables have a positive correlation, then you should expect that low scores on one variable would predict which type of score on the other variable?
- a low score
 - a high score
 - a positive score
 - a negative score

ANSWER: a

96. As adults age, their physical strength declines. What type of correlation exists between age and physical strength?
- a strong correlation
 - a negative correlation
 - a weak correlation
 - a positive correlation

ANSWER: b

97. If there is a relationship between amount of coffee consumed daily and number of hours slept, such that people who drink a lot of coffee tend to sleep very little (and people who drink little coffee tend to sleep a lot), what correlation exists between coffee consumption and sleep?
- a negative correlation
 - a positive correlation
 - a decreasing correlation
 - an increasing correlation

ANSWER: a

98. What is the range of possible values for a correlation coefficient?
- between -10.00 and +10.00
 - between -1.00 and +1.00
 - between 0 and +1.00
 - between 0 percent and 100 percent

ANSWER: b

99. What does a large correlation coefficient (either positive or negative) indicate?
- A third factor or variable is responsible for the relationship between the two variables.
 - A change in one variable causes a change in the second variable.
 - The scores on the two variables are nearly identical.
 - One variable can be used to predict the other variable.

ANSWER: d

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100. Which of the following correlation coefficients indicates the strongest relationship between two variables?
- .151
 - .80
 - 0
 - +.50

ANSWER: b

101. Which of the following statements is NOT correct concerning the correlation coefficient?
- The strength of the relationship between the two variables is described by the mathematical value.
 - A value near zero indicates no relationship between the two variables.
 - High values indicate that the two variables have a cause-and-effect relationship.
 - The type of relationship between the two variables is described by whether the value is positive or negative.

ANSWER: c

102. If one variable can be reliably predicted from another variable, what can be said about the correlation between those two variables?
- It is strong.
 - It is weak.
 - It is negative.
 - It is positive.

ANSWER: a

103. If A and B are highly correlated, which statement most accurately describes the relationship between A and B?
- The score on A causes the score on B.
 - The score on B causes the score on A.
 - Both A and B are caused by a third variable.
 - The score on A can be used to predict the score on B.

ANSWER: d

104. Which pair of terms related to the goals of science is most clearly associated with the concept of correlation?
- description and understanding
 - understanding and prediction
 - description and prediction
 - prediction and application

ANSWER: c

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105. What are inferential statistics?

- a. data used to organize and summarize data
- b. numerical indexes of the degree of relationship between two variables
- c. calculations used to interpret data and draw conclusions
- d. indicators of the variability of a population under study

ANSWER: c

106. What do researchers use to determine whether the observed difference between the two groups in the study was large enough to support the hypothesis?

- a. descriptive statistics
- b. correlational statistics
- c. mathematical statistics
- d. inferential statistics

ANSWER: d

107. What does it mean when research results are said to be statistically significant?

- a. The observed findings are interesting.
- b. The observed findings are important.
- c. The probability that the observed findings are due to chance is very low.
- d. The probability that the observed findings are scientific is very high.

ANSWER: c

108. Which of the following is NOT a common methodological flaw to consider when evaluating scientific research?

- a. subject effect
- b. placebo effect
- c. social desirability bias
- d. sampling bias

ANSWER: a

109. What type of studies involves the repetition of a study to see whether the earlier results can be duplicated?

- a. duplication studies
- b. replication studies
- c. clarification studies
- d. verification studies

ANSWER: b

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110. If there are a lot of conflicting results on a particular topic, which of the following methods would allow all those results to be compared and analyzed as a whole?
- inferential statistics
 - meta-analysis
 - experiment
 - measures of central tendency

ANSWER: b

111. What is the term for the group of individuals actually observed in a research study?
- target group
 - population
 - demographic
 - sample

ANSWER: d

112. When a research project uses a sample that is not representative of the population from which it was drawn, what effect occurs?
- sampling bias
 - experimenter bias
 - response set
 - placebo effect

ANSWER: a

113. Dr. Arrabella surveyed students in his finance class about their attitudes concerning the Canada Pension Plan and concluded that young adults across Canada doubt that they will ever receive Canada Pension benefits. Why might his conclusion be flawed?
- He knew his subjects before he surveyed them.
 - His students were not a representative sample of young adults.
 - He did not survey the entire population of young adults.
 - His students were a random sample.

ANSWER: b

114. In scientific research, what is the result called when participants' expectations lead them to experience some change even though they received an empty, fake, or ineffectual treatment?
- experimenter bias
 - subject bias
 - the placebo effect
 - demand characteristics

ANSWER: c

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115. Dr. Coulombe is conducting an experiment on the effect of alcohol consumption on reaction time. Half of the subjects drink alcoholic drinks and half drink non-alcoholic versions of the same drinks. Which type of research flaw should be minimized by this research design?
- experimenter expectancy
 - self-report bias
 - the placebo effect
 - sampling bias

ANSWER: c

116. In which of the following studies would social desirability bias be most likely to affect results?
- a survey about water use and recycling habits
 - an experimental analysis of looking-times for a variety of faces
 - a naturalistic observation of shoppers in a mall
 - a correlational study examining the relationship between age and metabolism

ANSWER: a

117. In which of the scientific research methods are distortions in self-report most likely to be of concern to the researcher?
- survey method
 - correlational method
 - experimental method
 - naturalistic observation method

ANSWER: a

118. Todd is filling out a psychological test, and he doesn't understand a lot of the questions. He decides to just choose "all of the above" for every answer. What does this example illustrate?
- experimenter bias
 - halo effect
 - response set
 - social desirability bias

ANSWER: c

119. What is the term used to describe a situation where a researcher's expectations or preferences about the outcome of a study influence the results of the study?
- subject bias
 - the placebo effect
 - experimenter bias
 - the sampling effect

