|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Topic/Learning Objective |  | Remember the Facts | Understand the Concepts | Apply What You Know | Analyze It |
| **POP Quiz 1** | Multiple Choice | 1-4,6- 9 | 5,10 |  |  |
| **POP quiz 2**  | Multiple Choice | 1-6,8,10 | 7,9 |  |  |
| **Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion** 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community. | Multiple Choice | 1,5,7,8,10,11,13,14,16,17,19-21, 23,33 | 2,12,24,26,30,32 | 9,18,22,27-29,34 | 3,4,6,15,25,31 |
| True/False | 1-16, 19,21,23-28 | 17,18,20,22 |  |  |
| Short Answer | 6 | 3-5,7 | 1,2 |  |
| Essay |  |  |  | 1-3 |
| Integrative Essay | 1 |  |  |  |
| **Thinking Critically and Scientifically About Psychology**1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology. | Multiple Choice | 40,42 | 35,49 | 38,41,43-46,52-54 | 36,37,39,47,48,50,51 |
| True/False | 29,32 | 30,31,33-38,40 |  | 39 |
| Short Answer | 9 | 8 | 10,11  |  |
| Essay |  |  | 4 | 5,6 |
| Integrative Essay |  |  |  |  |
| **Doing Research: Moving from Questions to Data**1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes. 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys. | Multiple Choice | 55,58,60,64,69,70 | 56,61-63,73,74 | 57,59,66-68, 71,72 | 65 |
| True/False | 41-43,47-53 | 44-46 |  |  |
| Short Answer |  | 12 | 13,14 |  |
| Essay |  |  |  | 7 |
| Integrative Essay |  |  |  |  |

**(Continued on next page)**

**Total**

**Assessment**

**Guide**

**Chapter 1**

**What is psychology?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Topic/Learning Objective |  | Remember the Facts | Understand the Concepts | Apply What You Know | Analyze It |
| **Correlational Studies: Looking for Relationships** 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables. | Multiple Choice | 75,76,88,91,92,95 | 82,84-87,90,93 | 77,81,94 | 78-80,83,89,96 |
| True/False | 54,55-63,65 |  |  | 64 |
| Short Answer |  | 15,16 |  |  |
| Essay |  |  | 8 | 9 |
| Integrative Essay |  |  |  |  |
|  **Experiments: Hunting for Causes**1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design. | Multiple Choice | 97,98,100,105, 106,127,128 | 99,101,112,113,116,123-125, 130,134,135 | 102-104,107-111,114,115, 117-120,126, 129,132,133 | 121,122,131 |
| True/False | 66-74, 76,77,79- 84 | 78 |  | 75 |
| Short Answer |  | 17-19 |  |  |
| Essay |  |  |  |  |
| Integrative Essay |  |  |  |  |
| **Evaluating the Findings**1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise. | Multiple Choice | 136,138,141-143,145-147 | 144,150 | 137,139,140,148 | 149 |
| True/False | 85-88 |  |  | 89,90 |
| Short Answer |  | 20 |  |  |
| Essay  |  |  |  | 10 |
| Integrative Essay |  |  |  |  |

**Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Chapter 1 – Pop Quiz 1**

1. Psychology is defined as the discipline concerned with

 a. the study of all physical stimuli that affect human sensations and perceptions.

 b. behavior and mental processes and how they are affected by an organism’s physical state, mental state, and external environment.

 c. the study of humankind and the importance of culture in explaining the diversity in human behavior.

 d. maladaptive human behaviors and cognitions that are incorporated into a person’s self-worth during childhood.

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ established the first psychological laboratory in 1879.

 a. Sigmund Freud

 b. John Locke

 c. William James

 d. Wilhelm Wundt

3. Which modern psychological perspective focuses on how people reason, remember, understand language, and solve problems?

 a. the learning perspective

 b. the cognitive perspective

 c. the sociocultural perspective

 d. the psychodynamic perspective

4. In almost all states, a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is required to obtain a license to practice clinical psychology.

 a. doctorate

 b. master’s degree

 c. medical degree

 d. certificate from a psychoanalytic institute

5. Critical thinking requires

 a. creativity for creating alternative explanations.

 b. treating all theories as equally valid.

 c. low tolerance for uncertainty.

 d. emotional reasoning.

6. Research methods that depict behavior, but do not necessarily yield causal explanations, are called

 a. experimental methods.

 b. blind studies.

 c. significance tests.

 d. descriptive methods.

7. Assessment instruments that are designed to tap unconscious feelings or motives are called

 a. objective tests.

 b. projective tests.

 c. double-blind tests.

 d. single-blind tests.

8. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another.

 a. relationship coefficient

 b. meta-analysis

 c. Bayesian statistic

 d. correlation

9. Which variable does a researcher manipulate when conducting an experiment?

 a. control variable

 b. confounding variable

 c. independent variable

 d. dependent variable

10. A result that is significant at the .05 level indicates that

 a. the result was obtained purely by chance and is not real.

 b. the probability that the result is due to real differences between groups is .05.

 c. there is a positive relationship between variables.

 d. the probability that the result occurred by chance is low, and therefore the result is probably real.

**Chapter 1 – Pop Quiz 1**

**Answer Key**

1. b Rationale: Psychology is the discipline concerned with understanding behavior and mental processes and how they are affected by an organism’s physical state, mental state, and external environment. The other choices are only a part of psychology. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.1.A, APA 1.1, 1.2)

2. d Rationale: Wilhelm Wundt is referred to as the founder of modern, scientific psychology because he established the first psychological laboratory in Leipzig in 1879. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.1.B, APA 1.1, 1.2)

3. b Rationale: The cognitive perspective focuses on understanding the processes the mind uses to know and understand the world. (Remember the Facts, Moderate, LO 1.1.C, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.2)

4. a Rationale: Most U.S. states require a doctoral degree to be licensed as a psychologist. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.1.D, APA 1.1, 1.2, 5.5)

5. a Rationale: Critical thinking includes the ability to be creative and constructive, the ability to come up with alternative rationales for events, think of implications of research findings, and apply new knowledge to social and personal problems. It does not mean that all opinions are created equal and that everybody’s beliefs are as good as anyone else’s. (Understand the Concepts, Easy, LO 1.2.A, APA 1.1, 2.1, 2.2)

6. d Rationale: This is a definition of descriptive research techniques. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.3.B, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.4)

7. b Rationale: Projective tests purport to determine a person’s unconscious feelings and motives. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.3.B, APA 1.1, 1.2)

8. d Rationale: This is a definition of correlation. A correlation is a measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.4.A, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.4)

9. c Rationale: The independent variable is manipulated by the experimenter. The dependent variable gets affected by the experimenter’s manipulation of the independent variable. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.5.A, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.4)

10. d Rationale: A .05 level of significance means that there is less than 5 percent probability that the results were due to chance. If, however, the significance test shows that the *p* value is greater than .05, many researchers would have little confidence in the study’s result. (Understand the Concepts, Difficult, LO 1.6.B, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.4)

**Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Chapter 1 – Pop Quiz 2**

1. Compared to “pop psychology,” psychology

 a. is based on empirical evidence.

 b. is less complex.

 c. addresses only human behavior.

 d. is narrower in the issues it addresses.

2. Which classic pseudoscientific theory that related bumps on the head to personality traits did not disappear until well into the twentieth century?

 a. introspection

 b. functionalism

 c. phrenology

 d. behaviorism

3. The first psychological laboratory was officially established by Wilhelm Wundt in

 a. America.

 b. Holland.

 c. Germany.

 d. Russia.

4. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a medical doctor who diagnoses and treats mental disorders and takes a more biological approach than other psychotherapists.

 a. psychiatrist

 b. psychoanalyst

 c. LCSW

 d. MFCC

5. Which strategy is one of the critical-thinking guidelines described in the textbook?

 a. don’t overthink; go with your gut reaction

 b. define your terms

 c. accept all opinions as equally valid

 d. simplify as much as possible

6. The tendency to look for information that supports one’s own belief is called

a. the principle of falsifiability.

b. confirmation bias.

c. denialism.

d. cognitive inertia.

7. Which advantage is true of case studies?

a. Case studies produce a more detailed picture of an individual than other methods do.

b. The information produced in a case study is easy to interpret.

c. Data collected during a case study can be easily generalized to other individuals.

d. Case studies are less susceptible to researcher bias than other methods.

8. A numerical measure of the relationship between two variables is known as

 a. correlation.

 b. the association coefficient.

 c. association.

 d. arbitrage.

9. Which pairs of variables would illustrate a negative correlation?

a. ocean temperature and the number of people at the beach

b. adult shoe size and IQ scores

c. the price of a car and the mileage on the odometer

d. height and weight

10. A variable that is predicted to be affected by an experimenter’s manipulations in experimental research is called a(n)

a. extraneous variable.

b. dependent variable.

c. confounding variable.

d. independent variable.

**Chapter 1 – Pop Quiz 2**

**Answer Key**

1. a Rationale: Psychology (the science you’re learning about in this course), as opposed to pop psychology, is strongly based on empirical evidence. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.1.A, APA 1.1, 1.2)

2. c Rationale: Phrenology is a pseudoscientific theory that relates bumps on the head to personality traits. Enthusiasm for phrenology did not disappear until the twentieth century. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.1.B, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.1)

3. d Rationale: Wilhelm Wundt established the first psychological laboratory in Germany. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.1.B, APA 1.1, 1.2)

4. a Rationale: A psychiatrist is a medical doctor who has done a three-year residency in psychiatry to learn how to diagnose and treat mental disorders. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.1.D, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 5.5)

5. b Rationale: Defining terms is one of the critical thinking guidelines. Vague or poorly defined terms in a question can lead to misleading or incomplete answers, or cause terrible misunderstandings. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.2.A, 1.9, APA 1.1, 1.2)

6. b Rationale: Confirmation bias occurs when people look for and accept evidence that supports their pet theories and assumptions and ignore or reject evidence that contradicts their beliefs. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.2.A, 1.9, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.4)

7. a Rationale: Case studies illustrate psychological principles in a way that abstract generalizations and descriptive statistics never can, and they produce a more detailed picture of an individual than other methods do. However, they can also be biased, difficult to interpret, and their results do not always generalize to other individuals. (Understand the Concepts, Moderate, LO 1.3.B, APA 1.1, 2.1, 2.2)

8. a Rationale: This is the definition of correlation. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.4.A, APA 1.1, 2.4)

9. c Rationale: There is a negative relationship between the price of a car and its mileage. The more miles driven, the less a car is typically worth. (Understand the Concepts, Moderate, LO 1.4.A, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.4)

10. b Rationale: A dependent variable is a variable that an experimenter predicts will be affected by manipulations of the independent variable. (Remember the Facts, Easy, LO 1.5.A, APA 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.4)

**Multiple Choice Questions**

1. Psychology is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that explores behavior and mental processes.

1. philosophical discipline
2. scientific discipline
3. medical field
4. pseudoscience

Answer: b

Topic: What Psychology Is and Is Not

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

Rationale: Psychologycan be defined generally as the scientific discipline concerned with behavior and mental processes and how they are affected by an organism’s physical state, mental state, and external environment.

2. Empirical findings are those that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. rely on observation, experimentation, or measurement
2. characterize an entire set of research data
3. are conducted in a field setting outside of a laboratory
4. compare subjects of different ages at a given time

Answer: a

Topic: What Psychology Is and Is Not

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Empirical means relying on or derived from observation, experimentation, or measurement.

3. Which conclusion regarding scientific psychological findings is CORRECT?

1. They are always in opposition to popular psychology.
2. They are always in opposition to conventional thinking and “common sense.”
3. Experiments must be conducted in a laboratory.
4. They can confirm or expand existing beliefs and knowledge.

Answer: d

Topic: What Psychology Is and Is Not

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Psychological findings need not be surprising or counterintuitive in order to be important. Sometimes they validate common sense beliefs and then explain or extend them.

4. Consulting which source would provide the most accurate view of psychology?

1. listening to a radio call-in show facilitated by a therapist
2. searching the Internet to see what the popular opinion is on when to begin toilet training an infant
3. reading a self-help book written by a pastoral counselor about how to get over a breakup
4. reading a newspaper article on the causes of bullying, which describes some of the current empirical research evidence

Answer: d

Topic: What Psychology Is and Is Not

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Real psychology bears little relation to popular psychology and its pseudoscientific relatives found on the Internet, on television, and in thousands of self-help books. It is based on scientific research and empirical evidence.

5. In contrast to modern psychologists, ancient scholars explored human nature primarily through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. empirical evidence
2. experimentation
3. trained introspection
4. insights inferred from anecdotes

Answer: d

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Unlike modern psychologists, scholars of the past did not rely heavily on empirical evidence. Often their observations were based simply on anecdotes or descriptions of individual cases.

6. Many great thinkers from history were interested in questions that today would be called “psychological.” What did these thinkers have in common with modern psychologists?

1. to offer classes or self-study programs for people who want to overcome their deficiencies
2. to compare anecdotal evidence to first-hand observation of individual cases
3. to use empirical evidence to determine fundamental truths about the human condition
4. the desire to describe, predict, understand, and modify human behavior to increase human knowledge and happiness

Answer: d

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Many of the great thinkers of history, from Aristotle to Zoroaster, raised questions that today would be called psychological. Like today’s psychologists, they wanted to describe, predict, understand, and modify behavior in order to add to human knowledge and increase human happiness.

7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had inferred that the brain is the ultimate source of all pleasures and sorrows long before it was empirically verified, and he is now known as the founder of modern medicine.

1. Hippocrates
2. Wilhelm Wundt
3. Anaximander
4. John Locke

Answer: a

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Hippocrates, known as the founder of modern medicine, observed patients with head injuries and inferred that the brain must be the ultimate source of our pleasures as well as sorrows.

8. Which 17th-century philosopher argued that the mind works by associating ideas arising from experience, an idea that continues to influence many psychologists today?

1. Immanuel Kant
2. Rene Descartes
3. Sigmund Freud
4. John Locke

Answer: d

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: The forerunners of modern psychology often had insights and made observations that were verified by later work.

9. Armando, a business owner, sought the help of a friend to find out which employees were likely to be loyal and honest if hired. The friend examined the bumps on the heads of all applicants and gave Armando a list of the employees he should hire. Armando’s friend applied the discredited techniques of a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. sociologist
2. alchemist
3. psychiatrist
4. phrenologist

Answer: d

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

Rationale: Phrenology is a discredited theory that sought to relate bumps on the head to personality traits.

10. Who established the first psychological laboratory in 1879?

1. Sigmund Freud
2. John Locke
3. William James
4. Wilhelm Wundt

Answer: d

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

Rationale: Wilhelm Wundt established the first psychological laboratory in Leipzig, Germany, in 1879.

11. The research method used by Wilhelm Wundt, in which volunteers were taught to carefully observe, analyze, and describe their own sensations and emotional reactions, is called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. trained introspection
2. experimentation
3. conceptual proliferation
4. armchair psychology

Answer: a

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

Rationale: Trained introspection was the research method popularly used by Wilhelm Wundt in which volunteers were taught to carefully observe, analyze, and describe their own sensations and emotional reactions. The goal of trained introspection was to break down behavior into its most basic elements, much as a chemist might break down water into hydrogen plus oxygen.

12. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wanted to understand how specific behaviors and mental processes help a person or animal adapt to the environment, so they looked for the underlying causes and consequences of these behaviors and processes.

1. Rationalists
2. Structuralists
3. Fundamentalists
4. Functionalists

Answer: d

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

Rationale: Functionalism emphasized the function or purpose of behavior and was inspired by Darwin’s theory of how species adapt to their environment.

13. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ founded the field of psychoanalysis.

1. Sigmund Freud
2. William James
3. Wilhelm Wundt
4. E. B. Titchener

Answer: a

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

Rationale: Sigmund Freud was the founder of the field of psychoanalysis. Wilhelm Wundt is referred to as the founder of modern, scientific psychology, William James advocated functionalism, and E. B. Titchener was a student of Wundt’s.

14. Which early school of thought in psychology emphasized the importance of the unconscious mind?

1. phrenology
2. structuralism
3. functionalism
4. psychoanalysis

Answer: d

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

Rationale: Psychoanalysis is a theory of personality and a method of psychotherapy, originally formulated by Sigmund Freud that emphasizes unconscious motives and conflicts.

15. Which statement best represents the acceptance of women and members of underrepresented groups into the field of psychology?

1. Women and members of underrepresented groups were welcomed into psychology from the very beginning.
2. Women and members of underrepresented groups have still not successfully engaged in the field of psychology.
3. It took decades of challenging many biases for women and members of underrepresented groups to find a place in psychology.
4. After universities accepted women into their Ph.D. programs, they were readily accepted into the profession.

Answer: c

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Women and people of color had to work very hard to overcome the biases inherent in the early history of psychology.

16. A recent survey of the 50 Most Influential Living Psychologists contained \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ women and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people of color.

1. 13; 0
2. 5;10
3. 15; 8

d. 0; 0

Answer: a

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Like many disciplines, the early track record of psychology was bleak when it came to diversity. The field has come a long way since then, and yet, more work remains to be done.

17. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ perspective is an approach to psychology that emphasizes bodily events and changes associated with actions, feelings, and thoughts.

1. biological
2. learning
3. cognitive
4. sociocultural

Answer: a

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: The biological perspective focuses on how bodily events affect actions, feelings, and thoughts. Biological psychologists study how these physical events interact with events in the external environment to produce perceptions, memories, emotions, and vulnerability to mental disorder.

18. Xiao ling is a teenager who is grumpy all of the time and fights with her mother often. Her mother believes it is because of her raging hormones. Xiao ling’s mother is taking a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ approach to explaining Xiao ling’s behavior.

* 1. sociocultural
	2. biological
	3. learning
	4. cognitive

Answer: b

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: The biological perspective focuses on how bodily events affect behavior, feelings, and thoughts.

19. Compared to the others, which modern psychological specialty most resembles functionalism?

1. social psychology
2. social-cognitive learning theory
3. evolutionary psychology
4. behavioral learning theory

Answer: c

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: One popular specialty within the biological perspective is evolutionary psychology, which follows in the footsteps of functionalism by focusing on how genetically influenced behavior that was functional or adaptive during our evolutionary past may be reflected in many of our present behaviors, mental processes, and traits.

20. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ perspective of psychology focuses on how the environment and experience affect an individual’s actions.

1. cognitive
2. learning
3. sociocultural
4. psychodynamic

Answer: b

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: The learning perspective is concerned with how the environment and experience affect the behavior of human beings (and other animals). Within this perspective, behaviorists focus on the environmental rewards and punishments that maintain or discourage specific behaviors.

21. Which modern psychological perspective is behaviorism a part of?

1. biological
2. cognitive
3. sociocultural
4. learning

Answer: d

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: Within the learning perspective, behaviorists focus on the environmental rewards and punishers that maintain or discourage specific behaviors.

22. Dr. Sardonicus is a behaviorist who is studying the causes of excessive violence among some hockey players. She is likely to consider whether \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. the more aggressive players have experienced brain injuries
2. players who engage in excessive violence are rewarded in some way
3. the more aggressive players experienced emotional abuse during childhood
4. cultural change has shaped hockey players to become more violent than in the past

Answer: b

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: Within the learning perspective, behaviorists focus on the environmental rewards and punishers that maintain or discourage specific behaviors.

23. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is an approach to psychology that emphasizes mental processes in perception, memory, language, problem solving, and other areas of behavior.

1. biological perspective
2. learning perspective
3. cognitive perspective
4. sociocultural perspective

Answer: c

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: The cognitive perspective focuses on mental processes in perception, memory, language, problem solving, and other areas of behavior.

24. A psychologist who embraces the cognitive perspective would be most interested in understanding \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. how punishments and rewards affect behavior
2. similarities among diverse cultural environments
3. unconscious conflicts that lead to emotional problems
4. how people think, reason, and solve problems

Answer: d

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: The cognitive perspective emphasizes what goes on in people’s heads (i.e., how people think).

25. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ perspective is to “mind” as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ perspective is to “brain.”

1. cultural; cognitive
2. learning; sociocultural
3. cognitive; biological
4. biological; sociocultural

Answer: c

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: The cognitive perspective is a psychological approach that emphasizes mental processes in perception, memory, language, problem solving, and other areas of behavior.The biological perspective emphasizes the physical and physiological underpinnings of thought and behavior.

26. Which modern psychological perspective focuses on how our behavior is influenced by the other people in our environment and the communities we belong to?

1. sociocultural
2. learning
3. cognitive
4. biological

Answer: a

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: The sociocultural perspective focuses on social and cultural forces outside the individual, forces that shape every aspect of behavior.

27. Dr. Lyons studies the impact of societal norms and values on human decision-making behavior. It is most likely that she endorses which of the following psychological approaches?

1. sociocultural
2. learning
3. cognitive
4. biological

Answer: a

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: The sociocultural perspective focuses on social and cultural forces outside the individual, forces that shape every aspect of behavior.

28. Because Kiki is interested in how interpersonal patterns of interactions, traditional beliefs, and long-held customs influence behavior, it’s fair to say that she is interested in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ perspective on psychology.

1. biological
2. cognitive
3. learning
4. sociocultural

Answer: d

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: Kiki wants to examine the impact of social and cultural forces on behavior.

29. In studying compliance and obedience, Professor Mgumbe is interested in looking at differences between prison guards in South Korea and Ireland. Dr. Mgumbe is adopting a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ perspective in this cross-cultural comparison of social influences.

1. learning
2. cognitive
3. sociocultural
4. biological

Answer: c

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

Rationale: The professor is looking for similarities and differences across cultures within a specific context.

30. Some psychologists work in basic psychology, seeking knowledge for its own sake, whereas others work in applied psychology, looking for practical uses of knowledge. The two approaches are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. diametrically opposed

b. complementary

c. based in very different perspectives

d. identified by the amount of education the psychologist has

Answer: b

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: The two approaches are complementary: Applied psychology has direct relevance to human problems, but without basic psychology, there would be little knowledge to apply.

31. Cliff is a researcher who wants to understand what it takes to motivate someone to lose weight. Which designation BEST represents Cliff’s role as a psychologist?

1. basic psychology researcher
2. applied psychology researcher
3. educational psychologist
4. psychometric psychologist

Answer: a

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Basic psychology research asks questions about behavior for its own sake.

32. One reason why people in the general public are often confused about what psychologists do is that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. psychologists themselves are often confused about what it means to be a psychologist
2. psychology has never been established as a real academic field
3. there is widespread disagreement among psychologists about the proper role for psychologists
4. there is a wide variety of psychology specialties and roles psychologists can play in the community

Answer: d

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Psychologists are all over the place, doing all kinds of things.

33. The term \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is not legally regulated, and therefore such a practitioner may have an advanced professional degree or no degree whatsoever.

1. clinical psychologist
2. psychiatrist
3. psychoanalyst
4. psychotherapist

Answer: d

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: A psychotherapist is simply anyone who does any kind of psychotherapy. The term is not legally regulated; in fact, in most states, anyone can say that she or he is a therapist without having any training at all.

34. Dr. Braun has been treating a child diagnosed with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). She decides to write a prescription for Ritalin as the primary treatment response. Given this information, it is most likely that Dr. Braun is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. psychiatrist
2. psychoanalyst
3. clinical psychologist
4. school psychologist

Answer: a

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Unlike psychiatrists, clinical psychologists and other therapists cannot write prescriptions in most states.

35. The ability to make objective judgments on the basis of well-supported reasons and evidence rather than emotion or anecdote is called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. applied psychology
2. critical thinking
3. functionalism
4. introspection

Answer: b

Topic: What Is Critical Thinking?

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Critical thinking is the ability and willingness to assess claims and make objective judgments on the basis of well-supported reasons and evidence rather than emotion or anecdote. Critical thinkers are able to look for flaws in arguments and to resist claims that have no support.

36. Critical thinking involves \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. looking for other people’s personal flaws or weaknesses
2. using one’s intuition to assess claims made by researchers
3. using evidence to make objective judgments
4. detecting emotional cues to find hidden agendas in research

Answer: c

Topic: What Is Critical Thinking?

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Critical thinking is the ability and willingness to assess claims and make objective judgments on the basis of well-supported reasons and evidence rather than emotion or anecdote. Critical thinkers are able to look for flaws in arguments and to resist claims that have no support.

37. Critical thinking shows us that on matters of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, all ideas are not created equal.

1. fact
2. opinion
3. personal preference
4. feeling

Answer: b

Topic: What Is Critical Thinking?

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Many scientists have observed that it’s good to be open-minded, but open-mindedness does not mean that all opinions are created equal and that everybody’s beliefs are as good as anyone else’s. An opinion that ignores reality is *not* equal to any other.

38. Francine is conducting an Internet search on a topic before writing a paper. Her critical thinking skills are not as good as some of her classmates, so she is likely to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. question the sources of all material she finds
2. need to conduct her own experiments
3. rely on the material that appears at the top of the search results
4. find the best answers at the top of the search results

Answer: c

Topic: What Is Critical Thinking?

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: A team of researchers found that most college students are easily tricked by Internet results.

They tend to rely on the material that comes up at the top of the results list, without assessing its credibility.

39. “No intelligent life exists outside of the Milky Way, and nothing you can tell me will change that fact!” Which aspect of critical thinking does the person who made this statement lack?

1. All evidence is not equal in quality.
2. Expertise does not make the claims of the authority or expert true.
3. Maintaining an open mind to the possibility of evidence.
4. Evidence is only necessary if it can be tested.

Answer: c

Topic: What Is Critical Thinking?

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Critical thinkers are not dismissive; they can and should maintain an open mind to the possibility that evidence might refute their beliefs. But “open-minded” need not imply “I’ll believe anything.”

40. What is the first step toward critical thinking?

* 1. Define your terms.
	2. Ask questions and be willing to wonder.
	3. Analyze assumptions and biases.
	4. Examine the evidence.

Answer: b

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Being willing to ask questions and not take things for granted is the first step to critical thinking.

41. Mario’s daughter, Clarissa, is 3 years old, and her favorite form of punctuation is a question mark. “Why is the sky blue, Daddy?” she asks Mario. “Why do birds sing? Where does the water go when you flush the toilet? What makes paint different colors? When is 512 days from now? Which flower grows the fastest?” Even at her tender age, Clarissa is showing all the critical thinking hallmarks of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. define her terms
2. asking questions and being willing to wonder
3. analyzing her assumptions and biases
4. examining the evidence

Answer: b

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Being willing to ask questions is a habit everyone should cultivate.

42. Rolando was brought up in a conservative household. “The Earth is flat, people are either good or bad, and God created everything; case closed, that’s all I need to know,” he states emphatically. Which fundamental aspect of critical thinking is Rolando crucially lacking?

1. Define your terms
2. Analyze assumptions and biases
3. Examine the evidence
4. Ask questions and be willing to wonder

Answer: d

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Rolando seems content to blissfully and ignorantly stumble through life never questioning anything beyond the received ideas he already holds.

43. “Children who watch violent cartoons are likely to become more aggressive themselves.” In the context of the principles of critical thinking, this statement represents a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. conclusion
2. theory
3. anecdote
4. hypothesis

Answer: d

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: This is a testable statement about something that can be measured, observed, and defined in a scientific context.

44. Ophelia has always been drawn to the saying “Absence makes the heart grow fonder,” and she decides to incorporate this saying into her introductory psychology research project. Ophelia is trying to define *absence* in a way that can be empirically tested. She is attempting to find an appropriate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. operational definition
2. experimental setting
3. hypothesis
4. theory

Answer: a

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Operationalization defines terms in ways that render them measurable.

45. An operational definition refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships
2. the precise meaning of a term used to describe a variable, such as a type of behavior, that researchers want to measure
3. the principle that a scientific theory must make predictions that are specific enough to expose the theory to the possibility of disconfirmation
4. a statement that attempts to predict a set of phenomena and specifies relationships among variables that can be empirically tested

Answer: b

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Precision is an important element in defining one’s terms.

46. Marita tells her introductory psychology professor that she wants to study why similarity leads to attraction. “That’s great,” her instructor replies. “But what do you mean, exactly, by ‘similarity’ and ‘attraction’?” What is Marita’s professor urging her to do?

1. propose a theory to explain why similarity is related to attraction
2. formulate a hypothesis about the relationship between her variables of interest
3. create operational definitions of the variables she wants to study

d. compute a correlation coefficient between her variables

Answer: c

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Operationalization provides a specific description of the variables of interest that allow them to be measured.

47. Critical thinkers analyze their assumptions and those of others. Which statement best demonstrates this skill?

1. “My boss won’t let me work from home, but her decision is based on the belief that employees are more productive at the office.”
2. “I think my girlfriend is cheating on me, but I’m too angry right now to think logically.”
3. “It’s okay to admit that I don’t know the answer when my son asks me a question.”
4. “There’s probably no single reason why people commit crimes.”

Answer: a

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: All of the statements reflect good critical thinking skills, but only the statement about working from home involves analyzing an assumption. Specifically, the employee has concluded that the boss’s decision is based on a specific assumption that may or may not be correct.

48. The statement “all swine are white” constitutes a testable hypothesis. Based on the principle of falsifiability, what should a researcher do to test this hypothesis?

1. count how many white swine are present in a barnyard
2. gather instances of white swine
3. find a single black swine
4. count how many white swine are present in multiple barnyards

Answer: c

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Some fundamental logic is at work here. After observing 1,000 white swine, finding the 1,001 does little to test the hypothesis. However, finding a single black swine falsifies the hypothesis readily.

49. The tendency to look for information that supports one’s own belief reflects the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. confirmation bias
2. principle of falsifiability
3. volunteer bias
4. willingness to wonder

Answer: a

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Only paying attention to or seeking information in line with existing beliefs runs counter to the principles of critical thinking.

50. “I really want to believe my vague recollection of an incident that occurred at Disneyland as a preschooler is true, but that doesn’t mean that it is true.” Which of the following critical thinking guidelines does this example illustrate?

