

Module 01
Doing Social Psychology

Multiple Choice Questions

1. (p. 1) According to the text, social psychology is defined as the scientific study of how people
- A. motivate, persuade and hurt one another.
 - B. think about, influence and relate to one another.**
 - C. manipulate, use and betray one another.
 - D. conform, help and form attitudes about one another.

Type: DEF

2. (p. 4) Theories help social psychologists _____ their observations and _____ their hypotheses.
- A. test; organize
 - B. organize; test**
 - C. objectify; refute
 - D. refute; objectify

Type: CON

3. (p. 4) A theory
- A. is an agreed-upon statement.
 - B. summarizes and explains facts.**
 - C. cannot be tested.
 - D. is less than fact.

Type: FAC

4. (p. 4) A _____ is an integrated set of principles that can explain and predict observed events.

- A.** theory
- B. hypothesis
- C. fact
- D. correlation

Type: DEF

5. (p. 4) The difference between facts and theories is that

- A. facts explain theories.
- B.** theories explain facts.
- C. facts are ideas.
- D. theories are statements.

Type: FAC

6. (p. 4) _____ explain and predict observed events while _____ are testable predictions.

- A. Statements; theories
- B.** Theories; hypotheses
- C. Hypotheses; theories
- D. Correlations; experiments

Type: DEF

7. (p. 4) According to the text which of the following is one of the purposes of a hypotheses?

- A.** Hypotheses allow us to test a theory.
- B. Hypotheses provide explanations for research results.
- C. Hypotheses prove theories.
- D. Hypotheses communicate the results of research studies.

Type: FAC

8. (p. 5) According to the text, a good theory should effectively summarize a _____ range of observations about human behavior.

- A. wide
- B. small
- C. limited
- D. practical

Type: FAC

9. (p. 5) The analogy used in the text to describe what happens when old theories are discarded employs a discussion of how

- A. old cars are kept as antiques.
- B. old cars are replaced by newer and better models.
- C. new cars are often not built as well as older models.
- D. new cars are frequently more fuel efficient than older models.

Type: CON

10. (p. 5) Research done in natural, real-life settings outside the laboratory is referred to as

- A. correlational research.
- B. experimental research.
- C. laboratory research.
- D. field research.

Type: DEF

11. (p. 5) Asking students to come to a laboratory at 3 p.m. in order to participate in a study on university students' usage of cellular phones is an example of what type of research?

- A. correlational research
- B. experimental research
- C. laboratory research
- D. field research

Type: CON

12. (p. 5) Standing in the campus courtyard with a clipboard to record your observations of university students' usage of cellular phones is an example of what type of research?

- A. correlational research
- B. experimental research
- C. laboratory research
- D.** field research

Type: CON

13. (p. 5) The study of naturally occurring relationships among variables is referred to as

- A.** correlational research.
- B. experimental research.
- C. laboratory research.
- D. field research.

Type: DEF

14. (p. 5) In order to determine whether or not changing one variable (such as education) will produce changes in another (such as income), one needs to conduct _____ research.

- A. survey
- B. correlational
- C.** experimental
- D. statistical

Type: FAC

15. (p. 5) Studies that seek clues to cause-effect relationships by manipulating one or more factors while controlling others describes what type of research?

- A. correlational research
- B.** experimental research
- C. laboratory research
- D. field research

Type: DEF

16. (p. 5) A psychiatrist tells you that she is interested in determining if the condition of individuals who are clinically depressed improves with either 20 or 40 milligrams of Prozac. She decides to administer 20 milligrams to a random half of her clients, and 40 milligrams to the other half. She finds that after 6 months, the clients who took 40 milligrams of Prozac are significantly less depressed than those clients who took 20 milligrams of Prozac. Which type of study did the psychiatrist conduct?

- A. correlational research
- B.** experimental research
- C. controlled research
- D. hypothetical research

Type: CON

17. (p. 5) You've noticed that as the temperature drops outside, you see more students wearing sweaters and heavy coats. Your observation is most similar to

- A.** correlational research.
- B. experimental research.
- C. controlled research.
- D. hypothetical research.

Type: CON

18. (p. 9) Variable X is correlated with Variable Y. Which of the following could explain this correlation?

- A. X causes Y.
- B. Y causes X.
- C. A third variable causes or influences both X and Y.
- D.** All of these are possible explanations.

Type: FAC

19. (p. 5) You are interested in finding out the effect that crowding has on people's moods. You conduct a study in a psychology research lab using two types of participants - participants who have to wait in a crowded waiting room before completing a measure of their mood, and participants who wait in an empty room before completing the same measure. Which type of research did you conduct?

