Part A Introduction to Research Methods

Topic 1 Knowledge and Research Methods

1. What makes scientific knowledge different from other types of knowledge?
a. it is definite where other knowledge is uncertain
b. it is based in numbers instead of stories
c. it is collected systematically to minimize bias
d. there is no significant difference from other types of knowledge
Part: A
Topic: 1
Answer: c

2. In addition to making many decisions about how to conduct research, which of these must a researcher also do when engaged in a research study?
a. document the decisions made
b. include a random sample
c. have a control group
d. prove that the hypothesis is right
Part: A
Topic: 1
Answer: a

3. Which of these statements captures the nature of scientific knowledge?
a. it often reflects the researchers' personal opinions
b. it is not possible to generate through research in the social sciences
c. it is built from an accumulation of research findings from many studies
d. once it is established, it never changes
Part: A
Topic: 1
Answer: c

Topic 2 Empirical Research

4. Which of these is true of the empirical approach to knowledge?
a. it is used primarily in science, not everyday living
b. it is used primarily in everyday living, not in science
c. it is based on observation or experience
d. it is knowledge gained only from quantitative or experimental methods
Part: A
Topic: 2
Answer: c

5. Knowledge that is acquired based on observation, direct or indirect, or in other words, on experience, is called:
a. theoretical
b. personal
c. empirical
d. qualitative
Part: A
Topic: 2
Answer: c

6. Researchers must plan to match their approach with their research question, in part because research ideas are translated into:
a. observations
b. measures
c. biases
d. samples
Part: A
Topic: 2
Answer: b

7. Which type of research results are not reduced to numbers?
a. quantitative
b. qualitative
Part: A
Topic: 2
Correct answer: b

Topic 3 The Role of Theory in Research

8. Based on Topic 3, The Role of Theory in Research, which of these represent the relationship between theory and research:
a. theory is completed before research
b. research is completed before theory
c. research and theory are independent
d. research and theory are interdependent
Part: A
Topic: 3
Correct answer: d

9. A unified explanation of observations is called:
a. correlation
b. theory
c. empiricism

d. hypothesis
Part: A
Topic: 3
Correct answer: b

10. Which of these statements is **FALSE** about good theories?
a. good theories are generalizable
b. good theories are testable
c. good theories use rigorous criteria
d. good theories prove the results of research
Part: A
Topic: 3
Correct answer: d

11. When research is used to test hypotheses derived from theories it is called:
a. deductive
b. inductive
c. conjunctive
d. grounded
Part: A
Topic: 3
Correct answer: a

12. When observations are used to formulate a theory, it is called:
a. deductive
b. inductive
c. conjunctive
d. grounded
Part: A
Topic: 3
Correct answer: b

13. Research that works “down” from hypotheses and “up” from observations is called:
a. deductive
b. inductive
c. conjunctive
d. grounded
Part: A
Topic: 3
Correct answer: d

Topic 4 Experimental and Nonexperimental Studies

14. The fundamental difference between experimental and nonexperimental study designs is that experimental study designs:
a. interact directly with people
b. use only quantitative measures
c. use a manipulation or treatment
d. have a pretest and a posttest
Part: A
Topic: 4
Correct answer: c

15. Educational researchers want to find out if students learn language better when they use digital flashcards to study at least once a day. The flashcards would be called:
a. the experiment
b. the independent variable
c. the criterion
d. the treatment
Part: A
Topic: 4
Correct answer: d

16. True or false: A treatment is sufficient to make a study an experiment.
a. true
b. false
Part: A
Topic: 4
Correct answer: b

17. In experiments, one group does not receive the treatment. They are called:
a. the double blind
b. the blind
c. the control group
d. the placebo
Part: A
Topic: 4
Correct answer: c

18. In some experiments, the researcher does not know who received a treatment and who didn't. This is called:
a. control group
b. placebo

c. blind
d. true experiment
Part: A
Topic: 4
Correct answer: c

19. Surveys, polls, interviews, and observations are common types of which research?
a. ethnographic
b. nonexperimental
c. quasi-experimental
d. experimental
Part: A
Topic: 4
Correct answer: b

20. In an experiment, Group A members were given badges for being on time to the classroom while Group B members were given no special treatment. Which group is the control group?
a. group A
b. group B
c. neither group
d. both groups
Part: A
Topic: 4
Correct answer: b

Topic 5 Causal-Comparative Studies

21. When researchers investigate cause-and-effect relationships, they usually prefer which type of approach?
a. experimental
b. nonexperimental
c. meta-analysis
d. there is no preference
Part: A
Topic: 5
Correct answer: a

22. Basic statistical characteristics of humans that are used as identity markers are called:
a. variables
b. criteria
c. demographics
d. statistics
Part: A