1. Examine the evidence.
2. Define your terms.
3. Don’t oversimplify.
4. Avoid emotional reasoning.

Answer: d

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: This is part of the analyze assumptions and biases step in critical thinking.

51. Critical thinkers should approach psychology textbooks as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. being almost entirely correct
2. an opportunity to generate alternative explanations
3. being almost entirely incorrect
4. a way to reduce uncertainties

Answer: b

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Critical thinkers do not assume that theories or facts are either correct or incorrect. Instead, they consider other interpretations before deciding on the most likely one. Critical thinking also requires tolerating uncertainty.

52. “My memory of getting knocked down by a wave at Newport Beach could be based on what my parents told me later, not on my own recollection.” Which critical thinking guideline does this statement illustrate?

1. Define your terms.
2. Avoid emotional reasoning.
3. Weigh conclusions.
4. Analyze assumptions and biases.

Answer: c

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Critical thinkers consider other possible interpretations by creatively generating as many reasonable explanations of the topic at hand as possible before settling on the most likely one.

53. Randy meets a Californian who grows his own vegetables and refuses to eat nonorganic food. Randy concludes that Californians are overzealous about nutrition. Which critical thinking guideline did Randy overlook?

1. Don’t oversimplify.
2. Define your terms.
3. Weigh conclusions.
4. Examine the evidence.

Answer: d

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: This is an example of generalizing from a personal experience, a common form of oversimplification.

54. “I may never know for sure whether some of my childhood memories are real or accurate.” Which of the following critical thinking guidelines does this example illustrate?

1. Define your terms.
2. Examine the evidence.
3. Weigh conclusions.
4. Ask questions and be willing to wonder.

Answer: c

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

Rationale: Critical thinkers are willing to accept a state of uncertainty when there is little or no evidence, the evidence permits only tentative conclusions, or the evidence seems strong only until new evidence throws beliefs into disarray.

55. Researchers prefer to select participants who accurately represent the larger population that the researchers are interested in. This type of a group is called a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sample.

a. double-blind

b. cross-cultural

c. volunteer

d. representative

Answer: d

Topic: Finding a Sample

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A representative sample is a group of individuals, selected from a population for study, that matches the population on important characteristics.

56. Which group would be considered a good example of a representative sample of college students in the United States?

a. all the students from a particular rural college

b. every male student from three colleges in Texas

c. a diverse population in both urban and rural college classrooms in several states

d. self-identified student volunteers who found your survey on the Internet

Answer: c

Topic: Finding a Sample

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A representative sample is a group of individuals, selected from a population for study, which matches the population on important characteristics.

57. Dr. Natuzzi wants to know about the alcohol consumption patterns among college juniors in the United States. He should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. remember that sample size is the most critical factor in survey research

b. give the survey to every college junior in the country

c. draw a representative sample among college juniors

d. require students’ names on each survey to avoid the tendency to lie

Answer: c

Topic: Finding a Sample

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A representative sample should give enough information to enable him to generalize his findings to all juniors.

58. In a psychological research study, a sample made up of those who happen to be available at the time of study is called a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sample.

a. representative

b. quota

c. random

d. convenience

Answer: d

Topic: Finding a Sample

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Psychologists and others who study human behavior must often settle for a sample of people who happen to be available—a “convenience” sample—and often this means undergraduate students.

59. The editors of *American Cheerleader* magazine are able to obtain a representative sample of their readers in order to assess their attitudes toward ankle socks versus no-shows. When interpreting the results of their survey, the editors will be able to apply the results to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. all professional cheerleaders

b. subscribers of *American Cheerleader* magazine

c. all middle school cheerleaders

d. the entire U.S. population

Answer: b

Topic: Finding a Sample

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The editors picked a sample of their own readers; therefore, the results would apply only to that population of readers.

60. Research methods that describe behavior, but do not necessarily yield direct explanations, are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. experimental methods

b. single-blind studies

c. significance tests

d. descriptive methods

Answer: d

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Descriptive methods are methods that yield descriptions of behavior but not direct explanations.

61. A detailed description of a particular individual based on careful observation or formal psychological testing is called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. observational study

b. correlational study

c. case study

d. survey

Answer: c

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A case study (or case history) is a detailed description of a particular individual based on careful observation or formal psychological testing.

62. Which advantage applies to case studies?

1. They can be used to study existing situations when ethical considerations would prevent using randomized trials.
2. They have no serious drawbacks because they are easy to interpret.
3. Data collected provides causal explanations of descriptive behavior.
4. Case studies are less susceptible to researcher bias than other methods.

Answer: a

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Case studies are most commonly used by clinicians, but sometimes academic researchers use them as well, especially when they are just beginning to study a topic or when practical or ethical considerations prevent them from gathering information in other ways.

63. Which disadvantage applies to case studies?

a. Case studies produce a less detailed picture of an individual than other methods.

b. Case studies have only limited usefulness for deriving general principles of behavior.

c. Data from case studies is more abstract, vague, and general than data from other methods.

d. The amount of control used in case studies makes them very artificial.

Answer: b

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Because one person may be unrepresentative of the group the researcher is interested in, case studies have only limited usefulness for deriving general principles of behavior.

64. In a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ study, a researcher carefully and systematically watches and records behavior, taking care to avoid affecting the subjects being studied.

a. observational

b. exploratory

c. experimental

d. double-blind

Answer: a

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: An observational study is defined as a study in which a researcher carefully and systematically observes and records behavior (naturalistically or in a laboratory) without interfering with the behavior.

65. An advantage of observational studies is that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. they can provide accurate descriptions of behavior

b. the presence of observers can alter the behavior being observed

c. they can directly answer questions about cause and effect

d. they allow experimenters to manipulate variables

Answer: a

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Often, an observational study is the first step in a program of research; it is helpful to have a good description of behavior before you try to explain it.

66. Regina is systematically recording the behaviors of the kids in a nursery school, taking pains to avoid being obvious about what she is doing. Regina is engaging in a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. observational study

b. exploratory research

c. experimental research

d. double-blind study

Answer: a

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: An observational study is defined as a study in which a researcher carefully and systematically observes and records behavior (naturalistically or in a laboratory) without interfering with the behavior.

67. To test whether people in bars drink more when they are in groups than when they are alone, researchers visited all the pubs in a city. They ordered beers and recorded observations on napkins and pieces of newspaper. Why did they keep their identities in disguise?

a. They were conducting a double-blind study.

b. They wanted to make sure the study had high test-retest reliability.

c. They needed to determine the experimenter effects in the study at a later point in time.

d. They wanted the people they were observing to behave naturally.

Answer: d

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Observers take pains to avoid being obvious about what they are doing so that those who are being observed will behave naturally.

68. Tess agrees to sleep in an artificial setting for three nights so that researchers can obtain information about her brain and muscle activity during sleep. She is taking part in a research method called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. a single-blind study

b. a double-blind study

c. naturalistic observation

d. laboratory observation

Answer: d

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: In laboratory observation, researchers have more control over the situation. They can use sophisticated equipment, determine the number of people who will be observed, minimize disruptions, and so forth.

69. Procedures used to measure and evaluate personality traits, emotional states, aptitudes, interests, and abilities are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. laboratory observations

b. psychological tests

c. significance tests

d. meta-analyses

Answer: b

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Psychological tests, sometimes called assessment instruments, are procedures for measuring and evaluating personality traits, emotional states, aptitudes, interests, and abilities.

70. Assessment instruments that are designed to tap unconscious feelings or motives are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. objective tests

b. projective tests

c. double-blind tests

d. single-blind tests

Answer: b

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Projective tests are designed to tap unconscious feelings or motives.

71. When Haylee takes a personality test, the researcher gives her detailed instructions and plenty of time to complete it. But Peter takes the same test and is given only vague instructions and a limited amount of time. This procedural difference shows that the test lacks \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. validity

b. standardization

c. reliability

d. variability

Answer: b

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: One criterion of a good test is standardization, meaning that uniform procedures are in place for giving and scoring the test.

72. When Joyce takes a personality test, she is told that the test is reliable; that is, it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. measures what it is designed to measure

b. compares its results against established standards of performance

c. produces consistent scores from one time and place to another

d. predicts other criteria of the personality trait in question

Answer: c

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Reliable tests are consistent. If a test yields consistent scores from one time and place to another time and place, it is reliable.

73. If a psychological test measures what it is designed to measure, it demonstrates which property?

a. reliability

b. validity

c. variability

d. standardization

Answer: b

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Validity is the ability of a test to measure what it was designed to measure.

74. People who are willing to take part in surveys usually have opinions and views that are different from those who decline to take part. This phenomenon can lead to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. a biased sample being used for a survey

b. an experimenter fulfilling their beliefs by knowing the specific participants that would play a role in their research

c. people participating who will only confirm what an experimenter is looking for

d. errors in content validity of the survey

Answer: a

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: People who are willing to take part in surveys usually have opinions and views that are different from those who decline to take part. A nonrepresentative sample does not necessarily mean that a survey is worthless or uninteresting, but it does mean that the results may not hold true for other groups.

75. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another.

a. relationship coefficient

b. meta-analysis

c. Bayesian statistic

d. correlation

Answer: d

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Correlation is a measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another.

76. A negative correlation means that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the high values of one variable are associated with the low values of the other

b. the high values of one variable are associated with the high values of the other

c. the low values of one variable are associated with the low values of the other

d. there is no relationship between the two variables

Answer: a

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A negative correlation is an association between increases in one variable and decreases in another.

77. Raquel finds that the more she sleeps on the eve of an exam, the higher the score she gets on the exam. There is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ correlation between the amount Raquel sleeps and her exam scores.

a. a negative

b. a positive

c. a perfect

d. no actual

Answer: b

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A positive correlation is an association between increases in one variable and increases in another or between decreases in one and decreases in another.

78. Which pair of variables is likely to be positively correlated?

a. outdoor temperature and hot chocolate sales

b. damage to a car and speed at the time of accident

c. the price of a car and the age of a car

d. hours spent watching TV and grade point average

Answer: b

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A positive correlation is an association between increases in one variable and increases in another or between decreases in one and decreases in another.

79. Which pair of variables is likely to be negatively correlated?

a. room size and time required to paint walls

b. amount of studying and test grade

c. value of a collectable item and the number of those items known to exist

d. ocean temperature and the number of people at the beach

Answer: c

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A negative correlation means that high values of one variable are associated with low values of the other. Rare collectables (i.e., few are known to exist) are typically more expensive than ones that are more common. As the number known to exist goes down, the cost goes up.

80. Which pair of variables is likely to be uncorrelated?

a. average income and the incidence of dental disease

b. adult shoe size and IQ scores

c. the price of a car and the age of a car

d. hours spent watching television and grade point average

Answer: b

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: If no relationship exists between two variables, we say that they are uncorrelated. Shoe size and IQ scores are uncorrelated.

81. Which finding is an example of a positive correlation?

a. The more kumquats Jane ate, the higher she scored on successive IQ tests.

b. The more kumquats Mark ate, the lower he scored on successive IQ tests.

c. Jane ate kumquats, whereas Mark took an IQ test.

d. Mark ate oranges because Jane ate all the kumquats.

Answer: a

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A positive correlation is an association between increases in one variable and increases in another or between decreases in one and decreases in another.

82. Which correlation coefficient indicates the strongest relationship between two variables?

a. +.50

b. –.80

c. +.70

d. –.10

Answer: b

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: If the correlation between two variables is +.80, it means that they are strongly related. If the correlation is −.80, the relationship is just as strong, but it is negative. When there is no association between two variables, the coefficient is zero or close to zero.

83. A correlation coefficient of +1.73 means that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the relationship between the two variables is very strong

b. the relationship between the two variables is very weak

c. as one variable increases, so does the other

d. a calculation error has been made

Answer: d

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Correlations can only range from –1.00 to +1.00, therefore a calculation error has been made.

84. When two variables are not related, the correlation coefficient will be close to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. .00

b. –1.00

c. +1.00

d. +.50

Answer: a

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The closer the correlation coefficient is to 0, the weaker the relationship. A correlation coefficient of 0 indicates no relationship.

85. Which correlation coefficient indicates the strongest relationship between two variables?

a. –.74

b. –.42

c. –.35

d. +.05

Answer: a

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: When there is no association between two variables, the coefficient is zero or close to zero, so a strong correlation coefficient will be closer to either +1.00 or –1.00.

86. Which definition of “correlation” is CORRECT?

a. characteristics of behavior or experience that cause other phenomenon

b. characteristics of behavior or experience that can be measured or described by a numeric scale

c. a measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another

d. a descriptive study that looks for a consistent relationship between two phenomena

Answer: c

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Correlation is defined as a measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another.

87. Which definition of “positive correlation” is CORRECT?

1. A measure of how strongly two variables are related to one another.
2. An association between increases in one variable and decreases in another.
3. An association between increases in one variable and increases in another or between decreases in one and decreases in another.
4. A measure that shows that two variables have no relationship to each other.

Answer: c

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A positive correlation is a defined as an association between increases in one variable and increases in another or between decreases in one and decreases in another.

88. The correlation coefficient conveys \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the size and direction of the relationship between two variables

b. whether one variable causes the other variable to happen

c. the unintended changes in a research participant’s behavior due to the experimenter’s cues

d. whether the principle of falsifiability applies to each variable

Answer: a

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The statistic used to express a correlation is called the correlation coefficient. This number conveys both the size of the correlation and its direction.

89. Which statement about correlation is TRUE?

a. Positive correlations are meaningful, but negative ones are not.

b. Negative correlations are weak, but positive ones are strong.

c. Correlations close to +1.00 or –1.00 are strong, whereas correlations close to zero are weak.

d. A strong correlation is indicative of a causal relationship between variables.

Answer: c

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The closer the correlation coefficient is to zero, the weaker the relationship and the closer the correlation coefficient is to +1.00 or –1.00, the stronger the relationship.

90. A correlational study determined that the higher a male monkey’s level of testosterone, the more aggressive it is likely to be. We can conclude from this that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. testosterone levels cause increases in aggression

b. aggression causes increased levels of testosterone

c. testosterone and aggression are negatively correlated

d. testosterone and aggression are positively correlated

Answer: d

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how the correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Correlations indicate strength and direction of relationships, but do not indicate cause and effect. A positive correlation is a defined as an association between increases in one variable and increases in another or between decreases in one and decreases in another.

91. Annette finds that children’s hours of daily exercise and quality of nutritional intake are correlated +.73 with one another. What does this correlation coefficient indicate?

a. As quality of nutritional intake increases, rates of exercise increase.

b. Better nutrition causes higher rates of exercise.

c. Higher rates of exercise cause better nutrition.

d. As rates of exercise increase, quality of nutritional intake decreases.

Answer: a

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: *All we can conclude from this association is that as scores on one variable increase, scores on the other variable also increase.*

92. Apparent associations between two things that are not really related are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ correlations.

a. illusory

b. positive

c. negative

d. erroneous

Answer: a

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Illusory correlations are apparent associations between two things that are not really related. Illusory correlations can create dangerous beliefs and cause great social harm.