- A. correlational research
- B. experimental research
- C. laboratory research
- D.** both experimental and laboratory research

Type: CON

20. (p. 6) Your psychology professor tells you that she is collecting data on the amount that students study and their grades (i.e., she is asking each student to report how many hours he/she studies each week, so that she can determine if there is a relationship between hours spent studying and grades). Which type of research is this?

- A.** correlational research
- B. experimental research
- C. controlled research
- D. hypothetical research

Type: CON

21. (p. 7) Which of the following is a disadvantage of correlational research?

- A. It involves important variables in natural settings.
- B.** It provides ambiguous interpretations of causes and effects.
- C. It assists in reading newspapers and magazines.
- D. It takes place in a laboratory.

Type: FAC

22. (p. 5) The study by Carroll, Smith and Bennett (1994) that is described in the text examined the link between socioeconomic status and health using grave markers. Which type of research was this?

- A. correlational research
- B. experimental research
- C. controlled research
- D. hypothetical research

Type: FAC

23. (p. 5) Carroll, Smith and Bennett (1994) found that the height of graveyard markers in a Glasgow cemetery was positively correlated with

- A. gender.
- B. race.
- C. affluence.
- D. longevity.

Type: FAC

24. (p. 5) According to the text, the postal code areas of Scotland that have the least overcrowding, and the least amount of unemployment, also have the

- A. greatest longevity.
- B. least longevity.
- C. greatest loneliness.
- D. least loneliness.

Type: FAC

25. (p. 7) A serious shortcoming of a correlational study is that it cannot

- A. predict one variable from another.
- B. determine when there is a lack of a relationship between two variables.
- C. identify which variable causes the other variable.
- D. None of the above.

Type: CON

26. (p. 7) Myers' discussion of the relationship between self-esteem and academic achievement concludes that

- A. self-esteem causes academic achievement.
- B. academic achievement causes self-esteem.
- C.** both self-esteem and academic achievement are likely caused by a third variable.
- D. None of the above.

Type: FAC

27. (p. 9) A sample in which every person in the population being studied has an equal chance of inclusion is called a _____ assignment.

- A. mixed
- B. diverse
- C. fair
- D.** random

Type: DEF

28. (p. 8) The experimental factor that a researcher manipulates in a study is called the _____ variable.

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

Type: DEF

29. (p. 9) As a result of random assignment, the people in both groups of an experiment

- A. differ in important ways.
- B. do not know which group they are in.
- C. are less likely to be alike.
- D.** are more likely to average about the same in every way.

Type: FAC

30. (p. 9) In Boyatzis' (1995) study of the influence television has on aggressive behavior in children, the results indicated that the viewers of "Power Rangers" committed _____ aggressive acts per two-minute interval compared to those children who did not watch this program.

- A. slightly less
- B. significantly more**
- C. about the same number of
- D. significantly less

Type: FAC

31. (p. 9) The results of Boyatzis' (1995) research indicated that _____ can be one cause of children's aggressive behavior.

- A. sugar consumption
- B. poor impulse control
- C. a lack of parental guidance
- D. television viewing**

Type: FAC

32. (p. 9) Which of the following was the dependent variable in Boyatzis' (1995) research study on the effects of television viewing on children?

- A. lying to parents
- B. aggressive behavior**
- C. poor academic performance
- D. early sexual promiscuity

Type: FAC

33. (p. 9) Which of the following was the independent variable in Boyatzis' (1995) research study on the effects of television viewing on children?

- A. aggressive behavior
- B. poor academic performance
- C. television viewing
- D. early sexual promiscuity

Type: FAC

34. (p. 9) The variable being measured in an experiment, so-called because it may depend on manipulations of another variable, is called the _____ variable.

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

Type: DEF

35. (p. 9) An experimenter exposed participants to different room temperatures to determine their effects on aggression. Aggression was the

- A. independent variable.
- B. dependent variable.
- C. control variable.
- D. confounding variable.

Type: CON

36. (p. 8) An experimenter exposed participants to different room temperatures to determine their effects on aggression. The room temperatures were the

- A. independent variable.
- B. dependent variable.
- C. control variable.
- D. confounding variable.

Type: CON

37. (p. 9) Two essential ingredients in a social-psychological experiment are
- A. deception and payment for participation.
 - B. the use of surveys and the use of deception.
 - C. framing and biases.
 - D.** control and random assignment.

