

Module 01

Doing Social Psychology

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.

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

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

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4. A _____ is an integrated set of principles that can explain and predict observed events.
- A. theory**
 - B. hypothesis
 - C. fact
 - D. correlation

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5. The difference between facts and theories is that
- A. facts explain theories.
 - B. theories explain facts.**
 - C. facts are ideas.
 - D. theories are statements.

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6. _____ explain and predict observed events while _____ are testable predictions.
- A. Statements; theories
 - B. Theories; hypotheses**
 - C. Hypotheses; theories
 - D. Correlations; experiments

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7. According to the text, which of the following is one of the purposes of a hypothesis?
- 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.

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8. Which of the following is an example of field research?
- A. taking opinion polls of people in an amusement park about its hygiene and cleanliness**
 - B. flashing different color lights on players on the pitch during a soccer game
 - C. testing the effects of chemicals on animals in an industrial lab
 - D. observing changes in the moods of people in a laboratory when they are exposed to violent movies

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9. Which of the following best defines informed consent in an experiment?

- A. informing the research participants about the results of the experiment
- B. telling the research participants about the content of the experiment so as to help them choose whether they wish to participate in the experiment**
- C. communicating to the research participants about the deception used in the experiment
- D. informing the research participants about the feedback received from other participants about the effectiveness of the experiment

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10. 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.**

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11. Which of the following is an example of a laboratory research?

- A. noting behaviors of random people in a park
- B. discussing different ways of making a vaccine in a science lab
- C. conducting experiments on a group of teenagers at a facility**
- D. observing the movement of traffic in different parts of a city

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12. John is conducting a survey of random students outside his college library. He is interested in knowing the different types of books they borrow from the library. This is an example of

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

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13. The study of naturally occurring relationships among variables is referred to as

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

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

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

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15. Studies that seek clues to cause–effect relationships by manipulating one or more factors while controlling others describe what type of research?

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

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16. A psychiatrist tells you that she is interested in determining whether the condition of individuals who are clinically depressed improves with 20 or with 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

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17. 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.

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18. 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 the answers are correct.

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19. 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

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20. 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 or 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

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21. 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.

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22. Which of the following statements is true about correlational research?

- A. It allows researchers to predict changes in a variable that is related to another variable.
- B. It enables researchers to establish a cause and effect relationship between two variables.
- C. It is mandatory for researchers to debrief participants when conducting a correlational research.
- D. It enables researchers to determine why a particular change in one variable causes a change in another variable.

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23. Douglas Carroll and his colleagues (1994) found that the height of graveyard markers in a Glasgow cemetery was positively correlated with

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

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24. According to the text, the postal code areas of Scotland that have the least overcrowding and unemployment also have the

- A. greatest longevity.
- B. least longevity.

- C. greatest loneliness.
- D. least loneliness.

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25. 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 answers is correct.

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26. Ryan is conducting a research to study the ill effects of social media on people. He invites a group of students to a research facility and requests them to submit their laptops and phones. He requests them to terminate all forms of digital communication with their friends and peers. His participants complain that the simulated situation fails to mimic the real-world situation and most of them fail to cooperate with him for his research. Which of the following statements is true about Ryan's research?
- A. The research most likely has a high degree of mundane realism.
 - B. The research fails to use random assignment.
 - C. The research most likely has a low degree of experimental realism.**
 - D. The research fails to debrief the participants.

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27. 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**

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28. The experimental factor that a researcher manipulates in a study is called the _____ variable.
- A. control
 - B. independent**
 - C. dependent
 - D. correlational

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29. 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.**

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30. 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

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31. 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**

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32. 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

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33. 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

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34. In an experiment, the variable being measured that depends on the manipulation of another variable is called the _____ variable.
- A. experimental
 - B. control
 - C. independent
 - D.** dependent

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35. A researcher wants to study the mood differences in people when they are given different types of ice creams to eat, different songs to listen to, and different images of cartoons to look at. Which of the following is the dependent variable in this research study?
- A. the ice creams
 - B.** the differences in mood
 - C. the different types of music
 - D. the different types of cartoon images

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36. An experimenter exposed participants to different room temperatures to determine their effects on aggression. The room temperatures were the _____ variable.
- A.** independent variable.
 - B. dependent variable.
 - C. control variable.
 - D. confounding variable.

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37. Which of the following statements is true about experimental research?
- A. It excludes the process of debriefing the experiment to its participants.
 - B. It is effective when the focus is primarily on maintaining mundane realism.
 - C. It is a research method where all the variables in an experiment are controlled by the researcher.
 - D.** It allows for random assignment of people in a research study.

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38. 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.

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

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40. 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

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41. Rudolph wants his experiment to accurately simulate real-life situations that people encounter in their everyday lives. He believes an exact simulation is necessary for an experiment to be valid. In this case, Rudolph is most likely interested in maintaining _____ in his experiments.

- A. Platonic realism
- B. metaphysical realism
- C. mundane realism**
- D. experimental realism

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42. 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.**

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43. 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

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44. 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**

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45. 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.

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46. _____ 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**

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47. A major requirement of the ethical principles of social psychological research is that a researcher

- A. use random sampling and assignment.
- B. protect the 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.

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

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49. 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.

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50. Which of the following statements is true about the thinking of people?
- A. The content of people's thinking is the same in a field research as that in a laboratory research.
 - B. The way in which people form their opinions differs drastically from culture to culture.
 - C. The process of thinking is unaffected by social forces.
 - D. The content of people's thinking varies more from culture to culture than the process by which they think.

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51. You have just participated in a research study that required you to choose a picture you prefer 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 disclosure of the true purpose of the study is part of the _____ process.
- A. debriefing
 - B. deception
 - C. informed consent
 - D. experimental honesty

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52. 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.

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53. Aaron wants to measure the changes in behavioral responses of his participants when he rewards a particular behavior and when he punishes an unwanted behavior. He wants his laboratory research to differ from the everyday situations that people usually encounter. He wants his participants to be fully involved in his research and requires them to act as naturally as they would in any real-world situation. Aaron is most likely interested in maintaining _____ in his experiments.
- A. mundane realism
 - B. Platonic realism
 - C. experimental realism
 - D. metaphysical realism

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54. Discuss the evidence regarding the role of self-esteem in academic achievement.

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55. Compare and contrast correlational and experimental research. Be sure to address the strengths and weakness of each approach.

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56. Provide an example of an experimental research study on studying and grades. Be sure to indicate what the independent and dependent variables are.

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57. Explain the ethical requirements of social psychological researchers.

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