93. Some correlational studies have found that people who are chronically depressed are more likely than non-depressed people to develop cancer. Which conclusion can be derived from these results?

a. Chronic depression causes cancer.

b. Early, undetected cancer causes depression.

c. Depressed people tend to smoke, causing cancer.

d. Chronic depression and cancer occur in the same people in these studies.

Answer: d

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Correlation tells us about relationships, but not causal relationships. Even when a correlation is real, it does not necessarily demonstrate a causal relationship between the variables.

94. Dr. Bolivar observes that more muggings tend to occur during hot weather. Which conclusion is true?

a. This is a negative correlation because both muggings and hot weather are negative events.

b. This is an example of a correlation that demonstrates causation.

c. This research proves that criminal behavior is caused by hot weather.

d. This is a positive correlation that does not demonstrate causation.

Answer: d

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Correlation tells us about relationships, but not causal relationships. Even when a correlation is real, it does not necessarily demonstrate a causal relationship between the variables.

95. Why can it be difficult to interpret a correlation between two variables?

a. Correlation does not establish a relationship.

b. A correlation does not establish causation.

c. Most correlations are illusory.

d. Most correlations are negative.

Answer: b

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Even when correlations are meaningful, they can still be hard to interpret because a correlation does not establish causation.

96. A correlation of +.95 has been found between levels of extraversion and liking for parties. What can be known based on this result?

a. there is a strong association between extraversion and liking for parties

b. liking to go to parties causes people to become more extraverted

c. being more extraverted causes people to like parties to a greater extent

d. fear of loneliness causes both high levels of extraversion and increased liking for parties

Answer: a

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: All that is revealed is that one variable is strongly associated with another variable. any conclusions regarding causality are unjustified.

97. A controlled test of a hypothesis, in which the researcher manipulates one variable in order to discover its effect on another variable, is called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. correlational study

b. experiment

c. survey

d. single-blind study

Answer: b

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: An experiment is defined as a controlled test of a hypothesis in which the researcher manipulates one variable to discover its effect on another.

98. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ allows a researcher to control and manipulate the situation being studied.

a. survey

b. experiment

c. case study

d. correlational study

Answer: b

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: An experiment is defined as a controlled test of a hypothesis in which the researcher manipulates one variable to discover its effect on another.

99. Experiments are more powerful than other research methods because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. they are always double-blind

b. they can determine correlations

c. they require informed consent

d. they allow a determination of cause-effect relationships

Answer: d

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Experiments are the only method that allows a determination of cause and effect.

100. Ideally, in an experimental situation everything is held constant except for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which is manipulated by the researchers.

a. control variable

b. dependent variable

c. independent variable

d. extraneous variable

Answer: c

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The aspect of an experimental situation manipulated or varied by the researcher is known as the independent variable.

101. In an experimental situation, the independent variable is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. a placebo

b. measured

c. held constant

d. manipulated

Answer: d

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The aspect of an experimental situation manipulated or varied by the researcher is known as the independent variable.

102. Milton is a researcher who wants to know whether eating chocolate makes people feel nervous. Some participants are given two bars of chocolate to eat and some are given no chocolate at all, and then all of the participants are tested for nervousness an hour later. In this experiment, the amount of chocolate eaten \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. would be a dependent variable

b. would be a placebo

c. would be an independent variable

d. may be either an independent or dependent variable

Answer: c

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The aspect of an experimental situation manipulated or varied by the researcher is known as the independent variable.

103. Professor Ramirez wants to know whether eating peanut butter before bedtime causes children to take longer to fall asleep. In his experiment, whether or not peanut butter is given before bedtime is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. independent variable

b. dependent variable

c. control variable

d. extraneous variable

Answer: a

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The aspect of an experimental situation manipulated or varied by the researcher is known as the independent variable.

104. A researcher plans to conduct an experiment to test whether a cup of hot milk at night helps people fall asleep faster than usual. In this study, the independent variable is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the amount of time it takes participants to fall asleep

b. the consumption of hot milk at bedtime

c. the number of participants drinking hot milk at bedtime

d. the number of hours each participant sleeps

Answer: b

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The aspect of an experimental situation manipulated or varied by the researcher is known as the independent variable.

105. Which variable does an experimenter manipulate when conducting experimental research?

a. control variable

b. confounding variable

c. independent variable

d. dependent variable

Answer: c

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The aspect of an experimental situation manipulated or varied by the researcher is known as the independent variable.

106. A variable that is predicted to be affected by an experimenter’s manipulations in experimental research is called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ variable.

a. extraneous

b. dependent

c. confounding

d. independent

Answer: b

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A dependent variable is a variable that an experimenter predicts will be affected by manipulations of the independent variable.

107. Dr. Prithnati’s research hypothesis proposes that consuming a low carbohydrate diet will result in increased weight loss. One group of participants follows a low-carb diet for three weeks, whereas a second group follows a high-carb diet containing the same number of calories for three weeks. The average number of pounds lost for each group is then is compared. What is the dependent variable?

a. number of pounds lost

b. length of time on the diet

c. the amount of carbs in each diet

d. the number of calories in each diet

Answer: a

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A dependent variable is a variable that an experimenter predicts will be affected by manipulations of the independent variable.

108. In a laboratory, smokers are asked to drive using a computerized driving simulator and cover the maximum distance possible, while avoiding rear-end collisions. Some volunteers are given a real cigarette to smoke immediately before the test. Others smoke a fake cigarette without nicotine. The number of collisions the two groups make is to be compared. In this study, the independent variable is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the use of nicotine

b. the use of a driving simulator

c. the number of collisions

d. the speed of each driver

Answer: a

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The aspect of an experimental situation manipulated or varied by the researcher is known as the independent variable.

109. In a laboratory, smokers are asked to drive using a computerized driving simulator and cover the maximum distance possible, while avoiding rear-end collisions. Some volunteers are given a real cigarette to smoke immediately before the test. Others smoke a fake cigarette without nicotine. The number of collisions the two groups make is to be compared. In this study, the dependent variable is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the use of nicotine

b. the use of a driving simulator

c. the number of collisions

d. the speed of each driver

Answer: c

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A dependent variable is a variable that an experimenter predicts will be affected by manipulations of the independent variable.

110. In a laboratory, smokers are asked to drive using a computerized driving simulator and cover the maximum distance possible, while avoiding rear-end collisions. Some volunteers are given a real cigarette to smoke immediately before the test. Others smoke a fake cigarette without nicotine. The number of collisions the two groups make is to be compared. The control group in this scenario consists of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. volunteers who smoke real cigarettes

b. volunteers who smoke fake cigarettes

c. all the experimenters

d. all the volunteers

Answer: b

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: In an experiment, a comparison condition is required in which participants are not exposed to the same treatment as in the experimental condition. These participants are the control group.

111. In a laboratory, smokers are asked to drive using a computerized driving simulator and cover the maximum distance possible, while avoiding rear-end collisions. Some volunteers are given a real cigarette to smoke immediately before the test. Others smoke a fake cigarette without nicotine. The number of collisions the two groups make is to be compared. The experimental group in this scenario consists of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. volunteers who smoke real cigarettes

b. volunteers who smoke fake cigarettes

c. all the experimenters

d. all the volunteers

Answer: a

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The experimental group is the group that is exposed to the manipulations of the independent variable.

112. Research participants are randomly assigned to experimental and control groups to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. make the two groups as similar as possible in all major characteristics

b. eliminate the placebo effect

c. establish possible correlations between the independent and dependent variables

d. eliminate experimenter effects

Answer: a

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: If we have enough participants in our study, individual characteristics that could possibly affect the results are likely to be roughly balanced in randomly assigned groups, so we can safely ignore them.

113. Which statement is CORRECT concerning random assignment?

a. When using random assignment, each participant has an equal chance of being in any condition in the experiment.

b. The best formula for random assignment is birth dates.

c. Random assignment can only be determined after an experiment is concluded.

d. When using random assignment, each participant is assigned alphabetically to each condition.

Answer: a

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: If we have enough participants in our study, individual characteristics that could possibly affect the results are likely to be roughly balanced in randomly assigned groups, so we can safely ignore them.

114. Dr. Phibes is designing a study in which 50 people will be administered an experimental drug and 50 people will be administered a placebo. He will make sure that all potential respondents are equally likely to end up in either the experimental or control group. What is this practice called?

a. selective assignment

b. random assignment

c. determined assignment

d. confounding assignment

Answer: b

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Dr. Phibes is making sure that individual characteristics that could possibly affect the results are likely to be roughly balanced in randomly assigned groups.

115. Murray wants to examine stability and change in personality over time. He enlists a group of elementary school children and measures their personality when they are in the first grade, then again when they are in the third grade, and then again when they progress to the fifth, sixth, and seventh grade. What kind of study is Murray conducting?

a. an archival study

b. an experiment

c. a clinical interview

d. a longitudinal study

Answer: d

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Murray is measuring the same group repeatedly over time.

116. What type of research design is used when different groups of participants are compared at the same point in time?

a. cross-sectional

b. longitudinal

c. correlational

d. sequential

Answer: a

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Cross-sectional designs compare different groups at the same point in time.

117. The local health department of a small town has hired a research firm to study the development of cancer in residents in the town due to a suspected cancer-causing agent and environmental pollution. The firm will examine data on participants at ages 10, then 20, then 30, and so on, to see if there are increasing rates of cancer in the town. This type of research study uses a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ design.

a. longitudinal

b. cross-controlled

c. lifespan

d. cross-sectional

Answer: a

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The same group of participants is being studied repeatedly over time.

118. A developmental psychologist believes that increased TV watching by young children is responsible for a decline in reading stories when these children enter school. To explore her hypothesis, she records the TV viewing habits of toddlers in a suburban community. She examines these habits again when the children enter kindergarten and again every year until the kids enter the sixth grade. The researcher is using the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ method.

a. correlational

b. cross-sectional

c. longitudinal

d. experimental

Answer: c

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The same group of participants is being studied repeatedly over time.

119 Professor Garibaldi is interested in studying the development of a sense of humor. She collects data from different groups of 6-year-olds, 16-year-olds, 26-year-olds, and 46-year-olds during the same one-week data collection period. What type of research design is Professor Garibaldi using?

a. longitudinal

b. cohort-eligible

c. experimental

d. cross-sectional

Answer: d

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Different groups of people are being measured at the same point in time.

120. Dr. Ahmandi is a psychologist who studies memory development. In one of her research projects she tested memory in a group of 5-year-old children. Then she gave the same test to a group of 9-year-olds and compared the results of the two groups to see how memory compares over this time span. This is a type of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ study.

a. case

b. cross-sectional

c. longitudinal

d. naturalistic observational

Answer: b

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Different groups of people are being measured at the same point in time.

121. Longitudinal is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as cross-sectional is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. later; now

b. now; then

c. here; now

d. which; why

Answer: a

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Cross-sectional designs study different people at the same time (now), whereas longitudinal designs follow the same group of people over time (later).

122. Which term does NOT belong with the others?

a. independent variable

b. random assignment

c. naturalistic observation

d. dependent variable

Answer: c

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: All the other terms are hallmarks of conducting experimental research.

123. A study in which participants are unaware of the hypothesis being studied, and are unaware their assignment to the experimental or control condition, is known as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ study.

a. randomized

b. double-blind

c. single-blind

d. placebo

Answer: c

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: This is how a single-blind experiment is designed.

124. The participants for an experiment are randomly assigned to either the experimental or control group. Although the researchers know which group each participant has been assigned to, the participants do not know if they are in the experimental or control group. Which type of study is this an example of?

a. single-blind

b. correlational

c. field research

d. double-blind

Answer: a

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A single-blind study is an experiment in which participants do not know whether they are in an experimental or a control group.

125. In a single-blind study, who is “blind” to the treatment?

a. the peer reviewers

b. both the experimenters and participants

c. the experimenters

d. the participants

Answer: d

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: In a single-blind study, only the participants are prevented from knowing the true purpose of the study and which type of treatment they are receiving (for example, a placebo or a drug). In contrast, in a double-blind study, both the participants and the experimenters are “blind” to the exact treatment each participant receives until after the study has concluded.

126. Julie is studying people’s moods during a stressful laboratory situation. Wanting to be nice, she smiles at each participant who enters the experimental condition (where they’ll be stressed) and remains neutral toward participants in the control group. Julie was surprised to find that participants in the stressful condition were in better moods at the end of the experiment, compared to participants in the control group. Her research mentor was not as surprised, however, because she realizes Julie’s results are plagued by:

a. random assignment

b. experimenter effects

c. placebo “bleed”

d. double-blind results

Answer: b

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The behavior of the experimenter caused participants in the experimental group to change their responses.

127. Unintended changes in subjects’ behavior due to cues inadvertently given by the experimenter in an experimental study are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. conformation biases

b. experimenter effects

c. volunteer biases

d. reifications

Answer: b

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Experimenter effects are unintended changes in study participants’ behavior due to cues that the

experimenter inadvertently conveys.

128. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is an experiment in which neither the participants nor the individuals running the experiment know if a given participant is in the experimental or the control group until after the results are tallied.

a. double-blind study

b. single-blind study

c. meta-analysis

d. correlational study

Answer: a

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A double-blind study is an experiment in which neither the participants nor the individuals running the experiment know if participants are in the experimental or the control group until after the results are tallied.

129. Dr. Wertheimer is part of a research team testing a new treatment for halitosis. The lead investigator provides each patient with a vial of oral solution, and Dr. Wertheimer records the code number on the vial and conducts a follow-up interview with the patient two days later. Neither the patient nor Dr. Wertheimer knows whether the patient is receiving the current best treatment or the experimental treatment under investigation. This type of research design is known as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ study.

a. correlational

b. blind

c. quasi-experimental

d. double-blind

Answer: d

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: All parties involved in the experiment remained uninformed as to assignment of participants to conditions.

130. The main advantage of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ study is that the results cannot be influenced by the expectations of either the participants or the experimenters.

a. correlational

b. single-blind

c. double-blind

d. observational

Answer: c

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A double-blind study is an experiment in which neither the participants nor the individuals running the experiment know if participants are in the experimental or the control group until after the results are tallied.

131. How does conducting a double-blind study attempt to remedy the effect of bias?

a. The experimenter does not know but the participant does know what condition the participant is assigned to

b. The experimenter and the participant both know what condition the participant is assigned to

c. The experimenter knows but the participant does not know what condition the participant is assigned to

d. Neither the experimenter nor the participant knows what condition the participant is assigned to

Answer: d

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: In a double-blind study, neither the participant nor the experimenter knows the exact treatment for any individual.

132. Fake treatments or inactive substances that are used as a control in an experiment are known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. operationalizations

b. double-blinds

c. single-blinds

d. placebos

Answer: d

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: If the group receiving the placebo reports some kind of change, a placebo effect has taken place.

133. Physicians have observed that some forms of knee surgery produce results that are no better than not providing treatment at all. To test this hypothesis, patients in Group 1 were randomly assigned to receive traditional arthroscopic surgery and all that it involves: anesthesia, incision, repair, recovery, and so on. Patients in Group 2 received the same anesthesia, incision, and recovery protocol, but no surgical repair was made. The rehabilitation of both groups was then compared. In this research design, the patients in Group 2 represent:

a. a placebo group.

b. the dependent variable.

c. a double-blind group.

d. the experimental group.