Type: FAC

38. (p. 9) The process of assigning participants to the conditions of an experiment such that all persons have the same chance of being in a given condition is referred to as
- A. random sampling.
 - B.** random assignment.
 - C. random surveying.
 - D. representativeness.

Type: DEF

39. (p. 9) Putting participants in one of two conditions by flipping a coin illustrates
- A. random sampling.
 - B. sampling bias.
 - C.** random assignment.
 - D. representative sampling.

Type: CON

40. (p. 9) You conduct a study that examines the role of exercise on depression alleviation. You assign the first 50 people who are motivated to sign up to the experimental group, and the second group of 50 people, who sign up much later, to the control group. After one month, you find that the experimental group (who exercised three times a week on average) is significantly less depressed than the control group (who exercised one time a week on average). Although you may be tempted to conclude that exercise helps stave off depression, you cannot because of a lack of _____ in your study.

- A. random sampling
- B.** random assignment
- C. random surveying
- D. objectivity

Type: CON

41. (p. 12) The degree to which an experiment is superficially similar to everyday situations refers to

- A. realistic experimentation.
- B. televised reality.
- C.** mundane realism.
- D. experimental realism.

Type: DEF

42. (p. 12) The degree to which an experiment absorbs and involves its participants in real psychological processes refers to

- A. realistic experimentation.
- B. televised reality.
- C. mundane realism.
- D.** experimental realism.

Type: DEF

43. (p. 10) According to the text, _____ realism is not as important in social psychological research as _____ realism is.

- A.** mundane; experimental
- B. social; psychological
- C. experimental; mundane
- D. psychological; social

Type: FAC

44. (p. 10) The use of deception in social-psychological research occurs when the researchers require _____ in their study.

- A. realistic experimentation
- B. televised reality
- C. mundane realism
- D.** experimental realism

Type: FAC

45. (p. 11) You are participating in a psychology research experiment and the researcher invites you to return after the experiment to learn more about it and to explore your feelings about it. This is called

- A. informed consent.
- B.** debriefing.
- C. demand characterization.
- D. experiment framing.

Type: CON

46. (p. 12) _____ is an ethical principle requiring that research participants be told enough to enable them to choose whether they wish to participate.

- A. A demand characteristic
- B. Deception
- C. Mundane realism
- D.** Informed consent

Type: DEF

47. (p. 10) A major requirement of the ethical principles of social-psychological research is that the researcher

- A. use random sampling and assignment.
- B.** protect participants from harm and significant discomfort.
- C. refrain from using any deception in the research design.
- D. ensure that all participants know what is expected of them.

Type: FAC

48. (p. 10) Deception in an experiment is

- A. unethical.
- B. always required.
- C.** used only if it is essential and justified.
- D. useful in affecting subjects' willingness to participate.

Type: FAC

49. (p. 11) Regarding social-psychological research, Myers warns that we must be cautious about

- A. the use of random assignment.
- B. inferring cause and effect from experiments.
- C. the types of subjects used.
- D.** generalizing from the laboratory to life.

Type: FAC

50. (p. 11) You have just participated in a research study that required you to choose which picture you preferred among several pairs. At the end of the study, the researcher explained that she was trying to identify correlations between age, gender, and racial groups when making preferences. The researcher's disclosing of the true purpose of the study is part of the ____ process.

- A. debriefing
- B. deception
- C. informed consent
- D. experimental honesty

Type: CON

51. (p. 5) What is an advantage of using correlational designs instead of experimental designs?

- A. Results from experiments offer ambiguous interpretation of cause and effect.
- B. Correlations allow psychologists to investigate variables in natural settings.
- C. Experiments can only take place in laboratories.
- D. Results from correlations can yield cause and effect relationships if evaluated in laboratory settings.

Type: FAC

52. (p. 11) According to the text book, all of the following are true of most research participants in except

- A. they are from democratic cultures.
- B. they are from wealthy cultures.
- C. they are randomly assigned from both western and eastern cultures.
- D. they are from industrialized cultures.

Type: FAC

Essay Questions

53. (p. 7) Discuss the evidence regarding the role of self-esteem in academic achievement.

Answers will vary

54. (p. 5) Compare and contrast correlational and experimental research. Be sure to address the strengths and weakness of each approach.

Answers will vary

55. (p. 8-9) Provide an example of an experimental research study on studying and grades. Be sure to indicate what the independent and dependent variables are.

Answers will vary

56. (p. 9-10) Explain the ethical requirements of social-psychological researchers.

Answers will vary