ANSWER: c

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120. Which of the following is a research strategy that minimizes the potential methodological problems associated with the placebo effect and experimenter bias?
- blind sample procedure
 - single blind procedure
 - neutral sample procedure
 - double blind procedure

ANSWER: d

121. If you were designing a study that would be run online, so that you would collect all your data over the Internet with participants that you never meet, which of the following research flaws would be minimized?
- sampling bias
 - response set
 - halo effect
 - experimenter bias

ANSWER: d

122. What is the primary ethical dilemma that psychologists encounter regarding the use of deception in research?
- whether the deception affects all participants equally
 - whether subjects believe the deception
 - whether there is a possibility of inflicting harm on subjects
 - whether deception is induced by the researcher or by participants

ANSWER: c

123. Which of the following statements regarding the use of deception in psychological research is FALSE?
- Participants in research involving the use of deception generally report that they enjoyed the experience.
 - Critics of deception believe that the deception may result in subjects becoming less trusting of others.
 - Critics of deception believe that the conclusions from studies involving deception are not valid.
 - Defenders of deception believe that some research questions can be studied only by using deception.

ANSWER: c

124. Which of the following is one of the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) ethical principles?
- prohibition of payments for research participation, in order to avoid exploitation
 - prohibition of the use of deception in research
 - protection for the dignity, privacy, and personal liberty of research participants
 - detailed regulations regarding the appropriate housing and care of animals in research

ANSWER: c

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125. According to the ethical guidelines for psychological research with humans, if you agree to be a participant in a research study then which of the following must be true?
- You will not be exposed to harmful or dangerous treatments without your knowledge.
 - You waive the right to privacy.
 - You have to commit to participating in the entire research study.
 - You will not be exposed to deception.

ANSWER: a

126. According to the ethical guidelines for conducting psychological research with animals, what is the current position on exposing animals to harmful or painful procedures?
- It is justified if the research design requires the harmful or painful procedures.
 - It is justified for lower animals but not for primates.
 - It cannot be justified unless the potential benefits of the research are substantial.
 - It is never justified.

ANSWER: c

127. Which statement regarding the use of animals in psychological research is most accurate?
- While ethical principles govern the treatment of humans in research, there are no ethical principles for conducting animal research.
 - Animals are to be used in research if there is evidence that the results will benefit both humans and other animals.
 - Animals are used as subjects only for procedures that are too harmful for human participants.
 - Psychologists, if given a choice, always prefer to conduct animal research instead of human research.

ANSWER: b

128. The various methods and procedures used in conducting psychological research and evaluating the research of other psychologists are consistent with which unifying theme in psychology?
- Psychology is theoretically diverse.
 - Psychology is empirical.
 - Our behaviour is determined by multiple causes.
 - Our behaviour is shaped by our cultural heritage.

ANSWER: b

129. The double blind procedure was developed by researchers because of which unifying theme in psychology?
- Psychology is empirical.
 - Psychology evolves in a sociohistorical context.
 - Our behaviour is shaped by our cultural heritage.
 - Our experience of the world is highly subjective.

ANSWER: d

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130. What do we call a periodical that publishes technical and scholarly material in a specific field?

- a. magazine
- b. blog
- c. publication
- d. journal

ANSWER: d

131. Which of the following is true of most journal articles in psychology?

- a. They are descriptions of newly developed theories.
- b. They are reviews that summarize and reconcile the findings from a large number of studies.
- c. They are criticisms of previously published research.
- d. They are reports that describe original empirical studies.

ANSWER: d

132. Which of the following is NOT possible with the use of PsycINFO?

- a. searching for research articles authored by a specific individual
- b. searching for research articles related to a specific topic
- c. seeing online a complete version of a specific research article published in a journal
- d. seeing online a brief summary of a specific research article published in a journal

ANSWER: c

133. Which section of a journal article involving psychological research provides a brief summary to the research project?

- a. abstract
- b. introduction
- c. results
- d. discussion

ANSWER: a

134. Which section of a journal article describing psychological research contains the author's interpretation and evaluation of the data?

- a. conclusion
- b. references
- c. results
- d. discussion

ANSWER: d

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135. Which of the following is reflected by the organization or standard format of journal articles describing psychological research?
- the steps involved in conducting scientific research
 - the unifying themes of psychology
 - the preferences of the specific researcher
 - the goals of science

ANSWER: a

136. Jarrod explains his opinion against buying a certain model of car by noting that even though the model is popular and highly rated by numerous organizations, his cousin has that model and has had a lot of problems. How is Jarrod making his decision?
- He is basing his opinion on anecdotal evidence.
 - He is basing his opinion on firsthand information.
 - He is using the evidence-based decision-making procedure.
 - He is using critical thinking skills to reach an opinion.

ANSWER: a

137. What do we call Beth's prediction that exposure to strangers will increase heart rate?
- the hypothesis
 - the correlation
 - the methodology
 - the theory

ANSWER: a

138. What is the operational definition of a stress response in Beth's study?
- increase in heart rate
 - heart rate monitors
 - fear
 - exposure to strangers

ANSWER: a

139. What type of study is Beth conducting?
- experiment
 - case study
 - correlational study
 - naturalistic observation

ANSWER: a

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140. If Beth wants to determine whether there are significant differences between conditions in her study, which type of statistics should she use?
- a. measures of central tendency
 - b. descriptive statistics
 - c. correlation coefficients
 - d. inferential statistics

ANSWER: d

141. If Beth's report were organized like a journal article, which sections has she completed writing?
- a. discussion and abstract
 - b. introduction and methods
 - c. abstract and introduction
 - d. discussion and methods

ANSWER: b