Answer: a

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Group 2 received no active treatment.

134. The ethical principle of \_\_\_\_\_\_ means that research participants are given enough information about a study to make a reasonable decision about whether they will participate.

a. debriefing

b. informed consent

c. risk aversion

d. briefing

Answer: b

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Participants must be provided with enough information to decide for themselves if they’d like to take part in a research study.

135. Field research may yield more applicable results than laboratory research because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. placebos are not used

b. there is no experimental group

c. there is no control group

d. the situation is less artificial

Answer: d

Topic: Advantages and Limitations of Experiments

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: In an experiment, the researcher designs and sets up what is often a rather artificial situation, and the participants try to do as they are told. For this reason, many psychologists have called for more field research, the careful study of behavior in natural contexts such as schools and the workplace.

136. Researchers use descriptive statistics when they want to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. draw inferences about how statistically meaningful a study’s results are

b. organize and summarize research data

c. combine and analyze data from many studies

d. assess how likely it is that a study’s results occurred merely by chance

Answer: b

Topic: Describing the Data

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Descriptive statistics are defined as statistical procedures that organize and summarize research data.

137. A statistician adds all of the test scores for a group of participants and then divides the sum by the number of participants. The result of this calculation is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the test scores.

a. arithmetic mean

b. effect size

c. *p* value

d. standard deviation

Answer: a

Topic: Describing the Data

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: An arithmetic mean is an average calculated by adding up a set of quantities and dividing the sum by the total number of quantities in the set.

138. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tells us how clustered or spread out individual scores are around an arithmetic mean.

a. arithmetic mean

b. *p* value

c. confidence interval

d. standard deviation

Answer: d

Topic: Describing the Data

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The standard deviation tells us how clustered or spread out the individual scores are around the mean; the more spread out they are, the less “typical” the mean is.

139. A researcher is studying the amount of sleep college students get each night. She notices that there is a lot of variability in the data, with some students typically sleeping for around eight hours a night and some sleeping around five hours a night. One way to measure how spread out the data scores are is to use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the arithmetic mean

b. meta-analysis

c. inferential statistics

d. the standard deviation

Answer: d

Topic: Describing the Data

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: The standard deviation tells us how clustered or spread out the individual scores are around the mean; the more spread out they are, the less “typical” the mean is.

140. “Argh!” sputtered Enrique. “I collected all this data for my research project, but I don’t know which numbers to pay attention to. The highest values? The lowest values? The most common value? Fie!” “Why don’t you find the arithmetic mean of *all* the values?” suggested Assunta. “Finding the average score would be a good indicator of what the values look like in general.” How would you advise Enrique to go about finding the mean?

a. add up all the individual scores, then divide the result by the number of scores

b. figure out how far away each score is from every other score

c. subtract the lowest score from the highest score, then multiply the answer by 2

d. add the five lowest scores to the five highest scores, then divide the results by 2

Answer: a

Topic: Describing the Data

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Just like taking the average of anything, finding the mean involves summing the scores and then dividing by how many scores there are.

141. Inferential statistics are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. statistical procedures that allow researchers to draw conclusions about how statistically reliable a study’s results are

b. statistical procedures that organize and summarize research data

c. averages that are calculated by adding up a set of quantities and multiplying the sum by the total number of quantities in the set

d. a set of techniques for combining data from a number of related studies to determine the explanatory strength of a particular independent variable

Answer: a

Topic: Interpreting the Data

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Inferential statistics are defined as statistical procedures that allow researchers to draw conclusions about how statistically reliable a study’s results are.

142. Which computation is a type of inferential statistic?

a. median

b. significance test

c. arithmetic mean

d. standard deviations

Answer: b

Topic: Interpreting the Data

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Historically, the most commonly used inferential statistics have been significance tests, which tell researchers how likely it is that a result occurred by chance.

143. Psychologists typically consider a result to be significant if it would be expected to occur by chance \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ times in 100 repetitions of the study.

a. 5 or fewer

b. 10 or fewer

c. 20 or fewer

d. 40 or fewer

Answer: a

Topic: Interpreting the Data

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Psychologists consider a result to be significant if it would be expected to occur by chance 5 or fewer times in 100 repetitions of the study.

144. A result that is significant at the .05 level indicates that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. the result was obtained purely by chance and is not real

b. the probability that the result is due to real differences between groups is .05

c. there is a positive relationship between variables

d. the probability that the result occurred by pure chance alone is low, and therefore the result is probably real

Answer: d

Topic: Interpreting the Data

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: A .05 level of significance means that there is less than 5 percent probability that the results were due to chance. If, however, the significance test shows that the *p* value is greater than .05, many researchers would have little confidence in the study’s result.

145. A standardized way of describing the strength of the relationship between variables is called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. a confidence interval

b. the standard deviation

c. effect size

d. random assignment

Answer: c

Topic: Interpreting the Data

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Effect size helps researchers understand how important a result is.

146. A mechanism by which experts in a field carefully screen the work of their colleagues is known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. experimental validity

b. peer review

c. peer assessment

d. standardization

Answer: b

Topic: Transparency

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Science is an open enterprise; we’ve got to be able to judge the merits and shortcomings of one another’s work.

147. The peer review process is designed to:

a. block alternative therapies from being made available to the general public.

b. place obstacles in front of people whose theories differ from those of mainstream science.

c. identify flaws in a research study's methods, findings, and conclusions.

d. make researchers feel bad when their article is not published.

Answer: c

Topic: Transparency

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Peer review helps keep the conduct of science on the up-and-up.

148. Under carefully controlled experimental conditions, Rowena finds that seventh graders who study an additional 2 hours raise their test scores by 5 percent. Before publishing her results, she repeats the experiment with a different group of seventh graders, another group of seventh graders studying different material, and a group of eighth graders; in all cases the same pattern of results emerges. What important feature of the scientific process is Rowena demonstrating?

a. operationalization

b. falsifiability

c. replication

d. divergence

Answer: c

Topic: Transparency

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Rowena is able to replicate or reproduce her findings, which lends more credence to the stability and generalizability of those findings.

149. Without replication as part of the scientific process, what would happen?

a. Effect sizes would uniformly be 50 percent.

b. Incorrect results would often go uncorrected.

c. Demand characteristics would have larger effect on data than would experimenter effects.

d. Samples would be less representative of the populations they came from.

Answer: b

Topic: Transparency

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: Science is a communal activity; we’re all in it together in the search for truth.

150. The main purpose of replicating studies is to:

a. ensure that the results are correct.

b. out-do the contributions of previous researchers.

c. slow the pace at which research findings are released to the public.

d. keep the scientific community aware of fictitious results.

Answer: a

Topic: Transparency

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

Rationale: If an effect can be found repeatedly by different researchers in different laboratories, our confidence that it is a “real” or genuine effect increases.

**True-False Questions**

1. Empirical evidence is the evidence gathered by careful observation and experimentation.

Answer: True

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

2. Empirical evidence is the evidence gathered by a careful reflection on one’s personal experiences.

Answer: False

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

3. The key to whether or not a psychological finding is important is whether or not the finding is surprising.

Answer: False

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

4. Scientific psychology differs from popular psychology in that it is based on the opinions of learned scientists.

Answer: False

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

5. Psychobabble refers to how infants as young as seven months can derive simple linguistic rules from a string of sounds.

Answer: False

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

6. Pseudoscience promises easy fixes to life’s problems and challenges.

Answer: True

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

7. Psychology has been a science for more than 300 years.

Answer: False

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

8. The forerunners of modern psychology depended heavily on observation.

Answer: True

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

9. Scholars of the past relied too heavily on empirical evidence to understand human behavior.

Answer: False

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

10. Hippocrates argued that the brain is the ultimate source of human pleasures and pains.

Answer: True

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

11. Phrenologists suggested that specific character and personality traits could be read from bumps on a person’s head.

Answer: True

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

12. The first psychological laboratory was officially established in Leipzig, Germany.

Answer: True

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains;

13. Functionalism was an early psychological approach that emphasized the purpose of behavior and consciousness.

Answer: True

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

14. Sigmund Freud argued that many of his patients’ symptoms had undiagnosed physical causes rather than mental causes.

Answer: False

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

15. The biological perspective of psychology emphasizes bodily events and changes associated with actions, feelings, and thoughts.

Answer: True

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

16. The cognitive perspective of psychology focuses on the social and cultural forces outside an individual.

Answer: False

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

17. Theorizing that anxiety is due to forbidden, unconscious desires is consistent with the biological perspective.

Answer: False

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

18. The learning perspective of psychology is an approach that emphasizes how the environment and experiences affect a person’s actions.

Answer: True

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

19. Learning theorists would view violence as the result of unconscious conflicts involving aggression and sexuality.

Answer: False

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

20. The cognitive perspective of psychology emphasizes bodily events and changes associated with actions.

Answer: False

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

21. The sociocultural perspective emphasizes the dynamics of the social and cultural forces that shape every aspect of human behavior.

Answer: True

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

22. Theorizing that competition between group members promotes anxiety about failure is consistent with the sociocultural perspective.

Answer: True

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

23. Basic psychology is the study of psychological issues for the sake of knowledge rather than for practical application.

Answer: True

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

24. Applied psychology is the study of psychological issues for the sake of knowledge rather than for practical application.

Answer: False

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

25. Not all psychologists do clinical work.

Answer: True

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

26. Developmental psychologists study how people change and grow over time.

Answer: True

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

27. In almost all states in the United States, a license to practice clinical psychology requires a doctorate.

Answer: True

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

28. A person who has received specialized training from a psychoanalytic institute is called a psychiatrist.

Answer: False

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

29. Critical thinking refers to the ability to assess claims and make judgments on the basis of well- supported reasons and evidence.

Answer: True

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

30. Critical thinkers realize that all opinions should be respected as equally valid.

Answer: False

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

31. Open-mindedness implies that all opinions are created equal.

Answer: False

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

32. Critical thinkers do not make assumptions about how the world works.

Answer: False

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

33. Biases are assumptions that keep us from considering evidence fairly.

Answer: True

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

34. Basing our behaviors on “gut feelings” is an important aspect of critical thinking.

Answer: False

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

35. A hypothesis is an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena.

Answer: False

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

36. Operational definitions specify how the phenomena in question are to be observed and measured.

Answer: True

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

37. The principle of falsifiability is the tendency to avoid information that would prove one’s belief to be false.

Answer: False

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

38. Confirmation bias is the tendency to look for information that supports one’s beliefs.

Answer: True

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

39. After a person acquires the habit of thinking critically, he or she or he will never fall for emotional reasoning and wishful thinking again.

Answer: False

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

40. A theory is an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena.

Answer: True

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

41. A representative sample is a group of participants that accurately represents the larger population that the researcher is interested in.

Answer: True

Topic: Finding a Sample

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

42. A sample’s size is less critical than its representativeness.

Answer: True

Topic: Finding a Sample

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

43. WEIRDOs is a term of endearment for psychologists who originally entered the field as sociologists.

Answer: False

Topic: Finding a Sample

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study’s outcomes.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

44. Case studies are usually sources of hypotheses, rather than tests of hypotheses.

Answer: True

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

45. Observational studies are more useful for describing behavior than for explaining behavior.

Answer: True

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

46. A shortcoming of laboratory observation is that the presence of researchers may cause participants to behave differently than they would in their usual surroundings.

Answer: True

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

47. Projective tests measure beliefs, feelings, or behaviors of which an individual is aware.

Answer: False

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

48. When psychologists say that a test has been standardized, they mean that uniform procedures for administering and scoring the test have been developed.

Answer: True

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

49. The ability of a test to measure what it is designed to measure is called its reliability.

Answer: False

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

50. The ability of a test to measure what it is designed to measure is called standardization.

Answer: False

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

51. The ability of a test to measure what it is designed to measure is called validity.

Answer: True

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

52. The likelihood of lying in surveys is reduced when the respondents are guaranteed anonymity.

Answer: True

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

53. A correlation is a numerical measure indicating the cause-and-effect relationship between two variables.

Answer: False

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

54. An association between increases in one variable and decreases in the other variable is called a negative correlation.

Answer: True

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

55. An association between decreases in one variable and decreases in the other variable is called a negative correlation.

Answer: False

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

56. An association between increases in one variable and decreases in the other variable indicates that the two variables are uncorrelated.

Answer: False

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

57. The word “correlation” is often used as a synonym for “relationship.”

Answer: True

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

58. A correlation coefficient of .50 indicates the strongest degree of association between two variables.

Answer: False

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

59. When a correlation coefficient indicates a strong relationship between two variables, one variable is causing the other.

Answer: False

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

60. When two variables are correlated, one variable may or may not be causing the other.

Answer: True

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

61. Illusory correlations are those that are based on mere coincidence.

Answer: True

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

62. An especially dangerous example of an illusory correlation is the alleged link between vaccines and autism.

Answer: True

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

63. Correlation does not establish causation.

Answer: True

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

64. There are three ways to explain any correlation coefficient: The first variable causes the second, the second variable causes the first, or a third variable causes both of the other two.

Answer: True

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

65. An experiment is a controlled test of a hypothesis in which the researcher manipulates one variable to discover its effect on another.

Answer: True

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

66. A laboratory observation is a controlled test of a hypothesis in which the researcher manipulates one variable to discover its effect on another.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

67. The variable that an experimenter manipulates is called the dependent variable in an experiment.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

68. Ideally, everything in an experiment except the independent variable is held constant.

Answer: True

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

69. The variable that an experimenter manipulates is called the independent variable.

Answer: True

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

70. Ideally, everything in an experiment except the dependent variable is held constant.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

71. The value of the independent variable is affected by manipulations to the dependent variable.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

72. Control groups should receive exactly the same treatment as experimental groups when conducting a research study.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

73. Participants in the experimental condition of an experiment receive some kind of manipulation of the independent variable.

Answer: True

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

74. Random assignment occurs when each participant is assigned alphabetically to each experimental condition.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

75. Random assignment involves selecting a random sample from a population.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

76. Longitudinal studies follow the same group of participants over time.

Answer: True

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

77. Cross-sectional studies follow the same group of participants over time.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

78. Cross-sectional studies usually take longer to complete than do longitudinal studies.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

79. In a single-blind experiment, participants do not know if they are in an experimental group or a control group.

Answer: True

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

80. An experimenter’s friendly smile or cold demeanor can affect people’s responses in an experiment.

Answer: True

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

81. Single-blind studies are conducted in order to avoid the powerful influence of experimenter effects on the results of an experiment.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

82. When compared to other methods, an advantage of experiments is that the participants are always representative of the larger population.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

83. A disadvantage of experimental research is that it does not permit identification of cause and effect.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

84. An advantage of field research is that it always involves the use of sophisticated equipment.

Answer: False

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

85. The arithmetic mean is an average that is calculated by adding up a set of quantities and dividing the sum by the total number of quantities in the set.

Answer: True

Topic: Describing the Data

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of groups of research participants.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

86. The standard deviation is a commonly used measure of variability that indicates the average difference between scores in a distribution.

Answer: True

Topic: Describing the Data

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of groups of research participants.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

87. Inferential statistics allow researchers to draw conclusions about how statistically meaningful a study’s results are.

Answer: True

Topic: Interpreting the Data

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

88. If a significance test shows that the *p* value of a result is greater than .05, researchers would have high confidence in the reliability of the study’s result.

Answer: False

Topic: Interpreting the Data

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

89. A result may be statistically significant, yet be of little consequence in everyday life.

Answer: True

Topic: Interpreting the Data

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

90. Scientists should be encouraged to replicate one another’s research findings, so that a solid foundation of reliable knowledge results.

Answer: True

Topic: Transparency

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

**Short Answer Questions**

1. When people think of psychology, they usually think of mental disorders, emotional disorders, abnormal acts, personal problems, and psychotherapy. Describe two other topics that are of great interest to psychologists.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Psychologists study the entire spectrum of human and animal behavior.
* Psychologists study how people learn, remember, solve problems, perceive, feel, and get along with others.
* They study commonplace as well as uncommon behaviors, normal as well as abnormal.
* Some specific examples of non-clinical topics should be provided.

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

2. Juanita is studying in her dorm room when her roommate says, “Why did you sign up for a psychology class? Everyone knows that psychology is the same as plain old common sense.” How should Juanita explain the differences between psychology and common sense?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Psychology is based on empirical evidence.
* Common sense and popular beliefs have often been refuted by empirical evidence.
* Many common sense beliefs are contradictory because they are not based on empirical evidence.

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

3. Describe the differences between pseudoscience and scientific psychology.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Pseudoscience confirms our existing beliefs and prejudices, whereas scientific psychology often challenges them.
* Unlike pop psychology, scientific psychology is based on research and empirical evidence, which is gathered by careful observation, experimentation, and measurement. It is therefore more complex, more informative, and far more helpful in its explanations than is popular psychology.

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: LO 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

4. During the early decades of psychology’s existence as a formal discipline, three schools of psychological thought became popular. What were these three schools of thought and what became of each of them over time?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Structuralism was the analysis of sensations, images, and feelings into basic elements based on Wundt’s method of introspection. Structuralism died out in the early years of psychology.
* Functionalism, founded by William James, emphasized the purpose of behavior, as opposed to its analysis and description. Functionalism also died out as a separate school of psychology, but its emphasis on the causes and consequences of behavior continued to influence the development of psychology as a science.
* Psychoanalysis was both a theory of personality and a method of psychotherapy that stressed the role of the unconscious mind and its hidden conflicts and wishes in influencing our behavior. Psychoanalysis is not accepted by most empirically oriented psychologists, but remains an active, though highly controversial, school of psychology today.

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

5. How was Darwin’s theory of evolution inspirational to the functionalists?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Darwin had argued that a biologist’s job is not merely to describe, say, the puffed-out chest of a pigeon or the drab markings of a lizard, but also to figure out how these attributes enhance survival.
* Similarly, the functionalists wanted to know how specific behaviors and mental processes help a person or animal adapt to the environment, so they looked for underlying causes and practical consequences of these behaviors and processes.

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

6. List and define the four major perspectives in modern psychology.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* The biological perspective focuses on how bodily events affect behavior, feelings, and thoughts.
* The learning perspective is concerned with how the environment and experience affect a person’s (or a nonhuman animal’s) actions.
* The cognitive perspective emphasizes what goes on in people’s heads—how people reason, remember, understand language, solve problems, explain experiences, acquire moral standards, and form beliefs.
* The sociocultural perspective focuses on social and cultural forces outside the individual, forces that shape every aspect of behavior.

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

7. What is the difference between basic research and applied research?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Basic research involves seeking knowledge for its own sake.
* Applied research involves finding practical uses of basic psychological knowledge.

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

8. Describe what it means to be a critical thinker.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Critical thinking is the ability and willingness to assess claims and make objective judgments on the basis of well-supported reasons and evidence rather than emotion or anecdote.
* Critical thinkers are able to look for flaws in arguments and to resist claims that have no support.
* They realize that criticizing an argument is not the same as criticizing the person making it.
* Critical thinking includes the ability to be creative and constructive—the ability to come up with alternative explanations for events, think of implications of research findings, and apply new knowledge to social and personal problems.

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

9. List the five essential critical thinking steps.

Answer: The five steps for critical thinking are:

* Ask questions and be willing to wonder.
* Define your terms.
* Examine the evidence.
* Analyze assumptions and biases.
* Weigh conclusions.

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

10. A fortune teller reads Agnetha’s palm and tells Agnetha that she will fall in love during spring break when she travels to Cancun. As a critical thinker enrolled in a General Psychology class, how would Agnetha react to this news? What critical thinking guidelines would be important for her to consider?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Fortune telling is pseudoscience, not based on empirical evidence.
* Important critical thinking guidelines to consider are “Analyze assumptions and biases” and “Examine the evidence.”

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

11. What is the difference between a theory and a hypothesis?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points:

* A theory is an organized system of assumptions and principles that purports to explain a specified set of phenomena and their interrelationships.
* A hypothesis is a statement that attempts to predict or to account for a set of phenomena, specifying relationships among events or variables that can be empirically tested.
* A theory precedes hypothesis; the hypothesis is based on the theory.

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

12. What are the disadvantages associated with psychological case study research?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Case studies have only limited usefulness for deriving general principles of behavior.
* This is especially true when information is missing or hard to interpret.
* It is also true if the individual being studied is unrepresentative of the group that a researcher is interested in.

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

13. A psychologist is planning to gather information about a group of subjects through the use of psychological tests. What will ensure that the tests provide useful results?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Standardization: one criterion of a good test is whether it is standardized, having uniform procedures for giving and scoring the test.
* Reliability: producing the same results from one time and place to the next or from one scorer to another.
* Validity: measuring what it sets out to measure.

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

14. Jamal comes across some survey results on the Internet that conclude that people who watch cat videos with hip-hop music are cooler than people who watch cat videos with dubstep music. What are some things he should look out for before deciding to believe the results of this survey?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points:

* People who are willing to volunteer their opinions may differ from those who decline to take part.
* Which questions were (and were not) asked and how the questions were phrased? These aspects of a survey’s design may reflect assumptions about the topic or encourage certain responses.
* What are the credentials of those designing the test or survey? Are they likely to use a well-designed survey or just make something up?

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

15. A correlation between “A” and “B” does not necessarily mean that “A” causes “B.” Why? Explain using this example: The higher a male monkey’s level of the hormone testosterone, the more aggressive he is likely to be.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Correlation does not indicate causation.
* A positive correlation between testosterone levels and aggression could mean that testosterone causes aggression.
* It could also mean that aggressive behavior causes an increase in testosterone levels.
* It could also mean that some other unspecified variable causes both high testosterone levels and high aggression.
* It could also mean that unknown variables affect each phenomenon, which are only related in time.

Topic: Measuring Correlations

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

16. If TV watching is positively correlated with children’s aggressiveness, then in what possible ways could this relationship be explained?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points:

* Watching TV could cause children to behave aggressively.
* Aggressiveness in children could cause them to watch more TV.
* Another unspecified variable could cause both TV watching and increased aggressiveness.
* Other unspecified variables could affect either TV watching or increased aggressiveness.

Topic: Cautions About Correlations

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

17. Explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* An experimental group receives an independent variable manipulation; a control group does not.
* A control group should be as similar as possible to the experimental group in all regards, except for the presence of the independent variable.
* Without a control group there is no basis for comparison, and therefore no justification for claiming that some type of change took place.

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

18. Explain what random assignment is and why it is important in the conduct of an experiment.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Participants can be in either the experimental or the control group of an experiment.
* These two groups should be as similar as possible at the outset of the experiment; the experimental group then receives a treatment while the control group does not.
* If there are differences between the two groups at the end of the experiment, the researcher has the grounds for identifying a possible causal agent (i.e., the independent variable).
* Random assignment makes this possible because it takes all the sources of preexisting differences among participants and “scatters” them randomly across conditions.
* Flipping a coin, using a random number generator, or other methods can be used to make sure participants in the two groups are equivalent.

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

19. Experiments have long been the method of choice in psychology. However, the experiment does have its limitations. Describe these limitations and explain why many psychologists have called for more field research.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* One limitation of experiments is experimenter effects. That is, if participants know whether they are in the experimental or control group, their expectations may affect the results.
* A researcher’s expectations can also influence the results of an experiment.
* If participants are not representative of the larger population of interest, the results cannot be generalized.
* Controlled experiments may result in artificial situations in which behavior is not normal and cannot be generalized to the real world.
* Field research can at least partially overcome this last objection.

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

20. Describe what the mean and standard deviation are.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* The mean is the arithmetic average of all the scores in a set of data.
* The standard deviation provides a measure of how clustered or spread out the individual scores are around the mean.

Topic: Describing the Data

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of groups of research participants.

**Essay Questions**

1. Compare and contrast the three schools of psychological thought that became popular when psychology first emerged as a discipline, including the major theorists associated with each school as well as the goal of each of these perspectives.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Structuralism was the analysis of sensations, images, and feelings into basic elements based on Wundt’s method of introspection.
* Wilhelm Wundt was a leader in the structuralist school of psychology.
* Structuralism died out in the early years of psychology.
* Functionalism, advanced by William James, emphasized the purpose of behavior, as opposed to its analysis and description.
* Functionalism also died out as a separate school of psychology, but its emphasis on the causes and consequences of behavior continued to influence the development of psychology as a science.
* Psychoanalysis was both a theory of personality and a method of psychotherapy that stressed the role of the unconscious mind and its hidden conflicts and wishes in influencing our behavior.
* Psychoanalysis was founded by Sigmund Freud.

Topic: The Birth of Modern Psychology

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains

2. Describe social-cognitive learning theory and the sociocultural perspective of psychology. Distinguish between the two approaches by outlining their differences.

Answer: A good answer will include:

* Social-cognitive learning theory is part of the learning perspective.
* Social-cognitive learning theorists combine elements of behaviorism with research on thoughts, values, expectations, and intentions.
* Social-cognitive learning theorists believe that people learn not only by adapting their behavior to the environment, but also by observing and imitating others and by thinking about the events happening around them.
* The sociocultural perspective is one of the four major perspectives in psychology.
* The sociocultural perspective is a psychological approach that emphasizes social and cultural influences on behavior.
* The sociocultural perspective includes social psychologists and cultural psychologists.

Topic: Major Perspectives in Psychology

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in modern psychology.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

3. To most people, the word *psychologist* conjures an image of a therapist listening intently to a client. But not all who perform clinical work necessarily have a background in scientific psychology. Describe the different professional activities of psychologists with doctoral degrees. Include examples of work in each of the three general categories.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points:

* Clinical psychologist: Diagnoses, treats, and/or studies mental and emotional problems, both mild and severe; has a Ph.D. or a Psy.D.
* Psychoanalyst: Practices psychoanalysis; has specific training in this approach after an advanced degree; may treat any kind of emotional disorder or pathology.
* Psychiatrist: Does work similar to that of a clinical psychologist, but is likely to take a more biological approach; can prescribe medicine; has a medical degree (M.D.) with a specialty in psychiatry.

Topic: What Psychologists Do

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

APA Objective: 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

4. Shane is eager to buy an Electro-Neural Stimulator so that he can get both halves of his brain working at peak efficiency by exam time. Based on your knowledge of critical thinking, how would you recommend he think about his plan?

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points:

* Develop a number of questions to ask about the product and what it does.
* Define any terms that might be misunderstood in your questions.
* Analyze assumptions and biases (are there any assumptions or biases that might get in the way of his evaluating the quality and need for this product?).
* Examine the evidence—Seek peer-reviewed research regarding the outcomes after use of the product. Look at critical, reliable, reviews of the product.
* Weigh conclusions—Encourage him to use the data in front of him to make a decision about if this is a good idea and if it will accomplish what he wants to do.

Topic: Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

5. One of the issues in critical thinking is to examine the evidence. What does this mean? Provide an example of how someone might use an anecdote to defend an argument.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points:

* Critical thinkers look beyond the obvious, resist easy generalizations, and reject either/or thinking.
* Critical thinkers demand evidence that something is true. They seek research that shows a product does what it says it does. Critical thinkers are not lazy and seek all of the information they can to confirm or deny arguments presented.
* Using anecdotes to support an argument involves generalizing from a personal experience or a few examples.
* An example should be given that shows how a person might generalize from a personal experience to all people.

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

6. Many people don’t realize that just as the body needs exercise to stay in shape, clear thinking requires effort and practice. Name and give an example of each of the five guidelines of critical thinking.

Answer: A good answer will provide an example for each of the five guidelines for critical thinking.

* Ask questions and be willing to wonder.
* Define your terms.
* Analyze assumptions and biases.
* Examine the evidence.
* Weight conclusions.

Topic: Critical Thinking Steps

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology

7. The president of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is concerned after reading that during puberty, children have increased needs for sleep. She wants to find out if other parents of middle-school children would support a later starting time for school. At one of the Tuesday night meetings, she conducts a survey of the PTA members in order to address this question. When she asks those parents in support of the change to raise their hands, she discovers that 85 percent of the parents support a later starting time. Identify what information she has gained by conducting this survey. Analyze what shortcomings exist in her survey. Describe how she might improve the quality of the data she gathers.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* She has learned that a majority of other PTA members who attend meetings support a later starting time.
* A major shortcoming is that the PTA members at the meeting may not be representative of all parents of students at the school in question.
* She should either select a random sample from all parents of the school, or possibly include all parents in her sample.

Topic: Descriptive Studies: Establishing the Facts

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

8. A researcher hypothesizes that adults will respond differently to the same baby depending on how whether the child is dressed in “girl clothes” or “boy clothes.” Her colleague, on the other hand, hypothesizes that boys and girls are treated equally and that only temperamental differences lead to differences in their handling by adults. Outline a research study to test their hypotheses.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Two babies with similar temperament should be selected, one male and one female.
* Participants in the experimental group will be exposed to a baby dressed in clothing usually considered appropriate to the opposite sex.
* Participants in the control group will be exposed to an infant dressed in clothing usually considered appropriate for that sex.
* All participants will be observed for 10 minutes while interacting with the baby and their behaviors carefully noted.
* Behaviors of participants in the experimental and control groups will be compared.
* This would be a single-blind study, since the participants do not know the actual sex of either child but the researchers do.

Topic: Experimental Variables

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

9. When the relationship between age and mental abilities is studied through cross-sectional methods, the results often conflict with the findings from longitudinal studies. Explain the basic procedures in each type of study and then discuss why the two methods sometimes yield different results.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* Longitudinal studies examine the same people over a period of time, reassessing them periodically.
* Cross-sectional studies examine groups of people of different ages at the same time.
* Longitudinal studies are especially useful to study changes in individuals over time. However, you may lose some participants because they must stay committed to the study for such a long time.
* The two types of studies can reach different conclusions because cross-sectional studies measure generational differences, in addition to changes that occur as people age.

Topic: Experimental and Control Conditions

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

10. Rarely does a psychological study have completely straightforward results. Usually there is some possibility that the difference between two groups could be due to chance. Explain how inferential statistics help us determine how statistically meaningful a study’s results are.

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points:

* Inferential statistics allow researchers to draw conclusions about how statistically meaningful a study’s results are.
* Significance tests, which tell researchers how likely it is that their result occurred by chance, are the most commonly used inferential statistics.
* If research is statistically significant, there is a good probability that the difference found in the study is real.
* Psychologists consider a result to be significant if it would be expected to occur by chance 5 or fewer times in 100 repetitions of the study.

Topic: Interpreting the Data

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

APA Objective: 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

**Integrative Essay Question: Linking the Chapters**

1. How wise is popular wisdom? In Chapter 1, we pondered how many old sayings have *other* old sayings that contradict them. For example, a common saying is “You can’t teach old dogs new tricks.” But we also hear “You are never too old to learn.” People tell us that “birds of a feather flock together” but also that “opposites attract.” Now that you have read Chapter 1, design a research study in order to test such sayings. Provide your reasoning in selecting a particular research method, research participants, and other key details.

Topic: 1.1 Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Learning Objective: 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

APA Objective: 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains, 2.1 Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena, 2.2 Demonstrate psychology information literacy, 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research, 4.1 Demonstrate effective writing for different purposes

Answer: A good answer will include the following key points.

* One method that could be used is laboratory observation.
* A representative group of older people should be selected as participants if studying “old dogs and tricks.”
* An attempt should be made to teach the participants a new task, such as searching the Internet for information.
* Participants should then be tested to see whether they were able to learn the task.
* If a different pair of sayings is offered, other methods might be proposed.
* For example, naturalistic observation of dating couples could be employed to determine whether similarity (“feathered birds”) or complementarity (“opposites attracting”) is more common.
* Should someone want to know whether “absence makes the heart grow fonder” or “out of sight, out of mind” is true, the cellphone records of geographically separated dating partners could be inspected in a case study.
* “The nail that sticks up gets hammered down,” but it’s also the case that “the squeaky wheel gets the grease.” This topic could be investigated experimentally by having a confederate behave in an obnoxious manner and then recording the opinions of that person’s interaction partners.

**Revel Quizzes**

The following questions appear at the end of each module and at the end of the chapter in Revel for *Invitation to Psychology*, 8e.

**End of Module Quiz: 1.1 Psychology, Pseudoscience, and Popular Opinion**

1 .  EOM Q1.1.1

Psychology is defined as an area of study concerned with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  behavior and mental processes, and how these are affected by physical, mental, and environmental states

 b)  the factors that lead to flawed decision-making in a social context

 c)  the development, structure, and functioning of human society

 d)  the biological bases of mental disorders and the interpersonal problems of adjustment faced by people who have poor coping skills

Consider This: As a scientific discipline, psychology embraces a wide range of topics. 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

2 .  EOM Q1.1.2

Empirical evidence refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  information that was gathered or derived from observation, experimentation, or measurement

 b)  the majority opinion adopted by most people when considering an issue

Consider This: Empiricism is a central feature of conducting scientific research.

 c)  the opinions of experts that are believed by nonexperts for a given issue

Consider This: Empiricism is a central feature of conducting scientific research.

 d)  the most straightforward explanation that can be offered for a particular phenomenon

Consider This: Empiricism is a central feature of conducting scientific research. 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

3 .  EOM Q1.1.3

Tavishi wants help dealing with her lack of motivation in school, so she enlists her roommate Misha, who's taking an Introduction to Psychology course, to offer advice. "The problem is all in your brain," Misha suggests. "You've got an imbalance of chemicals and hormones, which is causing you to feel lackluster and unfocused." Which perspective on psychological science is Misha adopting?

 a)  the biological perspective

 b)  the psychoanalytic perspective

 c)  the cognitive perspective

 d)  the learning perspective

Consider This: Clearly Misha paid attention to her introductory class, but she seems to be advocating a very specific view of what's causing Tavishi's behavior. What is that viewpoint based on? 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

4 .  EOM Q1.1.4

In one study you read about, a group of introductory Psychology students completed a true/false questionnaire about psychological issues on the first day of class. What was the general result of that initial survey?

 a)  Students believed that many false statements regarding Psychology were actually true.

 b)  Students were quite accurate in distinguishing factual statements about Psychology from incorrect ones.

 c)  Students performed better than chance at identifying correct findings from the psychological research literature.

 d)  Students showed a bias to believe that all statements on the survey were false.

Consider This: People believe lots of common sense notions that are not always supported by rigorous scientific research. 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

 5 .  EOM Q1.1.5

Which of the following specialists has a medical doctor ( M.D.) and tends to take a medical approach to mental health problems?

 a)  psychiatrist

 b)  clinical psychologist

 c)  psychoanalyst

 d)  counseling psychologist

Consider This: There are many professionals who treat mental health issues, although their training and emphasis can vary widely. 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

 **End of Module Quiz: 1.2 Thinking Critically and Scientifically About Psychology**

1 .  EOM Q1.2.1

Luisa listened in amazement as she overheard her Psychology professors design a new experiment. "We should be sure to measure this factor, to rule out a competing explanation for the results," said Professor LeBaron. "Yes, and also allow for idiosyncratic responses in case anyone doesn't speak English as a first language," added Professor DeLorean. "Let's not forget to have the results double-checked and interpreted by a qualified colleague," Professor DeDemonico chimed in. Although Luisa was amazed, to the professors this was second nature. Why?

 a)  The professors were well versed in critical-thinking skills and were simply applying those principles to the scientific task at hand.

 b)  The professors knew Luisa was listening, so they were showing off a little in order to impress her.

 c)  The professors had already collected the data and were covering their tracks in case any of the results did not precisely confirm their preconceptions.

 d)  The professors knew that science often results from luck and guessing, so they simply repeated phrases people expect scientists to say.

Consider This: Luisa's professors are no doubt competent psychological scientists; as such, they have adopted a certain way of thinking and a certain mental approach to solving problems. 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

2 .  EOM Q1.2.2

Sujin asked her Psychology professor, "Why is the brain located in the head?" Her professor replied, "That's a really good question. Although there are lots of reasons, I'm not sure of the one best answer. Let's find out together this semester." Which principle of critical thinking was Sujin practicing?

 a)  Being willing to wonder

 b)  Defining her terms

 c)  Examining the evidence

 d)  Avoiding bias

Consider This: In this scenario, Sujin seems open to asking questions but is not yet finding data to answer them on her own. 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

3 .  EOM Q1.2.3

Lori told her sister Gina about an amazing video she saw on YouTube. "It was incredible. This guy levitated a miniature poodle for 25 seconds using psychic energy. He channels a star-force through a time continuum and that allows him to unleash the hidden powers of his mind. It's totally legit; he's got a website and everything." Gina replied, "Maybe he's just making it up." Which principle of critical thinking is Gina practicing?

 a)  Gina is weighing conclusions by considering other interpretations.

 b)  Gina is defining her terms.

 c)  Gina is refining her biases.

 d)  Gina is weighing conclusions by tolerating uncertainty.

Consider This: In this scenario, Gina seems to be demonstrating a healthy skepticism and willingness to consider alternative explanations. 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

4 .  EOM Q1.2.4

An organized system of assumptions and principles that seeks to offer the best explanation for a phenomenon is known as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  theory

 b)  hypothesis

 c) prediction

 d)  confirmation bias

Consider This: The definition given here describes an important aspect of conducting scientific research. 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

5 .  EOM Q1.2.5

Natasha tells her Psychology professor that she wants to study why similarity leads to attraction. "That's great," her professor replies. "But what do you mean, exactly, by ‘similarity’ and ‘attraction’?" What is Natasha's professor urging her to do?

 a)  Create operational definitions of the variables she wants to study.

 b)  Formulate a hypothesis about the relationship between her variables of interest.

 c)  Propose a theory to explain why similarity is correlated with attraction.

 d)  Design a field experiment to test her hypothesis.

Consider This: Natasha's got a good idea, but what's her next step for turning that idea into a scientifically testable question? 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

**End of Module Quiz: 1.3 Doing Research: Moving From Questions to Data**

1 .  EOM Q1.3.1

Pedro wants to gauge the nation's attitudes toward handguns, so he polls a very large sample of National Rifle Association (NRA) members and asks them what they think. Despite having a lot of data, Pedro's conclusions are likely to be flawed. Why?

 a)  The sample he used wasn't representative of the population he's interested in learning about.

 b)  He used a survey when he should have used an interview to collect the data.

 c)  Samples should always include about 13 percent of the population being studied.

 d)  He didn't use alternate-forms reliability when constructing his measurements.

Consider This: There's a fundamental problem with Pedro's approach to data collection. 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study's outcomes.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study's outcomes.

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

2 .  EOM Q1.3.2

Trixie has been assigned to do a research project on human development for her Introduction to Psychology course. She decides to conduct a case study of her Uncle Joe and devises a days-long set of interview questions for him, ranging from his childhood experiences through the ensuing 60 years of his life. Although her intentions are admirable, Trixie might have spent the time more profitably by using a different methodology. Why?

 a)  Case studies are of limited usefulness in deriving general conclusions about behavior.

 b)  Case studies always produce biased and inaccurate results.

 c)  By definition, case studies involve studying, and Trixie didn't devote enough time to this project.

 d)  Case studies are a technique typically used by biologists but not by psychologists.

Consider This: Case studies can illuminate the details of a particular individual's life, a single important event, or an unusual occurrence. Why might this not be a main approach to adopt as a general method of science? 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

3 .  EOM Q1.3.3

Both Huong and Asli are interested in developmental psychology, specifically the types of play 5-year-olds engage in. Huong visits a local park and unobtrusively makes notes about the children she sees. Asli invites parents and their children to a specially designed room in the Psychology building and watches the children through a one-way mirror. Both approaches are sensible. The difference is that Huong is using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, whereas Asli is using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  naturalistic observation; laboratory observation

 b)  laboratory observation; the case study method

 c)  the case study method; cross-cultural research

 d)  cross-cultural research; naturalistic observation

Consider This: Both Huong and Asli are taking the same basic approach to studying their research question; only the setting of the research differs. 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

4 .  EOM Q1.3.4

Desmond creates and administers a test of the personality trait of neuroticism to a group of ninth graders. He finds that students in the sample tend to get drastically different scores on the test each time they take it, suggesting that his test is particularly lacking in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  reliability

 b)  projective content

 c)  validity

 d)  naturalism

Consider This: Desmond was able to demonstrate that his test correctly predicted independent, yet relevant, outcomes. 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Answer: a

Learning Objective:1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

5.  EOM Q1.3.5

Sandeep wants to know whether drug use is widespread on his college campus. He asks the members of his Chemical Dependency class if they'd be willing to respond to a short survey that he's constructed on this topic. Half the class agrees to participate. When Sandeep analyzes the data, he concludes that drug use indeed takes place at a high rate. What's the flaw in this research process?

 a)  Those students who agreed to participate might be quite different in their drug-taking attitudes or habits than those who chose not to participate.

 b)  Content validity is a problem; Sandeep's survey probably had little to do with drug-taking policies and more to do with drug-taking attitudes.

 c)  Sandeep's sample was representative of his college population, but it may not have been representative of the average of college populations in his home state.

 d)  Sandeep relied on a standardized test; an assessment instrument should have been used instead, to assure that the confirmation effect was in place.

Consider This: Sandeep might want to give more thought to the generalizability of the responses he obtained. 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

**End of Module Quiz: 1.4 Correlational Studies: Looking for Relationships**

1 .  EOM Q1.4.1

You notice a correlation coefficient of +.02 between two variables you're studying. What conclusion should you reach about their relatedness?

 a)  The two variables are pretty much unrelated to one another; scores on one variable show no consistent pattern with scores on the other variable.

 b)  The two variables show a near-perfect positive correlation; +.02 is close to ideal, and high scores on one variable are associated with high scores on the other.

 c)  The two variables show a near-perfect negative correlation; +.02 is close to ideal, and high scores on one variable are associated with low scores on the other.

 d)  A correlation of +.02 is under the ".10 threshold"; therefore, the data should be reexamined using a new group of research participants.

Consider This: Correlation coefficients range along a finite scale, and their gradations indicate differing degrees of association between two variables. 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

2 .  EOM Q1.4.2

A negative correlation coefficient indicates that as scores on one variable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, scores on the other variable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  increase; decrease

 b)  decrease; decrease

 c)  increase; increase

 d)  level out; decrease

Consider This: Picture in your mind what a graph of a negative correlation would look like. 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

Answer: a

Learning Objective:1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

3 .  EOM Q1.4.3

Which of the following values for a correlation coefficient indicates the strongest degree of relationship?

 a)  -.69

 b)  -.35

 c)  +.03

 d)  +.59

Consider This: Correlation coefficients measure both the strength and direction of a relationship between two variables. 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.4.A Illustrate with an example how a correlation coefficient gives both the size and direction of the relationship between two variables.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

4 .  EOM Q1.4.4

Roya believes that every time the moon is full, her left knee feels shaky. "It's true," she insists. "My knee is shaky when the moon is full, and not shaky when the moon isn't full." Because there's probably not a reliable association between lunar phases and joint mobility, what does Roya's belief illustrate?

 a)  an illusory correlation

 b)  a negative correlation coefficient

 c)  variable skew

 d)  a positive correlation coefficient

Consider This: Roya believes there is an association between two variables when there most likely isn't. 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

5 .  EOM Q1.4.5

Variable A is strongly associated with variable B. Therefore, it logically follows that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  variable A and variable B are correlated with one another

 b)  variable A causes variable B to happen

 c)  variable B causes variable A to happen

 d)  variable C causes both variable A and variable B to happen

Consider This: There are many possible ways to explain the association between two variables. 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

**Answer:** a

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

**End of Module Quiz: 1.5 Experiments: Hunting for Causes**

1 .  EOM Q1.5.1

In a study where college students are given herbal memory supplements to see whether this will improve their scores in their Psychology course, what is the *independent variable*?

 a)  whether or not students were given supplements

 b)  students' scores on the next psychology midterm

 c)  students' previous scores (or baseline) on psychology midterms

 d)  students' scores on the next midterm minus the baseline score

Consider This: Some students were given supplements and some were not; both groups were later compared on some outcome. 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

2 .  EOM Q1.5.2

Inigo is conducting a psychological experiment with the help of his professor. As research participants come to the laboratory, Inigo flips a coin. If the coin lands on heads, the participant takes part in the experimental group; if the coin lands on tails, the participant goes into the control group. What principle of experimental design is Inigo utilizing?

 a)  random assignment

 b)  a double-blind procedure

 c)  controlling the dependent variable

 d)  biased sampling

Consider This: Participants are equally likely to end up in either the experimental group or the control group. 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.5.B Explain how random assignment helps create conditions in an experiment, and explain the difference between an experimental group and a control group.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

3 .  EOM Q1.5.3

Margo is studying people's moods during a stressful laboratory situation. Wanting to be nice, she smiles at each participant who enters the experimental condition (where they'll be stressed) and remains neutral toward participants in the control group. Surprisingly, she finds that participants in the stressful condition report being in better moods at the end of the experiment, compared to participants in the control group. Margo's professor is not so surprised, however, because she realizes the outcomes are plagued by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  experimenter effects

 b)  random assignment

 c)  field study problems

 d)  a lack of informed consent

Consider This: Can the differences in participants' moods be attributed solely to the experimental treatments they received, or is there another explanation for why one group is in a better mood than the other? 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

4 .  EOM Q1.5.4

An experiment in which neither the participants nor the experimenter knows who is in the control group and who is in the experimental group is called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  double-blind

 b)  single-blind

 c)  omni-blind

 d)  consent-neutral

Consider This: Both the experimenter and participants remain uninformed about how the participants were assigned to experimental conditions. 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

5 .  EOM Q1.5.5

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a general term referring to studies that take place in a natural setting.

 a)  Field research

 b)  Experiment

 c)  Sampling expansion

 d)  Dependent control

Consider This: Research often takes place in the controlled conditions of a laboratory, but sometimes it doesn't. 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

**End of Module Quiz: 1.6 Evaluating the Findings**

1 .  EOM Q1.6.1

"I'm so confused!" sputters Henry. "I collected all this data for my research project, but I don't know which numbers to pay attention to. The highest values? The lowest values? The most common value? Argh!" "Why don't you look at the arithmetic mean of all the values?" suggests Raelynn. "Finding the average score would be a good indicator of what the values look like in general." How would you advise Henry to go about finding the arithmetic mean?

 a)  Add up all the individual scores, then divide the result by the number of scores.

 b)  Figure out how far away each score is from every other one.

 c)  Subtract the lowest score from the highest score, then multiply the answer by 2.

 d)  Add the five lowest scores to the five highest scores, then divide the result by 2.

Consider This: The arithmetic mean is the average of a set of measurements. 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

2 .  EOM Q1.6.2

Calculations that allow a researcher to draw conclusions about the meaningfulness of a result is are collectively called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ statistics.

 a)  inferential

 b)  descriptive

 c)  qualitative

 d)  quantitative

Consider This: After a researcher collects data from a specific group of participants, she or he usually wants to draw some larger conclusion about what's likely to be true in general. 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

3 .  EOM Q1.6.3

Which of the following is an example of a descriptive statistic?

 a)  standard deviation

 b)  the likelihood that a result occurred by chance

 c)  cross-sectional research

 d)  the *p* value

Consider This: Descriptive statistics organize and summarize research data. 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

4 .  EOM Q1.6.4

While a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ relates to the strength or weight of a relationship between variables, a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has to do with whether the relationship is a reliable one to begin with.

 a)  effect size; significance test

 b)  operational definition; cross-sectional design

 c)  significance test; *p* value

 d)  longitudinal design; effect size

Consider This: Effect size has to do with the size of a relationship between variables, not the question of the probability of that relationship. 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.6.B Explain what a statistically significant research result does and does not mean.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

5 .  EOM Q1.6.5

Carmela is excited; she has just published her first psychology research paper. She is now trying to figure out what to do next. Adriana suggests that she should run the same study again to see if she obtains similar results. Carmela replies, “Why would I do that? That research is done. I’m ready for a new challenge now.” Whose viewpoint do you find most compelling and why?

 a)  Adriana is right; replication is an essential component of the scientific method and is essential for assessing just how reliable and robust a finding may be.

 b)  Carmela is right; rigorous scientists don’t waste time repeating the same study when they know they did the study correctly the first time around.

 c)  It depends: Carmela is right if the study in question is a correlational study, which doesn’t require replication, but Adriana is right if the study in question is an experiment.

 d)  It depends: If Carmela used a diverse and international sample, there would be no need to try to replicate her original finding, but if the original sample was not a diverse one then Adriana is right that it will be important to run the study again.

Consider This: Transparency and the effort to replicate research is an essential part of the scientific method no matter the type of study or specific finding.1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

**End of Chapter 1 Quiz: What Is Psychology?**

1 .  EOC Q1.1

What distinguishes scientific psychology from pseudoscience and popular opinion?

 a)  Scientific psychology relies on empirical evidence for its conclusions.

 b)  Popular ideas always take time to filter into the scientific literature, whereas scientific findings are immediately embraced by the scientific community.

 c)  Scientific psychology only studies topics that cannot be explained through common sense.

 d)  Evidence from a carefully controlled experiment is not as compelling as people's long-held beliefs.

Consider This: There is a reason why *pseudo*science is called that. Remember that the prefix "pseudo" means "false." 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

2 .  EOC Q1.2

Which of the following statements is true regarding how scientific psychology differs from the popular psychology found on television shows, the Internet, or in self-help books?

 a)  Scientific psychology addresses a much broader range of issues and topics than popular psychology typically does and is more firmly grounded in rigorous research and empirical evidence.

 b)  Scientific psychology is only conducted in laboratories, whereas popular psychology is studied in a variety of settings.

 c)  Popular psychology focuses correlational explanations for behavior, whereas scientific psychology only uses data from experiments.

 d)  Popular psychology produces testable predictions, whereas scientific psychology deals only with theories.

Consider This: Popular psychology is indeed popular with a lot of people, although the questions and methods it uses are quite unlike those used in scientific psychology. 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

3 .  EOC Q1.3

Daniela and her friend visit a psychic who tells Daniela "you will experience great change in the coming year" and "you'll need to act fast to seize a new opportunity that awaits you." As they leave the session, Daniela chuckles quietly while her friend seems shocked and amazed. "That was awesome; that psychic really predicted some heavy stuff for you!" "Oh, it's just for laughs," replies Daniela. "I don't believe a word of it." Why is Daniela correct to be skeptical?

 a)  Psychic predictions are typically so vague that they are essentially meaningless.

 b)  Daniela thought the psychic was actually making predictions about her friend.

 c)  Psychics practice a type of science that most people cannot understand.

 d)  Daniela experienced great change and seized a new opportunity during the *previous* year, so she knew those predictions could not come true again.

Consider This: Don't most people experience some sort of change or new opportunity over the course of a year? 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.A Define psychology, describe how it addresses daily life from a scientific perspective, and differentiate it from pseudoscience and common sense.

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

4 .  EOC Q1.4

Which of the following is the most appropriate way to characterize critical thinking?

 a)  Critical thinking is a process rather than a once-and-for-all accomplishment.

 b)  Critical thinking should be practiced by scientists but not necessarily ordinary people.

 c)  Critical thinking always starts with rejecting some commonsense explanation.

 d)  Critical-thinking skills are something you're born with, rather than something you learn.

Consider This: Critical thinkers apply their skills over time, as a habit, and in a variety of situations. 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.A Explain why critical thinking applies to all scientific pursuits and why it should also guide everyday judgments and decision-making.

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

5 .  EOC Q1.5

Which of the following is *not* one of the critical thinking guidelines discussed in this chapter?

 a)  Avoid evidentiary confirmation.

 b)  Analyze assumptions and biases.

 c)  Define your terms.

 d)  Examine the evidence.

Consider This: Review the eight critical thinking guidelines, and practice them as you progress through your introductory psychology course. 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

6 .  EOC Q1.6

What characterized the thinking of pre-psychological approaches to psychology from ancient times through the early 1800s?

 a)  Without an empirical methodology, conclusions were based on opinion and casual observations; sometimes these conclusions were right, but many times they were wrong.

 b)  Conclusions were based on the opinions of medical doctors because they were the closest practitioners to "psychologists"; these conclusions were all biologically based.

 c)  Pre-psychological approaches all focused on explaining human actions as the result of spiritual forces; "religion" and "psychology" were seen as interchangeable terms.

 d)  Before it became a science, psychology was viewed as a type of witchcraft; therefore, any conclusions reached were contaminated by bias and prejudice.

Consider This: There were many streams of thought that lead into the eventual development of psychology as an independent science. What distinguishes psychological science from these earlier approaches? 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

7 .  EOC Q1.7

Who originated psychoanalysis, a type of early psychology?

 a)  Sigmund Freud

 b)  Wilhelm Wundt

 c)  William James

 d)  John Watson

Consider This: Psychoanalysis, along with structuralism and functionalism, was an early approach to understanding the mind and behavior. 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.B Discuss some of the early perspectives and individuals that were influential forerunners of modern psychology.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

8 .  EOC Q1.8

Humans can accurately recognize the facial expression of anger from a distance. One explanation for this is that being able to predict, accurately and quickly, that an approaching stranger has bad intentions helps individuals detect and avoid threat. Upon which perspective on psychological science is this explanation based?

 a)  evolutionary psychology

 b)  social-cognitive learning

 c)  behaviorism

 d)  structuralism

Consider This: The explanation offers a reason why it might be adaptive to recognize certain expressions from a greater distance than others. This adaptiveness would be likely to serve an important function for the people who possessed it. 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

9 .  EOC Q1.9

Little Arnold screams and throws a fit whenever he doesn't get what he wants. When this happens, his parents rush to his side and soothe him, often fulfilling whatever wants or demands he has at the moment. Which perspective on psychological science would argue that Arnold has been rewarded for his behavior?

 a)  the learning perspective

 b)  the cognitive perspective

 c)  the biological perspective

 d)  the sociocultural perspective

Consider This: Although Arnold's behavior is obnoxious, it continues to be repeated for some reason. Think about what's causing the behavior to reoccur so often. 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.C List and describe four major perspectives in psychology.

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

10 .  EOC Q1.10

Dr. Gupta studies mood awareness, which is the individual differences in how people monitor and label their mood states. Her interest is in knowing how the process works, what its limits are, and the mechanisms that cause it to happen. Dr. McBride wants to know whether people who are higher in mood awareness are better able to control and regulate their mood states and therefore might experience better outcomes during therapy. Dr. Gupta's interests are in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, whereas Dr. McBride's interests are in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  basic psychology; applied psychology

 b)  learning theory; sociocultural psychology

 c)  biological psychology; psychometrics

 d)  counseling psychology; clinical psychology

Consider This: Dr. Gupta wants to understand a fundamental psychological process; Dr. McBride wants to see that process in a practical setting. 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

11 .  EOC Q1.11

Guillermo decides he wants to "help people," so he rents an office, advertises his services, and has business cards printed. Which mental health term would Guillermo be allowed to use, despite not having a scrap of psychological training?

 a)  psychotherapist

 b)  psychoanalyst

 c)  marriage, family, and child counselor

 d)  psychiatrist

Consider This: Mental health professionals may have a range of training, qualifications, licensure, or certification. 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.1.D Describe the roles that psychologists play in research, practice, and the community.

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

12 .  EOC Q1.12

A statement that specifies the relationships among events and is derived from a theory is called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  a hypothesis

 b)  an operational definition

 c)  a predicate

 d)  an extension

Consider This: Science advances through the formulation and testing of the types of statements described in this question. 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.2.B Identify important steps to critical thinking, and give an example of how each applies to the science of psychology.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

13 .  EOC Q1.13

Lluvia administers a questionnaire on dating habits to the 35 students in her Introduction to Psychology class. What type of sample do those participants constitute?

 a)  a convenience sample

 b)  a representative sample

 c)  a population sample

 d)  a dependent sample

Consider This: Think about how and where Lluvia got her research participants, and also think about the quality of the conclusions she can reach from her study. 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study's outcomes.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.3.A Describe the ways participants are selected for psychological studies and how the method of selection can influence interpretations of a study's outcomes.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

14 .  EOC Q1.14

Janelle wants to learn about the psychological impact of war on combat veterans, so she conducts an in-depth interview with her grandfather who served in the Vietnam War. What type of research approach is Janelle using?

 a)  case study

 b)  observational study

 c)  survey

 d)  experiment

Consider This: Janelle will no doubt learn much about her grandfather's individual experiences, and this will provide some information relevant to her research interests. 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

15 .  EOC Q1.15

A researcher wants to study whether people using laptops in a public setting are more likely to sit near one another or more likely to sit near someone not using a computer. She sits in a local coffee shop for two hours each day for a week and counts the number of other patrons with or without a laptop and whether they sit next to someone with or without a laptop. What type of research methodology is being used in this study?

 a)  naturalistic observation

 b)  laboratory observation

 c)  survey

 d)  case study

Consider This: The researcher is recording typical behavior in a typical setting, without intervening in any way or manipulating the situation in any way. 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.3.B Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using different descriptive methods such as case studies, observational methods, tests, and surveys.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

16.  EOC Q1.16

Dalisay conducts a correlational study between two variables, X and Y. She conducts a statistical analysis and writes out the following conclusion: *The correlation coefficient for X and Y is* - *.67, meaning that the more there is of X, the more there tends to be of Y.* Dalisay has made a mistake. What is it?

 a)  This is a negative correlation, but she's explaining it as if it were a positive correlation.

 b)  She must have run the analysis wrong because that is an invalid correlation coefficient.

 c)  She can't draw a conclusion about the relationship between X and Y if the study was only correlational.

 d)  By definition, a correlational study must have at least three variables in it.

Consider This: A correlation coefficient can be any number between -1 and 1, with positive and negative numbers referring to different directions for the relationship between variables. 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.4.B Explain why a correlation between two variables does not establish a causal relationship between those variables.

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

17.  EOC Q1.17

Carmen wants to test whether putting people in a good mood versus a bad mood affects the size of a donation they give to a homeless person. In this experiment, the dependent variable is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  the size of the donation

 b)  being in a good mood

 c)  being in a bad mood

 d)  a person's mood state

Consider This: The dependent variable in an experiment "depends" on the independent variable. 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.5.A Distinguish an independent variable from a dependent variable, and give an example of each.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

18.  EOC Q1.18

When only the experimenter knows whether a given participant is in the experimental or control group (and the participants themselves do not), the study can be classified as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  single-blind experiment

 b)  double-blind experiment

 c)  repeated-measures design

 d)  failure

Consider This: Several safeguards need to be in place in order for psychological research to be valid; think about the type of safeguard described in this question. 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.5.C Discuss the methodological advantages, limitations, and ethical considerations related to experimental research design.

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

19.  EOC Q1.19

Vihaan collects data on the number of hours college students study each day and finds that his respondents typically study for three hours, give or take one and a half hours in either direction. "Typically" in this context refers to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, whereas "give or take" refers to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 a)  arithmetic mean; standard deviation

 b)  standard deviation; arithmetic mean

 c)  arithmetic mean; *p*-value

 d)  *p*-value; standard deviation

Consider This: Vihaan no doubt compiled some descriptive statistics as a first step in understanding his measurements. 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.6.A Explain how descriptive statistics can be used to compare the performance of two groups of research participants.

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Difficult

20 .  EOC Q1.20

Under carefully controlled experimental conditions, Aldo finds that ninth graders who study an additional two hours raise their test scores by 5 percent. Before publicizing his results, he repeats the experiment with a different group of ninth graders, another group of ninth graders studying different material, and a group of 10th graders; in all cases the same pattern of results emerges. What important feature of the scientific process is Aldo demonstrating?

 a)  replication

 b)  falsifiability

 c)  operationalization

 d)  divergence

Consider This: Aldo has taken steps to assure that his initial results are not a one-time fluke. 1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

Answer: a

Learning Objective: 1.6.C Describe why openness and replication are important qualities of the scientific enterprise.

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate